

European Economic Policy

Introduction to Jean Monnet Module



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Background to module I

- The EU remains in its worst crisis since it was founded in the 1950s.
- Not only have mistakes been made in economic and financial policy – affecting the next generation.
- The refugee crisis highlights the challenges to establishing an adequate EU external policy.
- Meanwhile anti-EU political parties have grown.
- Fences are being built on EU borders – Schengen is at risk.

Background to module II

- The UK Conservative Party has promised a referendum on leaving the EU (“Brexit”).
- In Spain, the EU was seen historically as a path to “modernisation” but now the EU is seen less positively by society – and its youth.
- The EU acknowledges mistakes have been made.
- Efforts are being made to improve governance in general.
- Including attempts to rethink the **quality of EU policy**.
- Don’t forget policy-making is the “bread and butter” of the EU – its budget is relatively small.

- In this light, this course on European Economic Policy has been newly designed in order that we can investigate what is happening as regards EU policy where we all have a stake.
- We obtained co finance from the Erasmus+ programme (Jean Monnet Module 2015-18) to finance new activities.
- We combine theory and practice: “applied policy analysis”.
- We will focus on analysing key EU policy: does it work? How would we know? Does it work for who? Is it getting better, or worse? What do citizens think?
- The course is also designed along the Bologna lines to stimulate student participation, coursework, continual assessment and “active” learning. It is up to you!

- European Economic Policy.
- Compulsory GE students / can be taken as optional course (International Students).
- Delivered in English .
- 6 credits.
- Lecturer: Judith Clifton - Office 131.
judith.clifton@unican.es.
- Student support: email – anytime; in person, see tutorial times for each lecturer OR email for appointment.

- European Economic Policy / *G951*
- Rules of the course can be found in the course syllabus available online at www.unican.es.
- We will be using the *Aulavirtual* where Schedule, class lectures, readings and other activities will be posted for you on a weekly basis

- Two classes per week.
- Wednesday class: theory/lecture.
- Thursday class: practical classes based on theory (continual evaluation), EUCITLAB work OR student assignment.

European Economic Policy: A Citizen Perspective

Part 1. Introduction to EU Economic Policy:

Introductory Lecture. The Jean Monnet Module. Purpose, objectives, expectations:

1. The origins, evolution and contemporary state of EU Economic Policy.
2. The Makers of EU Economic Policy: the EU Institutions and their roles.
3. EU Economic Policy since Lisbon.
4. Contemporary EU Policy and Economic Governance: Who should govern where, why and how?.

European Economic Policy: A Citizen Perspective

Part 2. Spotlight on core EU economic policy competences:

5. Single Market.
6. Competition.
7. Liberalization and Deregulation.

Part 3. Evaluating EU Economic Policy:

8. Traditional approaches to evaluating policy.
9. New approaches to evaluating policy: a Citizen perspective.
10. Why insights on satisfaction and behaviour can help policy makers in the EU.

European Economic Policy: A Citizen Perspective

Wednesday classes

- A weekly lecture on a major topic of interest for European Economic Policy:
 1. Background to EU policy.
 2. Key EU policy.
 3. Analysing the consequences of EU policy.
- Lectures are focused around, but not dependent on, a key reading.
- This reading is your “basic” and “obligatory” reading for this course.
- The exam will test your knowledge of these key readings and the extra information provided during lectures.
- Students are required to read the text before class.
- You may be asked to do a short practice on the text during the Wednesday class – you have been warned!

European Economic Policy: A Citizen Perspective

- Reading strategy. Students can develop their own strategies on how to manage reading the key texts.
- Note that some texts require more time than others.
- We should stress that reading these key texts is the *key to success* on this course:
 1. You will have the knowledge you need for the final exam (40%).
 2. You will accumulate a good result in “class participation” (10%) and course work (10%).
 3. It will help structure your essay (40%).

European Economic Policy: A Citizen Perspective

- Thursday classes.
- For practical work, including exercises based on theory, development of the EUCITLAB or students' assignments (all evaluated).
- The evaluation is structured so that the essay is as important as the exam.

- **To sum up:**

Students in continual evaluation will be evaluated in the following way

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Final exam (multiple choice) | 40% |
| Essay | 40% (May 18 deadline email and hard) |
| Class participation | 10% |
| Coursework | 10% |

Students who are not in the continual evaluation system

| | |
|---|-----|
| Final exam | 90% |
| (Multiple choice and open essay questions). | |

Optional activities

- Essay competition: should the EU regulate consumer affairs? Max 1000 words English or Spanish. Deadline.
- Trip to Brussels (*3 places*): awarded on: average grades, language, experience and essay result. Deadline.
- [Policy video](#).
- Roundtable organization.
- Contribute to student blog (U Kent).
- Talk on the EU with school children.