

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
College of Business
Course Syllabus – Fall 2013

Course Number: ECON 5370 – MBA Seminar

Course Name & Room: Economics of European Integration
T, R: 11.00am - 12.15pm
OCNR 117

Instructor: Dr. Patrick M. Crowley

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Piazza <http://piazza.com/tamucc/fall2013/econ43255370>

Office Hours: T, R: 2-5pm OCNR373
and by appointment

Required Materials: Richard Baldwin and Charles Wyplosz – “The Economics of European Integration”, 4th edition, McGraw-Hill Higher Education, Maidenhead, Berks, UK. (2013)

Optional Materials: *Financial Times, The Economist.*

Course pre-requisites:
This is an ad-hoc seminar so the only pre-requisite is ECON5311 (Foundations of Economics).

Instructional Methodology:
Lecture, class discussion, debate.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course description:

An introduction to the economics of Europe, and by implication, the economic functions of the institutions of the European Union (EU). Students are introduced to economic policy issues which are currently of concern in the European Union, and the analysis of economic problems which are of particular relevance to European Union member states. These include (but are not limited to) the theory of customs unions, optimal currency area theory, the single market, competition policy, and the external trade and development policies of the EU.

Objectives:

To introduce students to the major economies of Europe, and by implication the structure and institutions of the European Union. To familiarize students with the policy issues which are currently of concern in the European Union, and to analyze economic problems which are of particular relevance to European Union Member States.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of this course, students should:

1. Understand the theoretical approach in economics to economic integration.
2. Appreciate the reasons why the European Union came into being and what drove its desire for greater economic integration from a historical perspective.
3. Appreciate the main areas where economic integration has had a decisive impact on the economic lives of the citizens of the Europe Union.
4. Analyze the winners and losers from economic integration and the implications for not only the citizens of Europe but also citizens of countries in other parts of the world.
5. Be aware of the international implications of economic integration in Europe and elsewhere on the policies undertaken in other parts of the world.

Relationship to Other Coursework:

This course is designed specifically for those students who have completed a basic course in economics and have an interest in learning more about the economies of Europe and the economics of regional integration. The main themes of this course include the effects of international trade, European institutions and the impact of fiscal and monetary policies in Europe on the environment in which consumers and business firms operate there and in the rest of the world.

Readings:

The course will require a substantial amount of reading. The textbook to be used in the course is only available as an ebook through the McGraw-Hill website, but I believe that copies of the textbook will also be provided by the University bookstore. The textbook to be used also has a website with valuable information for students and is located at

<http://www.mcgraw-hill.co.uk/textbooks/baldwin>

Other readings will be assigned at the discretion of the instructor. Some of the reading will come from textbooks on the EU, while other reading will consist of academic papers. You **MUST** do the assigned readings for class, otherwise you will quickly get lost in the course, as the readings tend to be cumulative.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND GRADING

Student performance evaluation breakdown:

Student performance will be evaluated on the basis of tests, assignments, a country report and a debate presentation. The relative weights of each of these components are as follows:

Attendance	5%
Country report	20%
FT Commentary on EU events	10%
Thought piece on future of the EU	10%
Debate	15%
2 Mid-term exams	40%
Total	<u>100%</u>

A separate handout will be provided for the country report and the debates. The letter grade will be determined based on the percentage earned of total points possible, as follows: A: 85-100%; B: 75-84.9%; C: 65-74.9%; D: 55-64.9%; F: 0-54.9%. In some instances, a curve may be applied in determining letter grades.

Course evaluation description:

a. Attendance: 5%

Students are held responsible for class attendance and are advised that excessive absences may adversely affect their understanding of the course content and, consequently, their grades. Students absent from class are responsible for assignments due/materials discussed/announcements made.

b. Country report: 20%

As part of this seminar relates to understanding and appreciating the economic circumstances of the European economies, each student will be assigned a Member State (or prospective Member State) to profile. A report should be prepared discussing the economic situation of the Member State that you choose and the prospects in your chosen country. A separate handout will be provided giving more details.

c. Debate: 15%

Students will participate in an organized debate on some relevant question on Europe. This will involve being part of a debate team which will present an argument on a pertinent European economic topic.

d. **Mid-term exams: 20% each**

This exam will consist of short and long answer questions relating to the course content.

e. **FT commentary on EU events: 10%**

This is an assignment that will be completed during the course of the semester and will culminate in a short paper to be submitted at the end of semester. The paper should comment on events that have taken place in Europe over the course of the semester. This assignment will be submitted through www.turnitin.com.

f. **Thought piece on future of EU: 10%**

Towards the end of the course I want each student to reflect on what they have learned this semester and write a short “thought piece” which addresses the opinion of the student on the future of the EU in terms of its direction and sustainability. This will be submitted through www.turnitin.com during the Final exam week.

