

POL 2860 European Union

The dream of a united Europe can be traced back to the days of Julius Caesar through the disaster of Adolf Hitler. Thousands of years of military strife have been unable to accomplish what has been accomplished by the European Union (EU) originally established by the Treaty of Rome as the European Economic Community (EEC) in 1957. The course is designed to introduce students to the history, politics, economics, and institutions of the European Union and its member nation-states.

Upon completion of the course students will be able to...

1. Explain and apply the theories of European integration (neo-functionalism v. intergovernmentalism and other related theories);
2. Describe the contents and importance of the Treaty of Paris, Treaty of Rome, Single European Act, the Masstricht Treaty (Treaty on European Union), the Amsterdam Treat, and the Nice Treaty ;
3. Explain and describe the enlargement of the EU and the institutional dynamics (Commission, Council, Parliament, and Courts) of the EU;
4. Explain and describe economic, monetary, and political union as well as the EU budget, Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), and other related policies;
5. Describe and explain the external relations (Common Foreign and Security Policy to European Security and Defense Policy) of the European Union; and
6. Demonstrate the art and science of international negotiations.

Students undertaking this independent study will be invited to participate in a simulation of the European Union at the SUNY Global Center in NYC for several days in April 2016 - costs and dates to be discussed in class. Students going to the simulation will be accompanied by the EU simulation advisor and potentially other faculty members. The simulation is co-sponsored by SUNY and was founded by JCC and five other colleges/universities in 1988. JCC was and is the only community college participating in the simulation. Depending upon the number of students indicating an interest in attending the simulation JCC will be assigned a nation-state in the EU and specific roles to be played at the simulation. Students will come to the simulation from colleges/universities across New York State and Europe. Negotiations will be done in English.

Grading and student evaluation will be done on the basis of a mid-term and end of term exam each worth 20% (total of 40%); small group research and presentation on member nation-states of the EU and policies and decision making procedures of the EU followed by an individual writing assignment worth

20% each (total of 40%); and simulation attendance and participation (20%).