

Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg

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

Lecturer: **Patrick Vizitiu**

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Office hours: Monday 14:00-15:00 and by appointment



Winter Term 22/23

S-IE (BA):

European Integration

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.

Date: Tuesdays, 12:00 – 14:00 c.t.

Room: F21/02.31

ECTS: 6

Eligibility Requirements:

- The working language of this course is English. Presentations and coursework must also be completed 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 knowledge of the required texts is expected.
- To obtain 6 Credit Points participants will have to give a presentation and write a term paper (4.500 – 5.500 words).
- **Registration is possible from 4 October to 30 October.** The number of participants is limited. Student registration via FlexNow is required. Please note that your registration is binding. The lecturer has no influence on your registration. If you have any question regarding your registration please contact our secretary Ms Claudia Genslein (claudia.genslein@uni-bamberg.de or F21/03.18).

Course Outline

18/10/2022	Introduction to the Course
25/10/2022	What is the EU and how does it work? – Legislation in the European Political System
	I. Theories of European Integration Old and New
01/11/2022	<i>All Saints' Day – no lecture</i>
08/11/2022	Neofunctionalism, Liberal Intergovernmentalism and Postfunctionalism
15/11/2022	The three Institutionalisms
	II. Analyzing the EU's Institutions
22/11/2022	Executive Politics and the European Commission
29/11/2022	The European Council and the Council of the European Union
06/12/2022	Legislative Politics at the European Parliament
13/12/2022	The European Court of Justice as a Driving Force for Integration?
20/12/2022	The European Agencies
	III. Challenges to European Integration
10/01/2023	Euro crisis: Division between North and South?
17/01/2023	Refugee Crisis: Division between West and East?
24/01/2023	Brexit and its Consequences
31/01/2023	Growing Authoritarianism in the EU
07/02/2023	Term Paper Proposal Discussion and closing session
31/03/2023	Term Paper Deadline