Syllabus

EU Foreign Policy

B.A.-Seminar
Monday 10.00 – 11.30
D 201

Overview

Foreign policy is part of the core state sovereignty. European integration requires a certain transfer of this authority from the national to the European level. The European Union's foreign policy is an ongoing puzzle encompassing a number of paradoxes. For example, the enlarged European Union has set itself ever more ambitious goals in the field of foreign policy-making, yet at the same time each member state continues to guard their ability to conduct an independent foreign policy. Behind each raised level of ambition was an unsatisfying reality of continuing policy incoherence and ineffectiveness.

The first part of the seminar will introduce theories of international relations and European integration that are capable of explaining parts of the actual setup of the EU's foreign policy. Furthermore, the historic development of the EU's foreign policy will be given and reevaluated. We will then develop a more concrete and coherent picture of the actual state and practices of the EU's foreign policy. Afterwards we turn to the analytic sphere, asking for the influence and distribution of actors, preferences, and institutions in EU foreign policymaking.

In the second part, the four main parts of EU foreign policy are analyzed. First, the Common Security and Defense Policy, second international Trade policy, third development policy and last enlargement and neighborhood policy. Through case studies, the seminar will provide a deeper understanding of the multi-level reality of EU foreign policy making and its constraints.

The last part of the seminar investigates Europe’s new role on the world stage and the democratic implications for member countries.
Course Goals:

On successful completion of this seminar students will be able to:

- describe the historical course of Europe’s foreign policy dimension
- identify and understand the different aspects of foreign policy in the EU
- understand the changes and effects of actors preferences and institutional settings on foreign policy decision-making
- use the basic concepts, databases and methods of EU foreign policy analysis

Course Requirements and Grades:

Student Responsibilities:

The seminar will meet Thursday from 10.00 to 11.30 in D 201. The seminar format means that each individual student is responsible for completing the required readings prior to the class meetings, and for contributing to the discussion of the material. Absence from single sessions has to be communicated via mail in advance. Punctuality is crucial and tardiness will not be tolerated, unless specific and justified reasons are presented to the instructor (such as slightly overlapping class, mobility issues).

You have to register in Ilias to get to the course material and in StudIS to get your grade!

Grades:

The grade consists of three parts, the presentations (20%), the development paper (pass/fail), and the research paper (80%). Students can only be graded if they are registered for the course in StudIS. The examination requirements of the department require the weighted mean of all parts to be at least pass (4.0). Additionally, all parts have to be provided. Individual parts cannot be repeated separately.

(Wortlaut FB: „Eine Prüfungsleistung ist bestanden, wenn der gewichtete Durchschnitt aller Teilleistungen mindestens ausreichend ist und alle Teilleistungen erbracht wurden. Einzelne Teilleistungen können nicht gesondert wiederholt werden, sondern nur im Rahmen der Wiederholung der gesamten Prüfungsleistung“)

Presentation:

Every student has to present the topic of one session. In these presentations, we are not looking for complete summaries of the readings, but for thoughtful engagement with the problem under discussion. Try to sketch the development and state of the art of the theoretical and empirical aspect of the phenomenon as brief as possible. Your task is to set the ground for a thoughtful discussion of the required reading in class. In the end, please include 1 – 2 analytical discussion questions.

The presentation should be maximum 15 minutes (without discussions)
Presentations will be graded on basis of the following criteria:

- Literature incorporated (relevance and precision): 30%
- Theoretical stringency: 30%
- Timing: 10%
- Slides 10%
- Discussion lead: 20%

Term Paper:
The paper consists of two separate items of work:

First, a short development paper (1 - 2 pages), that takes our readings and discussions as a point of departure and develops a research agenda and/or a preliminary empirical investigation on a topic of your interest (graded pass/fail). This assignment is the first step towards your final paper and is due to January 7th 2018. Topics can thus vary according to individual preferences, but should remain in connection with the class theme, and be chosen in accordance with the instructor.

The final paper (~4000 words) that should include a theoretical argument and an empirical observation related to it has to be handed in no later than 15.03.2018. The final paper is individual, original, fair, and should demonstrate aptitude to both synthetic and critical reasoning. “Original” means that the paper does not exist prior to its writing by the student and reflects the ideas of its author. This requirement excludes plagiarism, and authorized reproduction of already existing papers. “Fair” means that if you borrow from other people’s work (to a limited extent), you should quote it and acknowledge it appropriately (by the use of quotation marks and in a bibliography). “Critical reasoning” means that you are able to use different sources and put them in perspective in order not to simply repeat what other people say, but are able of highlighting or questioning underlying problems, context and crucial conditions, etc.

Term Papers will be graded on basis of the following criteria:

- Research question (relevance and precision): 10%
- Structure (logical consistency): 10%
- State of the art: 10%
- Argument and analysis: 60%
- Scientific standard: 10%

Deadline for Term Papers: 30.03.2018
Course Plan

Basic Literature

The Political System of the EU:


European Integration:


EU Foreign Policy


Key Journals for Research:

Journal of Common Market Studies,
Journal of European Public Policy,
European Union Politics,
European Journal of Political Research,
European Security,
Journal of European Integration

Online Resources:

www.euobserver.com - daily online newspaper focused on EU issues
www.ft.com - Financial Times, very good coverage on EU developments
http://www.europa.eu - official site of the European Union
http://www.iss-eu.org/ - Chaillot Papers for research on security issues
Catherine Ashton
I Theories and Preliminaries

30.10.17 Session 1: EU Foreign Policy: An Introduction

Required Reading:

Additional Presentation:
How to find a research question
Reading: Kellstedt/ Witten (2015): Chapter 1: The Scientific Study of Politics

06.11.17 Session 2: Theories of International Relations and European Integration

Required Reading:

Teaser:

13.11.17 Session 3: Development and Present State of EU Foreign Policy

Required Reading:

Additional Reading

Additional Material:
How to read a scientific paper

II Dimensions of European Foreign Policy

20.11.17 Session 4: CSDP I: Institutions (Talamantes, Geto)

Required Reading:
Keukeleire, S. and T. Delreux (2014): The Foreign Policy of the European Union:
Union, Ch. 8: The Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), pp. 172-196.

Additional:

27.11. Session 5 CSDP II: Actions (Blankenhorn, Knoll)

Required Reading:

Additional Reading:

Policy Reading:

04.12.17 Session 6: Trade I: Institutions (Van Caugherty, Knittel)

Required Reading

Additional Reading:

11.12.17 Session 7: Trade II: Actions (Horna, Costa)

Required Reading:

Additional Reading:

18.12.17: Session 8: Research and Data

08.01.18 Session 9: Development I: Institutions
Required Reading:

Additional Reading:

15.01.18 Session 10: Development II: Actions
(Madrigal, Ciftci)

Required:

Additional


22.01.18 Session 11: Enlargement
(Moreno, Bizzotto)

Required Reading:

Additional Reading:


29.01.18 Session 11: Neighborhood Policy
(Fuchsová)

Required Reading:

Additional Reading:
05.02.18 Session 13: Students Projects

12.02.18: Carnival Hangover Breakfast and Course Evaluation