

SPAN 335S: SPAIN AND THE EUROPEAN UNION

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Since the 1950s, the European Union has been carrying out one of the most complex and successful experiments in regional integration on both a political and economic level. However, the current economic crisis is revealing flaws in this project.

With 27 member states, a population of over 500 million, a common currency used in 17 countries, and a domestic market in which persons, products and services circulate freely, the European Union is an economic superpower. Moreover, EU citizens enjoy the highest levels of social protection and political participation. The EU aims to promote its model of democracy, rule of higher law and protection of human rights in the rest of the world.

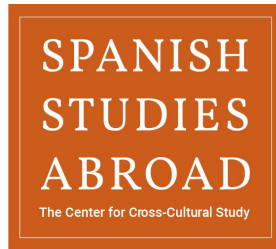
To better understand this project of European integration, the course will begin with an overview of the EU's history, from the European Coal and Steel Community to the current Lisbon Treaty with its vicissitudes. We will then discuss the institutional framework of the European Union, with a special emphasis on its economic and legal character, and finally we will study the international action of the Union.

We will analyze in a transversal manner the role of Spain in each of the proposed topics.

Upon finishing the course, students should possess knowledge of the following:

- The historical processes that have converged in the current European Union.
- How the EU works, who governs it, how different states interact and the role Spain plays in its institutions.
- The EU's essential economic mechanisms: domestic market and standard currency.
- Foundations of the EU legal code.
- How the EU interacts with other agents in international politics.

In addition to theoretical expositions, students will conduct case studies related to the subject matter and discuss current news on the EU. We will also visit the



European Documentation Center in Seville and the headquarters of the Spanish delegation to the European Commission, in Madrid.

STRUCTURE

As stated, the format of this class includes the exposition of topics by the instructor, along with students' active participation. Classes will combine theory and practice, including the completion of case studies and the analysis of articles from the press documenting situations of the current economic context in Europe and the world.

In accordance with the guidelines of the *Writing Program*, students must complete a research paper, typed and double-spaced in Word using a 12-point Arial font. Papers will be 6-8 pages long. In this paper, students should analyze some of the topics covered in class.

Each student will receive a list of *key questions* for each topic. This list will orient students in the reading process and facilitate comprehension.

TEXTBOOKS

The European Union: A Guide for Americans. EU delegation to the USA.
Downloadable brochure in PDF format at the webpage
<http://www.eurunion.org/eu/Guide-for-Americans/Guide-for-Americans.html>
A pack of photocopies treating the formation of the EU and its institutions.
Students will also have access to the text of the Treaty on the European Union, downloadable at
http://europa.eu/documentation/legislation/index_es.htm

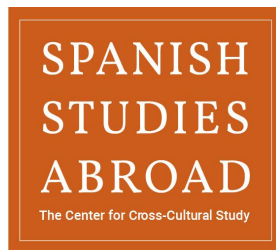
COMPLEMENTARY BIBLIOGRAPHY

Alcaide Fernández J. y Casado Raigón R.: Curso de Derecho de la Unión Europea. Tecnos, 2011.

Mangas Martín A. y Liñán Noguera D.J.: Instituciones y Derecho de la Unión Europea, Tecnos 2010.

EVALUATION

Project / Exposition	25 %
Class participation	25 %



Partial exams	25 %
Final exam	25 %
Total	100 %

COURSE TOPICS

1.- FOUNDATIONS OF THE EUROPEAN CULTURAL IDENTITY.

The complicated history of the continent. Coincidences and differences: climates, peoples, cultures and languages. Recent history: the 20th century and the genesis of two World Wars. North/south contrast and Max Weber's thesis.

2.- THE FIRST STAGES OF EUROPEANISM AND THE BEGINNING OF INTEGRATION.

Interwar pan-Europeanism. Europe and the Cold War. The Marshall Plan and the OECD. The Hague Congress. The European movement and the Council of Europe. Benelux. From Brussels to Washington in search of collective security.

3.- THE INNER SIX AND THE CRISIS OF THE SIXTIES.

ECSC. The European Defense Community. From Messina to Rome. The start of the European Communities. Europe of Homelands. The Fouchet Plan and the Merger Treaty. From the French crisis with NATO to the French veto against the United Kingdom. The CAP.

4.- FROM THE COMMON MARKET TO THE EUROPEAN UNION.

Six become twelve. Relations with the rest of the world from the sixties to the eighties. Southern incorporations. The crisis of the UK Rebate. The Stuttgart Declaration. The Spinelli Project and the European Parliament. Looking south: Greece and Portugal. The integration of Spain.

5.- TOWARD THE EUROPEAN UNION.

The Single European Act: preparation and content. The European Parliament from 1979 -1994. Parliament elections in 1979, 1984 and 1989. TREVI and the Schengen Agreement. The Delors Commission and the Union. Changes to the east and German reunification.

6.- FROM MAASTRICHT TO THE EURO.

The treaty. Twelve become fifteen. The monetary union: from the monetary crisis of 1992 to the introduction of the euro. The Treaty of Amsterdam.

7.- FIFTEEN BECOME TWENTY-SEVEN.

The European Parliament 1994-2004. The great expansion. The Mediterranean flank. The entry of CEECs. The Treaty of Nice. The Charter of Fundamental Rights.

8.- FROM ROME TO LISBON.



The Constitution: elaboration, content and failure to become ratified. European Security and Defense policy. The Parliament 2004-2013. The Lisbon Treaty.

9.- INSTITUTIONAL ARCHITECTURE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION.

The Council of Europe: composition and function. Presidency and powers. The European Commission: presidency, statute and law-making capacity. The European Parliament: electoral system and powers. The Court of Justice: organization and functioning. European Central Bank: objectives and functions.

10.- LIMITS TO INTEGRATION.

Nationalisms, antagonisms and sovereignty. The position of the UK. European recession and north-south inequality. The role of Germany.