



INSTEP-WFU London

THE NEW EUROPE

This course traces the evolution of the politics and international relations of Europe in the post-Cold War world. It seeks to address whether there is one Europe or many by focusing on the issues of European politics and Europe's role internationally. It traces the emergence of the European Union (EU), its institutions, and how we think about them. The role of the EU is a vital one, and the course highlights the particular nature of the role that it plays at the domestic and international levels in the evolution of contemporary Europe. The course assesses the impact of Europe's external relations on its international standing and the possibility of creating a single 'European voice' in contexts such as the United Nations (UN), in its relationship with the USA and in light of development and humanitarian aid. Lastly, the course outlines and evaluates current crises in Europe, including migration, Brexit, COVID-19, climate change and the current Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Course Topics

1. The Reason for the European Union: History and Development I
2. The Reason for the European Union: History and Development II
3. Explaining European Integration: Theories and Concepts
4. EU Institutions and Actors I: Institutions and decision-making
5. EU Institutions and Actors II: External Relations
6. The EU in the world I: development and humanitarian aid
7. The EU in the world II: EU's relations with the US and the UN
8. The EU Today I. Disintegration and Fragmentation: Migration, Brexit, Nationalisms
9. The EU Today II. Reshaping the EU: COVID-19, Climate Change
10. The EU Today III. Rebirth of the EU? A new Europe after the Russian invasion of Ukraine?

Course Structure

This course will consist of lectures, seminar discussions based on readings proposed in the syllabus. There will be regular reading assignments for every class. Students are expected to have done all the essential readings before class. Students will also participate in role-play simulation exercise in Week 2 concerning EU-decision making. Finally, in Week 4 and 5, students are expected to do short class presentations based on the assigned readings and autonomous research.

Course Assessment

The final grade is assessed as follows:

40% final paper of 2500 words including footnotes and bibliography

40% in class test

10% presentation

10% participation in class