

## Course description for new master-level course offered in Spring 2011

Approved by the faculty board for Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences on 6 November, 2010

### ▪ **ST-418 The European Union in the World**

▪ **10 ECTS credits – Spring– 1 semester – Kristiansand**

▪ **Study Programmes**

Master's programme in Public Policy and Management

▪ **Recommended previous courses**

As all literature, teaching and examination are in English, a strong command of this language is indispensable. Basic knowledge about the political system of the European Union (e.g. ST-202) and international relations is an advantage.

▪ **Learning outcomes**

On successful completion of the course, the students will have a comprehensive overview of the European Union's position in international relations. By tracing its evolution as a global actor in international politics, students will be able to understand the EU's potential and the constraints it is facing on the global stage.

Students will be able to assess and discuss

- how the major EU institutions operate in the realm of external relations
- what their respective policies and instruments are
- how they interact with
  - the national political systems of member states
  - the national political systems of selected third countries
  - with international organizations

Students will be able to

- analyse the EU's involvement in current international negotiations (e.g. in climate change) and collective interventions around the world
- apply concepts and theories studied in the class

▪ **Content and objective**

In this course, we will study the complex entirety of the EU as an actor in the world from a theoretical, historical and policy-oriented perspective. We will focus on topical issues of trade, diplomacy, development and security in EU external relations. The seminar also builds on a diversity of learning tools, including group discussions and report writing.

▪ **Teaching methods**

Lectures and class discussions.

▪ **Examination requirement**

In order to qualify to sit on the final exam, students will have to pass an exercise in writing and presenting a short policy brief. Towards this end, several groups of students will be formed at the beginning of the term and each group is going to work on one policy brief on one particular issue pertaining to EU external relations. Policy briefs are expected to be no longer than 2,500 words and are due at the beginning of week 15.

▪ **Examination**

The final grade will comprise a written essay and a school exam.

- 1) The essay paper (40% of the final grade) should be no longer than 4,000 words and is to be submitted in the class of week 18.
- 2) The 4-hour written exam (60% of the final grade) will take place during the exam period after the course. The in-class exam will address the content of the entire course and will consist of three parts: (1) multiple-choice and short identifications, (2) short answer questions and (3) one short essay-style question.

▪ **Offered as a free-standing module**

Yes.

▪ **External candidate**

No.

▪ **Credit reduction**

None.

▪ **Faculty**

Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences

**ECTS course information**

- Type of course: Theoretical
- Level of course: Second Cycle (i.e. Master level)
- Year of study: Fourth or fifth year
- Name of lecturer: Stefan Gänzle
- Course literature: Available on request
- Language of instruction: English

➤ **Reading list**

Material covered in lectures and class discussions as well as in the assigned readings, which total approx. 700 pages.

- **Christopher Hill & Michael Smith (ed.) International Relations of the European Union (=IREU), Oxford University Press 2005**  
The book will be available for purchase at the UiA bookstore.
- **Assigned reading material, policy briefs and articles**  
Assigned reading material is accessible via the web-based learning tool Fronter.