OTHER COURSE DETAILS

Code of Ethics:

This course, and all other courses offered by the College of Business (COB), requires all of its students to abide by the COB Student Code of Ethics (available online at www.cob.tamucc.edu). Provisions and stipulations in the code are applicable to all students taking College of Business courses regardless of whether or not they are pursuing a degree awarded by the COB.

Academic Honesty:

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism, which is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own. This course, and all other courses offered by the College of Business (COB), requires all of its students to abide by the COB Student Code of Ethics (available online at www.cob.tamucc.edu). Provisions and stipulations in the code are applicable to all students taking College of Business courses regardless of whether or not they are pursuing a degree awarded by the COB. Students caught engaging in such activities should expect a zero for that part of the grade for the first infraction followed by an F for the course for a second infraction with a letter of reprimand placed in their academic files.

STUDENT-PROFESSOR COMMUNICATION

Office Hours:

During office hours students are able to visit with the course instructor to ask questions, go over course material, or discuss other issues relating to the course. If office hours are cancelled or the times changed, this will be announced in class. Students who are not available to meet the instructor during regular office hours can make an appointment with the instructor outside of the published times. Office hours start 9/9 and will run until 12/4.

Email Communication:

Assignments cannot be submitted by email. In addition, University email server filters regularly channel emails originating from unrecognized email addresses to junk email folders, so unless email originates from an islander email address, it is unlikely to be read or answered. Put something related to the course in the email header, otherwise the email still might not get read.

STUDENT COURSE ACCESS AND MANAGEMENT

Dropping a Class:

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class.

Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in CCH 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816 in CCH 116.

Tentative Course Outline

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Date	Topic/Event	Chapter
9.3	Introduction	
9.5-10	History/Facts, law, institutions	1/2
9.12-17	Decision making/Intro to Economic Integration	3
9.19	Essential Macro tools I	9
9.24	Essential Macro tools II	
9.26	Europe's exchange rate question I	10
10.1	Europe's exchange rate question II	
10.3	OCA's/Test review	11
10.8	EMS	16
10.10	EMU	17
10.15-17	Fiscal policy	18
10.22	Financial markets and the euro	19
10.24	Catch up/Review	
10.29	Mid-term test I	
10.31	Essential micro tools	4
11.5	Economics of Trade Liberalization	5
11.7	Economies of Scale effects	6
11.12	Growth effects	7
11.14	Labor markets and migration	8
11.19	CAP	12
11.21	Competition policy	14
11.26	Trade policy/Test review	15
	Country Report and FT Commentary due	
12.3	Mid-term test II	
12.12-18	Thought piece on future of EU	

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Faculty, students and staff can either:

- a) go to FT.com while on campus and follow the instructions to create an account
- b) go directly to our university registration page:

<https://registration.ft.com/corporate/signup/xqkDmMpF0DAW0>

*(Please note: you will need to use your **tamucc.edu** email address as your login)*

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- [Newslines](#) is a tool that allows students and professors to interact regarding important topics and news of the day on FT.com
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Newslines

Quick Start Guide for Students

FINANCIAL TIMES

Education


1. Finding annotations from your professors

Annotated articles from professors at your university can be found in the 'From Your Professors' tab on the Newslines Dashboard.

Your dashboard

People and tags you follow From your professors Your clippings Five-a-day

Below are lists of articles recently annotated by your professors.

Tip: Each list is available as an RSS feed. Look for the  icon by the professor's name.

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2. Reading annotations

If you have found an annotated article, you can read the annotation by clicking on the blue 'Annotate' button on the right hand side of the screen. This will open out the Annotations widget and you will be able to read both article and paragraph annotations.

3. Commenting on annotations

You can comment on annotations by clicking the 'Comment on this' below an annotation. Your comment will be visible to the same audience that can see the annotation.

Commenting can be a way for you to ask a professor a question, enabling a virtual dialogue between yourself and the professors. You can comment on annotations from any Professors, not just those from your university.



Scott Moeller, Case Business School FOLLOW 2

First AT&T / T-Mobile USA, now Deutsche Bank / NYSE Euronext. The regulators are more willing to step into (and?) deals now than previously. This is a trend that is likely to continue into 2012, and could put a damper on very large, mega (or ultra-mega) deal. The cross-border nature of many such proposed deals also creates an added complexity as multiple regulators will become involved and even if one approves the deal (as happened in the US with Deutsche Bank / NYSE Euronext), another regulator can still exit.

4. Voting for annotations

You can vote for annotations by clicking the thumbs up button next to the annotation.

5. Setting up your 'favourite tags'

You can set up your Newslines dashboard with your favourite professors and subjects by typing in the name of the professor or subject into the search box. If you choose to 'Follow' a professor they will appear here.



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