Theory and Politics of European Integration

Winter Semester, 2023/24
Dr. Ehsan Vallizadeh
Department of Migration Studies
University of Bamberg
https://www.uni-bamberg.de/vallizadeh
October 20, 2023

1 Introduction

This course is about using economics to understand the history and developments of the EU since the post 1945 World Economy up to today. The course is in English and meetings are scheduled every fortnight.

1.1. Course objective

This course will focus on different stages of the European economic and political integration. The main focus of the course is the economic analysis, applying both micro- and macroeconomic tools, of policies to understand the European integration process. We cover a broad range of topics, including European history, the effects of trade liberalization on consumers and producers, competition policy, economic growth, monetary and fiscal policy in Europe and optimum currency areas. It will also touch some recent developments in the international policy agenda like sovereign debt crises, Brexit and the euro crisis.

1.2. Grading

To get the grade, you have to pass a final exam. Completing successfully the course, you get awarded 6 ECTS points.

1.3. Course text


2 Course outline
Lecture 1 – History of European Integration
Lecture 2 – European Institutions and Decision Making
Lecture 3 – Microeconomics of Trade and Tariffs and Preferential Trade Liberalization
Lecture 4 – Market Size and Scale Effects Trade and Competition Policies
Lecture 5 – Economic Growth and Capital Market Integration
Lecture 6 – Migration and Labor Markets
Lecture 7 – Optimum Currency Area Theory and the European Monetary Union (EMU)
Lecture 8 – The EURO crisis