

## Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg

Faculty of Social Sciences, Economics, and Business Administration  
Chair of International Relations (Prof. Dr. Thomas Gehring)

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Ariadna Ripoll Servent

Office hours: Tuesdays, 16:00–17:00



Winter Term 2013/14

Seminar (BA):

## European Integration

For anyone living in Europe, it is difficult to ignore the European Union. But it is also difficult to study it effectively and understand it fully as it is, in many ways, unique. Since its foundation the European Union has emerged as the most developed regional association. For much of its existence it has been treated by scholars as an international organisation but as European integration has widened in scope and deepened in terms of competences, it has made much more sense to treat the EU as a political system. This course explores the issues that confront the EU and puts them into the context of its historical and institutional development, offering an understanding of the EU as a political system composed of a wide range of actors – states, institutions, citizens – that play a key role in the construction and development of the Union. To gain a fuller understanding of the development and functioning of the EU, the course revises the historical evolution of European integration and its current system of governance. It then looks at the different theoretical accounts from International Relations and Political Science that have been used to understand the integration process. Finally, the course focuses on policy-making and the key institutions at the core of the EU's political system.

**Date:** Wednesdays, 10:00–12:00

**Room:** F21/03.02

**ECTS:** 6

**Lecturer:** Prof. Dr. Ariadna Ripoll Servent

**Office hours:** Tuesdays, 16:00–17:00

### Eligibility Requirements:

- The working language of this course is English. Presentations and coursework must also be completed in English.
- In order to have a sufficient basic knowledge about the European Union previous participation in the introductory lecture (Einführungsvorlesung) or an equivalent is recommended.
- Regular attendance and knowledge of the required readings will be expected.
- To obtain a certificate, participants will have to give a presentation and write a term paper (5000 to 6000 words).
- **Submission of term paper deadline: 12 March 2014.**
- **Please note:** The number of participants is limited. Student registration via FlexNow! is required: Registration opens on **25.09.2013 at 8:00 a.m.**

# Course Outline – European Integration

1. 16/10/2013 Introduction to the Seminar
2. 23/10/2013 Researching European Integration

## European Integration: History and Governance

3. 30/10/2013 From the three Communities to the European Union
4. 06/11/2013 Widening and deepening
5. 13/11/2013 European Integration after the Treaty of Lisbon
6. 20/11/2013 Policy-making and policy modes

## Theory Section

7. 27/11/2013 Old approaches to European Integration: Neofunctionalism and Liberal Intergovernmentalism
8. 04/12/2013 New approaches to European Integration: Studying EU governance
9. 11/12/2013 New institutionalism: Rational-choice, historical and sociological institutionalism

## The EU's Political System

10. 18/12/2013 Executive Politics and the European Commission
11. 08/01/2014 Legislative Politics: The European Council and the Council of the European Union
12. 15/01/2014 Simulation Game: The Council of the EU
13. 22/01/2014 Legislative and Representative Politics at the European Parliament
14. 29/01/2014 Judicial Politics: The European Court of Justice as a Driving Force for Integration?
15. 05/02/2014 Democratic Politics in the EU's Political System
- 12/03/2014 **Term Paper Deadline**