

# THEORIES & CONCEPTS IN EUROPEAN STUDIES

Academic Year 2021/2022 - Spring semester - 30 hours

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## COURSE OBJECTIVES & CONTENT

This course takes a multi-disciplinary approach in order to provide students with a broad range of theoretical and conceptual tools to analyze complex processes of integration and disintegration in Europe. It builds on classical theories and concepts in International Relations, Political Economy, Comparative Politics and Sociology: (neo-)functionalism, liberal intergovernmentalism, (neo-)institutionalism, constructivism or Europeanization and normative power Europe. However, the focus is on more recent approaches that have (re-)emerged over the last 10 years and are currently structuring major debates in the field of European studies. This includes a number of "turns", such as representative turn or practice turn; the realist comeback in EU foreign policy; as well as conceptual reflection on differentiation and disintegration processes in Europe that does not easily fit into existing theoretical frameworks. Moreover, the aim of the course is not only to discuss theories and concepts, but also to help students apply them and come up with theory-driven and conceptually sophisticated solutions to major research puzzles. Finally, the course provides tools to critically and reflexively think about European integration theorizing. In particular, it engages with a critical question: to what extent do the many crises of the European integration process translate into the crisis of EU studies and how to overcome it?

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS & ASSESSMENT

- Presence, readings in advance of each class & active participation in class discussions (20% of the final grade).
- Two concept notes (500 words +/- 10%) applying a selected theoretical approach to a case study of student's choice. These concept notes are later presented and discussed in class with a view of being developed into a fully-fledged research paper (40% of the final grade).
- A final research paper (4000 words +/- 10%) based on one of the two concept notes to be submitted by **1 June 2022** (40% of the final grade).

## EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

Knowledge: Understanding of the major theoretical debates, puzzles and choices within the complex multi-disciplinary field of European Studies.

Skills: Ability to critically engage with the existing theoretical approaches and concepts. Ability to apply them to solve concrete research problems.

Competences: Argumentation, presentation, drafting extended abstracts, writing a research paper.

*The course takes place on selected Wednesdays 14.00-17.00 (see dates below)  
ISP PAN Conference Room Polna 18/20  
(the course may be moved online/ ZOOM depending on the pandemic situation)*

## DETAILED PROGRAMME & READINGS

*All readings will be made available in the electronic form (pdfs).*

### SESSION 1 (23 February 2022)

#### **Introduction: a general outlook on theorizing European integration.**

Why do we need theory? Multi-disciplinary, reactive, normative, reflexive: how theoretical knowledge is produced in European studies?

Readings:

**Core textbook:** Antje Wiener, Tanja A. Boerzel, Thomas Risse (2019), *European Integration Theory*, Oxford University Press (Chapter 1: 1-24).

Ben Rosamond (2016), Field of Dreams: the Discursive Construction of EU Studies, Intellectual Dissidence and the Practice of 'Normal Science', *Journal of Common Market Studies*.

### SESSION 2 (9 March 2022)

#### **Theories of European integration and disintegration**

Readings:

**Core textbook:** Antje Wiener, Tanja A. Boerzel, Thomas Risse (2019), *European Integration Theory*, Oxford University Press (Chapter 12: 237-255; plus chapters 2-4 for those who need a basic introduction into federalism, neofunctionalism and liberal intergovernmentalism: 27-84).

Liesbet Hooghe & Gary Marks (2019) Grand theories of European integration in the twenty-first century, *Journal of European Public Policy*, 26:8, 1113-1133.

Dermot Hodson & Uwe Puetter (2018), Studying Europe after the fall: four thoughts on post-EU studies, *Journal of European Public Policy*, 25:3, 465-474.

### SESSION 3 (23 March 2022)

#### **New institutionalism(s) and (de-)Europeanization studies**

Readings:

**Core textbook:** Antje Wiener, Tanja A. Boerzel, Thomas Risse (2019), *European Integration Theory*, Oxford University Press (Chapter 6: 108-127).

Cornelia Woll & Sophie Jacquot (2010), Using Europe: strategic action in multi-level politics, *Comparative European Politics* 8, 110–126.

Radaelli, C.R. and Salter, J.-P (2020). Europeanization in reverse gear? In: *Differentiated Integration and Disintegration in a Post-Brexit Era*, eds. S. Gänzle, B. Leruth and J. Trondal, London and New York: Routledge, 36-53.

### SESSION 4 (6 April 2022)

#### **EU external action: constructivism versus realism?**

Readings:

Ian Manners (2015), Sociology of Knowledge and Production of Normative Power in the European Union's External Actions, *Journal of European Integration*, 37:2, 299-318.

A. Hyde-Price (2018). Realism and the European Neighbourhood Policy. in: *The Routledge Handbook on the European Neighbourhood Policy*, eds. T. Schumacher, A. Marchetti, T. Demmelhuber, London & New York: Routledge.

**SESSION 5 (20 April 2022)****Representative turn in EU studies: democracy, legitimacy and contestation**

## Readings:

Liesbet Hooghe & Gary Marks (2009), A Postfunctionalist Theory of European Integration: From Permissive Consensus to Constraining Dissensus. *British Journal of Political Science*, 39:1, 1-23.

Sandra Kroeger & Dawid Friedrich (2013), Introduction: the representative turn in EU studies, *Journal of European Public Policy*, 20:2, 155-170.

**SESSION 6 (11 May 2022)****Practice turn in EU studies: everyday of the European integration**

## Readings:

Rebecca Adler-Nissen (2016), Towards a Practice Turn in EU Studies: The Everyday of European Integration, *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 54:1, 87-103.

Frédéric Mérand (2021). Political work in the stability and growth pact, *Journal of European Public Policy*, DOI: 10.1080/13501763.2021.1901961.

**SESSION 7 (18 May 2022)****The latest 'buzzword': differentiation in the European Union**

## Readings:

B. Leruth, S. Gaenzle & J. Trondal (2019). Differentiated Integration and Disintegration in the EU after Brexit: Risks versus Opportunities. *Journal of Common Market Studies* 57(6), 1383-1394.

R. Daniel Kelemen (2021). Epilogue: a Note of Caution on Differentiated Integration. *Swiss Political Science Review*, 27(3): 672-681.

***The course ends with individual consultations where feedback on final papers is provided (mid-June, by appointment).***