



Syllabus

The European Union at a Crossroads: Issues and Policies

**Professors:** Emiliano Grossman, Jan Rovny, Francesco Saraceno, Imola Strehö

**Session:** July

**Language of instruction:** English

**Number of hours of class:** 48

Objective of the course

The aim of the course is to introduce students to the multiple European realities and to provide the necessary tools for understanding how the EU can face these challenges in an ever-changing world. This interdisciplinary course will permit students to approach these major issues through the lenses of political science, law and economics.

Summary

The course will be composed of three types of classes: lectures, in-depth workshops, and a simulation. In addition to classroom learning, the class may incorporate external visits, such as to the European Commission Representation in France or to the French Senate.

Throughout the course, lectures will allow participants to acquire a fundamental understanding of the evolution of European integration, and of the political, judicial, and economic instruments of the European Union that have developed over the years.

The knowledge acquired during these lectures will be essential for the in-depth workshops that aim to resituate the European Union's place in the world. Participants will gain perspective on the construction and development of specific external policies of the Union.

Finally, students will have the opportunity to put into practice the theoretical knowledge acquired in the context of a simulation of the European Council. In this exercise students will adopt the role of a European head of state or government to negotiate the position of the European Union at the United Nations Conference on Climate Change that will take place in December 2015 in Paris. Participants will apply their new understanding of institutional balance, decision-making procedures, EU competences, economic constraints, and the construction of internal and external policies to complete this exercise.

Organization of the course

- **Theme 1: The political system of the European Union** (lecture: 8 hours)

This section is designed to give participants the means to understand how the EU operates, what it does, and the main problems it faces.

- **Theme 2: The constitutional foundations of the EU** (lecture: 8 hours)

This section focuses on the actors, processes, principles, and tools that provide the legal framework for European integration. The students will be introduced to sources of EU law and the European Union institutions: the Commission, the Council of Ministers, the European Council, the European Parliament and the European Court of Justice.

- **Theme 3: The economics of European integration** (lecture: 8 hours)

This section aims to introduce participants to the economic governance of the European Union and to the economic challenges faced by its member states. It will be dedicated to the institutions involved in the economic governance of the EU, to the notion of Optimal Currency Areas, and to specific instruments such as the Stability Pact.

- **Theme 4: Europe in the world** (workshops: 12 hours)

Workshops will enable participants to analyze the capacity of the European Union to play a leading role in the world. Participants will be introduced to the external policies of the EU in fields such as energy, security, terrorism, and climate change. Building on the knowledge acquired during the lectures, students will be able to appreciate the reasons behind the EU's capacity to play an important role in certain fields and not in others, depending on the division of competence between the EU and the member states and on the institutional framework related to each field.

- **Theme 5: Simulation of the European Council** (simulation: 12 hours)

Students will undertake a practical exercise: playing the roles of European heads of state and governments, participants will experience the importance of negotiation in the European Council. Participants will gain an understanding of negotiators' behavior, as well as of central concepts in negotiation applied to multi-level institutions such as the EU. They will also improve their abilities to analyze a negotiation situation; develop a toolkit of useful skills, strategies, and approaches adapted to working in a multicultural environment; and master collective decision-making issues.

## Professor biographies

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**Emiliano Grossman** is Associate Professor at Sciences Po at the Center for European Studies (CEE). He is in charge of the Political Analysis major of the Master of European Affairs at Sciences Po. His research mainly focuses on comparative political institutions, agenda-setting and economic regulation in the EU. In the Summer School, he will co-teach the theme "The Political System of the EU."

**Jan Rovny** is Assistant Professor at Sciences Po, Center for European Studies (CEE) and the Interdisciplinary Research Center for the Evaluation of Public Policies (LIEPP). His research concentrates on political competition in Europe with the aim of uncovering the ideological conflict lines in different countries. In the Summer School, he will co-teach the theme "The Political System of the EU."





**Francesco Saraceno** is Senior Economist at OFCE, *Observatoire Français des conjonctures économiques* of Sciences Po. He is in charge of the Economics major of the Master European Affairs at the institution His current researches focus mainly on the interaction between structural reforms and active policies, as well as on the Stability Pact and the European budget policy. In the Summer School, he will teach the theme “The Economics of European Integration”.

**Imola Streho** is Associate Professor at the Law School of Sciences Po and an associated researcher at the Center for European Studies (CEE). She is the Director of the Master European Affairs at Sciences Po and in charge of the major in Law for this Master's programme. Her research focuses specifically on the free movement of services in the EU. In the Summer School, she will teach “The Constitutional Foundations of the EU.”



### Simulation team

**Adrien Fauve** is a research associate with CERI (*Centre d'Etudes en Relations Internationales*, Sciences Po.). Since 2010 he has been in charge of the European Council simulation at the Master of European Affairs, together with Philippe Perchoc. He also works on active learning design within Bruno Latour's FORCAST Project.



**Eleonora Russo** works at Sciences Po as academic advisor for the Master European Affairs and as a lecturer in European Union law. Her researches focus on the fight against climate change in EU law. She particularly investigates the way the EU builds its internal and external climate change policy.