

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF EUROPEAN UNION RELATIONS & DEPARTMENT OF
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

EU 420: GLOBALIZATION ,REGIONALIZATION and The EU

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR: ARASH SHARGHI

Section A: Globalization

The specific aims of chapter A are:

- to introduce theories of globalisation and social change, and to show how those theories of globalisation are linked to the major sociological theories
- to show how understanding globalisation is linked to debates about epistemology and ontology
- to introduce debates on the major causes and drivers of globalisation, and on the political, economic and cultural effects of globalisation
- to show how the study of globalisation has implications for sociological theory, and for sociological accounts of contemporary social life.

Learning outcomes for this section

At the end of Section A, and having completed the essential reading and activities, the student should be able to:

- discuss a range of theories about globalisation and social change, and critically evaluate those theories
- show how those theories of globalisation are linked to the major sociological theories, and to approaches to epistemology and ontology
- assess some of the major debates on the effects of globalisation
- apply theories of the causes and effects of globalisation to changes in your own society.

Reading advice for Section A

Essential reading

- Waters, M. Globalization. (London: Routledge, 2001) second edition [ISBN 9780415238540].

Lectures for Section A

Lecture 1

An introduction to the topic of globalization and how sociologists, political theorists and economists have sought to define, describe and explain it.

Lecture 2

This lecture will focus on economic globalization. We will look at whether we live in a truly global economy and how the firm has changed under the impact of globalization.

Lecture 3

The focus of this lecture is on the political dimension of globalization. It is asked whether the nation state has been weakened by global economic integration and whether new actors and institutions have emerged to play a central role in global politics.

Lecture 4

The relationship between culture and globalisation examined. In the classroom we will consider whether globalisation brings about a homogenisation of cultures or a clash of civilisations.

Lecture 5

This lecture is a recap to the material learned on globalization. The capacity of the state to exercise its authority, economic trends, as well as attempts to preserve 'traditional' ways of life are identified as interlinked means that would eventually determine the position of nation states in the process of globalization.

Section B: Regionalization

The specific aims of chapter B are:

- to introduce regional integration as an intended means of enhancing global governance
- to settle a conceptual framework for studying regionalisation
- to show the divide between different social science scholars
- to equip students with theories that would help them with the relatively new EU studies
- to encourage students to do research in a specialized subfield

Learning outcomes for this section

At the end of Section B, and having completed the essential reading and activities, the student should be able to:

- discuss why sovereign states choose to enter regional integration agreements
- compare and contrast regionalisation theories
- assess theories presented by European integration scholars and match them against IR/IPE research
- use theories applicable to EU studies

- do research and present and defend their own stance in the field

Reading advice for Section B

Essential reading

- Cooper, A. and Hughes, C. and De Lombaerde, P. *Regionalisation and Global Governance* [ISBN 9780415453776].

Lectures for Section B

Lecture 6

An introduction to the topic of Regionalization is given and discusses ways of enhancing the sovereign state as the basic unit of international relations. Then, the relationship between the policy authority of the states and the problems situated at a global level are shown; and ways to alleviate them are sought.

Lecture 7

Different theories on the subject are presented and new theories are compared and contrasted with old theories. Also, the stance of EU scholars about each theory is shown – as a new school of thought.

Lecture 8

In this lecture, approaches to regionalisation are assessed in a plethora of social science specializations: European studies, comparative politics, international economics, international geography, international relations (IR), and international political economy (IPE).

Lecture 9

Legacy studies are identified in this lecture, and students are encouraged to make use of ‘new regionalism’ theories in order to understand EU studies and comparative regionalism studies.

Lecture 10

Students are advised to write an article in one of the specialized topics of regionalisation. Papers are handed in on this lecture day and each article falls into one these three topics:

- Economic dimensions
- Security considerations
- Governing structures

Each student read the paper of another student (of the same topic group) and has to critically discuss its strengths and shortcomings.

Section C: The European Union

The specific aims of section C are:

- to introduce the driving force behind the creation of EU
- to show the historical amalgamation of EU member states
- to identify the main players and decision makers of EU
- to pinpoint the social implications of an EU Civil Society

- to identify

Learning outcomes for this section

At the end of Section C, and having completed the essential reading and activities, the student should be able to:

- fully grasp why the EU exists and how it shapes the lives of its citizens
- define where the EU's idea comes from and how it was put into practice
- identify the EU member states, institutions, other relevant actors
- show how the EU policymaking process works
- discuss the creation of space of Freedom, Security and Justice in Europe

Reading advice for Section C

Essential reading

All students are required to read the EU website for study materials and homework. The following links provide extensive resources on the subject:

- About the European Union: http://europa.eu/about-eu/index_en.htm
- EU by topic: http://europa.eu/pol/index_en.htm
- Documents and publications: http://europa.eu/publications/index_en.htm
- University of Berkeley's guide to the European Union: <http://guides.lib.berkeley.edu/european-union>

Lectures for Section C

Lecture 11

An introduction to how EU is perceived around the globe and how historical events gave rise to its creation. When and how the international organization creating this associational states was born and became what is today is discussed in an evolutionary manner.

Lecture 12

European institutions are introduced and compared with more familiar structures, such as the United States. Only after the students get a better understanding of policy making processes of EU institutions, that each institution is dissected for further analyses. The institutions in discussion are as follows:

- The European Council
- The European Commission
- The Council of the European Union
- The European Parliament

- The Court of Justice of the European Union
- The European Central Bank
- The European Court of Auditors

Lecture 13

In this lecture, the competencies and limitations of EU action are evaluated, and Intellectual Property (IP) is discussed in detail as an example of European policy making. The basic elements of IP, as well as policies of and challenges for a modernized new system are topics of this case study.

Lecture 14

Students are introduced to how legislation and regulatory framework of the EU prepare policies for members to adopt. Examples of policymaking are presented in a walkthrough toward rulemaking – comitology.

Lecture 15

The last lecture summarizes the globalization and regionalization theories in the European Union and the opportunities EU offers its citizens as individuals as well as its corporations are scrutinized.