Economy of the European Union (in English) (3 US Credits)

DESCRIPTION AND GOALS
The course aims at studying the theoretical framework for the process of European integration, as well as offering a general overview of the EU as a global actor and of how it works. The EU budget will be analyzed as an economic instrument to accomplish the EU objectives. The internal market (the economic core of the EU) and the common competition policy will also be studied. The most important achievement of the EU economy (the Economic and Monetary Union -the euro) will then be explained. Throughout the course, the role of the EU as one of the most important global actors in the world trade will be emphasized. The course will also provide a brief presentation of the most important sectorial policies developed by the EU in fields like agriculture, regional and social improvement. Finally, students will reflect on the relevance of the opinion of civil society in the EU decision-making process.

SYLLABUS
1. Introduction
2. A Brief History of the European Union
3. The Institutional Framework of the European Union
4. The EU Budget
5. Internal Policies: Common Agricultural Policy, Regional Policy, Social Policy, External Trade Policy of the EU, Development Cooperation Policy, Security and Borders
6. Stabilization: Economic and Monetary Union
7. European national Economies: an in Depth Analysis
8. European Regional Innovation Policy
9. Case Study: The Basque Country

METHODOLOGY
The course will include lectures as well as classroom discussions and students’ presentations. Students will need to do several readings before the scheduled classes. Participation in class is compulsory. Every student will have to submit three case studies and at least one compulsory essay and participate in presentations on different subjects.

COMPULSORY READINGS

ASSESSMENT
- Essay: 30%
- Case studies: 30%
- Participation: 10%
- Final exam: 30%

BIBLIOGRAPHY

**NOTE:** Class attendance is essential in all courses. Therefore, it will be checked daily. Missing classes will negatively affect the students’ final grade.