

EU Institutions and Policies (ANDREA PRONTERA)

The European Union is one of the world's most complex political systems. The purpose of this course is to provide students with a comprehensive overview of the European Union's core institutions, internal and foreign policies. It will explain the working of the EU bodies, and their contribution to the European policy-making processes. It also introduces the students to the main theoretical interpretations of regional integration and it compares and contrasts the EU with other political systems and international organizations. Students will have the opportunity to explore crucial issues, such as the role of the EU in global affairs, the economic and political relationships of the EU with emerging powers (China, India, Russia and Brazil), the role of the EU in global energy governance, the impact of the EU policies on Member States, etc. By the end of the course, students will attain an advanced understanding of the operations of the EU as a political system and gain familiarity with the standard concepts, theories and methods deployed in explaining EU and regional integration.