

Course GB-39 **THE EUROPEAN UNION IN THE FACE OF THE POLITICAL, SOCIOECONOMIC, AND TERRITORIAL CHALLENGES IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY**
(45 class hours)

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OBJETIVES

The main objective of this Course will be to ensure that students acquire basic knowledge concerning the European Union in a global world. By the end of the Course students should have become familiar with documentation resources which provide information on Europe, with the tools for accessing the statistics they contain, as well as with specific European Union-related vocabulary. A further objective consists of motivating students to become involved in the European Union from an academic perspective, while keeping in mind their own personal *foci* of interest.

METHODOLOGY

The assimilation of syllabus content by students from a predominantly spatial perspective will be sought, in which territorial and regional factors acquire key importance. It is for this reason that the different syllabus items will be made to interact with state-of-the-art cartography, as well as with the graphic expression of statistics. Lecturer-student contact, via face-to-face tutoring, or via email, will be foregrounded as an important instrument of interaction, should doubts arise, as well as for ensuring progress and improvement on the part of students within this field of action.

SYLLABUS

POLITICAL-INSTITUTIONAL FACTORS

Topic 1.- The process of European construction: major milestones and current issues.

Topic 2.- Organizational set-up charts and the functioning of the key European institutions.

Unit 3.- Schengen Space and the voice of Europe in the world.

EQUITY WITHIN THE EUROPEAN PROJECT

Topic 4.- A Policy of Cohesion: social inequalities and regional differences.

Topic 5.- The European Territorial Strategy, Cross-Border Cooperation and environmental issues.

Unit 6.- The migration issue in Europe.

ECONOMIC ISSUES

Unit 7.- The Monetary Union: the euro.

Unit 8.- The CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) and other community sector policies.

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Complementary Activities

While taking into consideration student timetabling and availability, attendance at seminars related to syllabus subject-matter, both within the University of Sevilla, as well as in other *fora*, together with visits and / or field trips with the same aim in mind, may also arise as the Course evolves.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The evaluation and grading of the Course content will be based on the following criteria:

- Regularity in attendance and active participation in class sessions (20%)
- The undertaking of an essay on a topic related to the contents of the syllabus (25%)
- An exam dealing with syllabus content dealt with throughout the Course (55%)

6 hours per week will be available so as to facilitate personal lecturer-student contact aimed at clarifying any doubts that may arise on their part.