

UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS - VARNA
MASTER DEGREE CENTER
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL ECONOMIC THEORY

Adopted by the FC (record №/ date):

Adopted by the DC (record №/ date): №8/28.02.2020

ACCEPTED BY:

Dean:

(Assoc. Prof. Hr. Blagoycheva, PhD)

SYLLABUS

SUBJECT: "ECONOMY AND SOCIETY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION"

DEGREE PROGRAMME: „International Business and Management“; MASTER`S DEGREE

YEAR OF STUDY: 6; SEMESTER: 11;

TOTAL STUDENT WORKLOAD: 270 hours; incl. curricular 60 hours.

CREDITS: 9

DISTRIBUTION OF WORKLOAD ACCORDING TO THE CURRICULUM

<i>TYPE OF STUDY HOURS</i>	WORKLOAD, hours	TEACHING HOURS PER WEEK, hours
CURRICULAR: incl. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• LECTURES• SEMINARS / LAB. EXERCISES	30 30	2 2
EXTRACURRICULAR	210	-

Prepared by:

1.
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2.
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I. ANNOTATION

The module “Economy and Society in the European Union” provides insights into the most important economic, social, political and demographic issues in the EU during the last decades. The module elaborates on the business implications of political, social, economic and cultural changes in contemporary European and global contexts. It provides students essential knowledge, rich information and ability for critical analysis of the current fundamental trends, which are underway in the EU. Based on the theoretical and the practical aspects, the module focuses on key concepts, basic theories, as well as on practical comparative analysis of the economic, social and demographic processes, typical to the EU country-members.

The aim of the module is to help students acquire and develop:

- *Ability to gather and analyze actual information for different countries and regions in the EU.*
- *Capacity to identify the crucial social-economic problems of the contemporary EU.*
- *Knowledge and ability to distinguish between the regional and country differences in EU.*
- *Capability to comprehend the responsibilities of the European nations and individuals when facing the challenges of today.*
- *Competencies and skills to critically appraise a wide range of contemporary social phenomena, standards and tendencies in Europe.*
- *Ability to adapt and demonstrate proficiency in the use of the language applied in social-economic analysis.*
- *Capacity to analyze case studies and demonstrate creativity and intellectual curiosity in the debates organized during programme realization.*

II. THEMATIC CONTENT

No.	TITLE OF THEME AND SUBTOPICS	NUMBER OF HOURS		
		L	S	L.E.
THEME 1. EUROPEAN UNION FOUNDATIONS AND EVOLUTION		3	3	
1.1.	Foundations and historical evolution of European integration.			
1.2.	Institutional structure of EU.			
1.3.	Current state of EU.			
THEME 2. THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION		3	3	
2.1.	European monetary union: development and institutional structure. Cost and benefits of EMU membership.			
2.2.	Fiscal coordination in EU: tax systems, evolution of economic governance, European semester.			
2.3.	Current issues and possible solutions – the future of EMU and EU fiscal policy.			
THEME 3. EU MEMBER STATES: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS		3	3	
3.1.	Geographical conditions and natural resources.			
3.2.	Economic power and centres of influence.			
3.3.	Macroeconomic conditions: employment, prices, productivity, R&D, trade.			
4.4.	Public finance.			
THEME 4. SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF ECONOMIC		3	3	

ACTIVITIES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION				
4.1.	Regions and globalization - the increasing importance of place.			
4.2.	Complex location strategies: learning regions, industrial clusters, location choice triad.			
4.3.	Regional disparities in EU.			
4.4.	Cohesion policy – aims, funds, special support instruments.			
THEME 5. EUROPEAN UNION IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY		3	1	
5.1.	Current trends in the global economy: globalization and emergence of three new centres of gravity.			
5.2.	EU role on a global scene: economy, trade and investment.			
5.3.	EU declining competitiveness.			
THEME 6. DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES IN THE EU		2	2	
6.1.	Basic Demographic Equations			
6.2.	Natural Increase of EU Population			
6.3.	The Ageing of The EU Population			
6.4.	Dependency Ratios			
THEME 7. MIGRATION TRENDS AND MIGRATION POLICY IN THE EU		2	2	
7.1.	Types of EU Migration			
7.2.	EU Migration Trends			
7.3.	Determinants of EU Migration			
7.4.	EU Migration Policy			
THEME 8. ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF EU DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES		4	5	
8.1.	The economic effects of the ageing EU population			
8.2.	Labour market dynamics: regional and country differences			
8.3.	Unemployment in the EU			
8.4.	The quantity and quality of human capital in the EU			
THEME 9. EUROPEAN CULTURE ANALYSIS.		3	2	
9.1.	Hofstede's Cultural Dimensions Theory.			
9.2.	Trompenaars' Model of National Culture Differences.			
9.3.	Idiosyncrasies of European Culture.			
9.4.	Cultural Change and Cultural Differences.			
9.5.	International Business and European Culture.			
THEME 10. EU POLITICAL PROCESS		2	1	
10.1.	Defining the Key Political Actors in the EU.			
10.2.	Public Opinion and Political Participation.			
10.3.	Interest Groups and Interest Representation.			
10.4.	Political Parties and the European Parliament.			
10.5.	Elections and Voting.			
10.6.	Agenda-Setting and Decision-Making.			

THEME 11. EU POLITICAL LANDSCAPE		2	3	
11.1.	The EU Political Spectrum: A Multidimensional Model.			
11.2.	Key EU Political Leaders.			
11.3.	Politics and Economic Development in the EU.			
11.4.	Current EU Political Issues.			
	Total:	30	30	

III. FORMS OF CONTROL:

No.	TYPE AND FORM OF CONTROL	Number	Extra-curricular, hours
1.	Midterm control		
1.1.	Midterm test	1	40
1.2.	Course project	1	80
Total midterm control:		2	120
2.	Final term control		
2.1.	Examination (real data and questions analysis)	1	90
Total final term control:		1	90
Total for all types of control:		3	210

IV. LITERATURE

REQUIRED (BASIC) LITERATURE:

1. Baldwin, R. and Wyplosz, Ch. (2019). The Economics of European Integration (6th Edition), McGraw-Hill Education
2. Jovanovic, M. N. (2009). Evolutionary Economic Geography - Location of production and the European Union. Routledge.
3. Rommerskirchen, Ch. (2019). EU Fiscal Policy Coordination in Hard Times: Free Riders on the Storm, Exford University Press
4. Tomann, H. (2017). Monetary Integration in Europe: The European Monetary Union after the Financial Crisis (Studies in Economic Transition) (2nd Edition), Palgrave Macmillan
5. De Haas, H., S. Vezzoli, A. Szepanikova, and T. Van Criekinge (2018). European Migrations: Dynamics, Drivers, and the Role of Policies. Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.
6. Cini, M. and N. Borragán (2019). European Union Politics, 6th ed., Oxford University Press.

RECOMMENDED (ADDITIONAL) LITERATURE:

1. Denis, C., K. Mc Morrow and W. Röger (2006). Globalization: Trends, Issues and Macro Implications for the EU. Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs, EC, Brussels, Belgium.
2. Lutz, W. et al. (2019). European Demographic Scenarios for the EU - