

TEMPUS PROGRAMME

INNOVATION IN TEACHING AND LEARNING EUROPEAN STUDIES (INOTLES)

European Union Public Policies

Course Concept

Governing institutions in the European Union make very specific public policies that differ from ones at a national level. Specificity of them is related to the nature of the EU integration processes and the scope of authorities of the EU Institutions as defined by the Treaties from Maastricht to Lisbon.

Study of the European Union in general can't avoid more or less deep consideration of Policy Making processes as well as the content of the most characteristic of the policies. Of course, number and diversity of the EU policies is too big to include them into one University course both at Bachelor and Master level. Hence, it is necessary to choose carefully the topics to be considered at the classes so that students would acquaint ability to continue their studies according to their preferences.

COURSE LEVELS

There should be at least three levels of complexity for the EU Policies study with the same prerequisite for all of them regarding to the preliminary preparation: before beginning studies at the course students must take another course – *EU INSTITUTIONS* which will introduce them the whole system of decision making in the EU and make the whole public policies teaching and learning easier.

At the simplest level course which might be a module within a general course of European Studies students will learn general structure and types of public policies in the EU. For the students of partner universities it might be important to discuss in details the policies concerning the relations between the EU and their countries. The course may have a size of 8-12 class hours and be taught to junior bachelors of Political Science, Law, Economics and/or Business/Management/Public Administration majors.

The middle level course might contain a few topics more including Single Market, Economic and Monetary Union, Agricultural and Social policies. Some other policies may be considered in a survey approach. We should keep in mind that the *EU Foreign Policy* is to be studied within a separate course and it is not necessary to spend much time for its consideration. The size of this course may be up to 20 class hours. The middle level course fits better to the senior bachelors or Master beginners of Political Science, Economics and Public Administration majors.

The high level course should provide students with the instruments for policy analysis and hence the prerequisite for subscription to it will be to pass the course on **RESEARCH METHODS**. There should be at least 30 class hours which includes practical work on specific policies with independent research and writing research papers by the students. The course syllabus will include consideration of policies from all 5 types with a thorough discussion of some of them and brief survey of others. It fits best of all to the Master students of Political Science, Public Administration, Public Policy Analysis, Economics majors. (*Such course is being taught during last 7 years at the Master's Program on Political Science at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Ukraine*).

Nevertheless, there are issues which should be studied at any level of the course complexity.

First of all, students should understand the differences between EU and national public policies. It may be provided by a special comparative consideration of the characteristic features of both in the scope, way of defining policy problems, agenda setting, decision making etc.

Secondly, students should learn the institutional structure of the policy process in the EU for all 5 types of EU public policies and how the policies are implemented on a national/regional level.

Third, students will hardly study all principles of the policies but they should understand their main provisions especially for those policies that are more or less related to their country European Integration processes.