

Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg

Faculty of Social Science, Economics, and Business Administration

Professorship for International and European Politics

(Prof. Dr. Monika Heupel)

Lecturer: **Marlene Joger, M.A.**

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Office hours: By appointment



Summer term 2024

Seminar: European Integration

Credits: **6 ECTS**
Time: **Tuesday, 12-14:00 c.t.**
Room: **F21/03.79 (in person)**

Since its creation, the European Union has emerged as the most advanced regional integration project in the world. For much of its existence, scholars have treated it as an international organization sui generis, but as European integration has widened in scope and deepened in terms of competences, the EU is increasingly being treated as a political system similar to nation states. This course aims to provide students with both empirical knowledge about the EU and a theoretical toolbox to analyze a wide range of EU-specific questions.

The course is separated into three parts: In part one, students will gain insight into important theoretical accounts regarding European Integration. This includes both the most widely-known “grand theories” of Neofunctionalism and Liberal Intergovernmentalism as well as theories such as Postfunctionalism and New Institutionalism. In so doing, students will gain an insight into the existing angles in theorizing European Integration. The second part is concerned with analyzing the role of each of the EU’s main institutions. This will include a theory-guided look at their individual power and constraints as well as their relationship with the other institutions. The last part of the seminar will deal with challenges to the process of European Integration and the future of the European Union.

Requirements:

- The working language of the seminar is English. Presentations and coursework must also be in English.
- In order to have sufficient basic knowledge about the European Union, previous participation in the introductory lecture (Einführungsvorlesung) or an equivalent is required.
- Regular attendance and preparing the required texts is expected, as is active participation in discussions.
- To obtain 6 credit points, students must give a presentation and write a term paper (4500-5500 words) until **30 September 2024**. Presentations will be assigned during the first session.

Literature:

The literature for each session will be provided for download in the Virtual Campus. For each session, there will be assigned compulsory reading, which each student should read prior to the respective session. Secondly, several topic related articles or book chapters are provided as additional literature. These shall be used by the session’s presenters to prepare the presentations and can be used as starting points for further research regarding the term paper.

Presentation and class participation:

Each participant shall give one presentation in English. The presentation shall be **based on the readings** and be supplemented with slides (e.g. PowerPoint).

The texts illustrate different perspectives on each session's individual subject. The presenting students' task is to familiarize themselves with these perspectives and then engage their fellow students in a discussion about them. For this purpose, the presenters shall prepare questions or theses they derive from the reading to discuss them in class. If you find contradictions in the literature, or other points that you think are worth discussing, convey them to us. Be prepared to also give answers to your questions/summarize the points made in the literature. If you have formed your own opinion about the topic at hand, speak about it at the end of your presentation.

Of course, I will support you in your attempts to give an interesting presentation. Therefore, **you are kindly asked to speak about your presentation with your lecturer at least one week in advance. Please be prepared for this meeting. Send the slides to me via email on the Sunday before your presentation.**

Term Paper:

In order to obtain their credit points (6 ECTS) students have to write a term paper comprising 10 to 12 pages (4.500 – 5.500 words). The paper shall not simply be descriptive and summarize the existing literature in the respective field. Students should find an appropriate research question, suitable theoretical approaches from which they derive hypotheses to test. The term paper submission deadline is 30 September 2024. Please note that you will have to submit your paper electronically using the Virtual Campus, the University of Bamberg online learning platform. Please upload a *.pdf* file.

In order to engage with this task early on, students will be asked to prepare a research proposal for the last session. You can of course always speak with your lecturer about your paper's research question(s), hypotheses, organization and possible literature, but please do so **well in advance of the deadline.**

Questions:

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your lecturer:

Marlene Joger

e-mail: marlene.joger@uni-bamberg.de

Room: FG1/01.09

Please note:

- Student registration via FlexNow! is required. You can register and deregister from **02.04.-28.04.2024**. Please note that your registration is binding.
- **If you have any questions regarding your registration, please contact Claudia Genslein (claudia.genslein@uni-bamberg.de or F21/3.18).**

Course outline

1. 16.04.2024 **Introduction and Assignment of Presentations**
2. 23.04.2024 **History of European Integration and the EU Political System**

Theories of European Integration

3. 30.04.2024 **Neofunctionalism and Liberal Intergovernmentalism**
4. 07.05.2024 **The Three Institutionalisms: Rational Choice, Historical and Sociological Institutionalism**

Analysing European Institutions

5. 14.05.2024 **Executive Politics and the European Commission**
21.05.2024 *Public Holiday*
6. 28.05.2024 **The European Council and the Council of the European Union**
7. 04.06.2024 **The Three Legislative Institutions: Preparation for Role Play Game**
8. 11.06.2024 **Role Play Game on the European Parliament**
9. 18.06.2024 **The European Court of Justice as a Driving Force for Integration?**

Current challenges to European Integration

10. 25.06.2024 **Euro Crisis: Division between North and South?**
11. 02.07.2024 **The so-called Refugee Crisis: Division between West and East?**
12. 09.07.2024 **Brexit and the Future of the EU**
13. 16.07.2024 **Growing Authoritarianism in the EU and Term Paper Discussion**

30.09.2024 Deadline Term Paper