



INSTEP-WFU Cambridge

THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

This course examines the origins and evolution of the European Union since its inception with particular reference to structural changes since the end of the Cold War. The impact of the Single European Act (SEA) and the Maastricht, Amsterdam, Nice and Lisbon treaties will be assessed in relation to the tension between supra-national and intergovernmental perspectives.

The question of whether Europe is likely to become a fully-fledged federation, a confederation, or something else lies at the heart of the debate arising from the current fiscal crisis and the European Union's response to it.

Are we seeing the renationalisation of policy and the rejection of supra-nationalism by European states engaged in the operation of the Euro-zone?

Week 1	Lecture Seminar	The origins of the Union after the Second World War What part did Marshall Aid play in promoting European integration?
Week2	Lecture Seminar	The expansion of the original community The clash of national interests between Britain and France over the EU
Week 3	Lecture Seminar	The institutions of the Union Where does real power lie in the Union and why?
Week 4	Lecture Seminar	The first phase of economic & political integration 1958 – 1985 What is economic integration and how far has it gone?
Week 5	Lecture Seminar	The second phase of economic integration: the Single European Act What does SEA seek to achieve?
Week 6	Lecture Seminar	The Maastricht Treaty How was monetary and economic union achieved and by whom?

Week 7	Lecture Seminar	The Amsterdam and Nice Treaties The consequences of Enlargement for the EU and the new members.
Week 8	Lecture Seminar	The breaking of the deadlock over the European constitution and the emergence of the Lisbon Treaty The search for consensus
Week 9	Lecture Seminar	The growing risk to the Eurozone Variable geometry: 28 EU members - 18 Eurozone members?
Week 10	Lecture Seminar	The EU, NATO, and the Transatlantic Relationship The Common Foreign, Security, and Defence policy of the EU.
Week 11	Lecture Seminar	France and Germany and the growing isolation of Britain Federalism, con-federalism or a free trade zone?
Week 12	Final papers	

READING LIST

Bache, Ian, George, Stephen *Politics in the European Union (new ed.)*
& Bulmer, Simon

Bootle, Roger *The Trouble with Europe*

Cecchini, Paulo *The European Challenge 1992*

Cram, L., Dina, D. & Nugent, N. *Developments in the European Union* George, Stephen

Bache, Ian *Politics in the European Union (older ed.)* Hix, Simon *What's wrong with the EU and how to fix it*

Milward, A. *The European Rescue of the Nation State*

Nelson, Brett L. et al *The European Union*

Pinder, John *The European Union: A Very Short Introduction*

Richards, I., Mathias, G.

Williams, G.L. & Williams, A.L. *Europe or the Open Sea*

Stirk, P.M.R. & Weigall, D. *The Origins & Development of European Integration*

Swann, D. *The Economics of the Common Market*

The Economist and Quality newspapers

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Seminar discussion

Two essays of at least 2500 words.