

EUROPEAN EXTERNAL RELATIONS
University Year 2014/2015 – Fall Semester

Horaires : Monday 14:00 to 18:00

1/ COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The objective of this course is to give students, who already have some knowledge of international affairs, a basic introduction to European external relations and particularly within the North-South context. Relations between individual European nations and other areas of the globe have existed since the 15th century and today these relations are continued through the European Union. The course will therefore provide an introduction to the EU institutional structures and decision-making processes that concern EU external relations and the foreign policy of specific member-states (Germany, France and the United Kingdom). Students will also learn about European civil society through the operations of non-governmental organizations, centering on their relations with EU institutions and their international activities in Africa, Latin America and Asia.

2/ COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to read the relevant course materials for each class and to follow events in the European Union and the world as active participation in class discussions is an essential requirement of the course.

Students have to complete the given assignments:

- comment and personal assessment of the week's topic based on the reading of the core texts.
- a 10-minute presentation based on personal research on a topic related to one of the themes of the course. Students are free to choose the topic for the presentation but should demand prior approval.
- a term paper (5 - 7 typewritten pages with double spacing). The topics for this paper will be distributed in class. Students are expected to research the topic and present a critical assessment and analysis of the topic with concrete references. A detailed bibliography of at least three additional sources to those used in class should be included.

3/ COURSE MATERIAL

The majority of texts will be handed out in class and will consist of fact sheets and articles taken from newspapers, magazines, specialized reviews and appropriate websites. EU documents may also be used and when possible, audiovisual documents. Students will be expected to follow events in the news concerning the European Union and its external relations as well as the foreign policy of the three major European countries.

4/ Other references

The British media, particularly *The Economist* and the BBC, have good coverage of news concerning the EU and *The Guardian* has a specific section on development issues. The EU has its own website (europa.eu) and there is also a website for the European External Action Service. European NGOs have a website for their umbrella organization, Concord.

5/ EVALUATION:

The final grade for the course will be based on student performance on the following tasks:

Test on European foreign policy fundamentals and European NGOs (25%)

A written term paper (25%) ; A presentation (25%) ; Attendance/Participation (25%)

Students are required to be present for tests and to hand in their papers at the scheduled time. Late papers are penalized.

6/ Attendance Policy

Attendance is essential and checked on a daily basis. Only three unjustified absences will be accepted and all 'justified' absences must be documented. The final evaluation will take both absences and repeated unpunctuality (three 'lates' count as one absence) into account.

Students who are late (i.e. who show up during or after attendance is being checked) should see the instructor after class so that they are marked as present.

7/ Practical information

Classes that fall on a public holiday will not be made up

Fall break: October 25 to November 2

COURSE PROGRAM

Date	Theme
1. 09/22/2014	Europe as a global actor since the 15 th century Europe in international affairs since World War II Europe's place in North – South relations
2. 09/29/2014	European Union Common Foreign and Security Policy Institutions and foreign policy-making in the EU The EU and international organizations (UN, IMF, WTO ...)
3. 10/06/2014	Development assistance policy The EU Common Defense and Security Policy The EU and global environmental policy
4. 10/13/2014	EU member-states as sovereign global actors Conflict and consensus between states Foreign policy objectives and implementation of the three largest states: Germany, France and the United Kingdom.
5. 10/20/2014	Civil society actors in Europe Main European NGOs with international operations Relations between NGOs and the EU/national governments
6. 11/03/2014	In-class test Europe as an environmental superpower
7. 11/10/2014	The European Union's Africa policy European NGOs and development in Africa Student presentations
8. 11/17/2014	The European Union and Latin America European NGOs and their work in Latin America Student Presentations
9. 11/24/2014	Cooperation between Europe and Asia European NGOs' operations in Asia Student Presentations
10. 12/01/2014	The EU, NGOs and humanitarian crises The EU and humanitarian intervention missions Student presentations
11. 12/08/2014	The European Union: An enlightened superpower? European NGOs: whose interests?