UCLouvain

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2025

Political Theories of European integration

The version you're consulting is not final. This course description may change. The final version will be published on 1st June.

5.00 credits	30.0 h	Q1

Teacher(s)	Delreux Tom ;
Language :	English
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Prerequisites	Basic knowledge in political science, law and history.
Main themes	This course provides an overview of the main theories on European integration.
Learning outcomes	At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to: The aim of this course is to develop students' understanding of the theories used to explain the European integration process, by introducing and evaluating the main schools of thought in European integration theory. Students should be able to apply these theoretical models to empirical questions of EU politics and policy-making.
Evaluation methods	Written exam. The exam covers all the material discussed during the lectures and presented in the reader. The use of artificial intelligence in the evaluation methods of this course is subject to the rules set out in the faculty memorandum on this subject, which is available on the intranet of the ESPO Faculty in the section with information for students.
Teaching methods	Lectures.
Content	 Introduction to theorizing the European integration process Federalism Neo-functionalism Intergovernmentalism and liberal intergovernmentalism New-institutionalism: rational choice institutionalism, sociological institutionalism, historical institutionalism, principal-agent model Politicization, crises and post-Maastricht integration: postfunctionalism, new intergovernmentalism and failing forward Social constructivism Governance and multi-level governance Critical political economy
Other infos	Reader with obligatory readings (updated annually).
Faculty or entity in charge	EURO

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)						
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes		
Master [120] in Communication	CORP2M	5		Q		
Master [120] in Political Sciences: International Relations	SPRI2M	5		٩		
Master [120] in Sociology	SOC2M	5		•		
Master [120] in European Studies	EURO2M	5		٩		
Master [60] in Political Sciences: General	SPOL2M1	5		٩		
Master [120] in Political Sciences: General	SPOL2M	5		٩		
Master [120] in Journalism	EJL2M	5		٩		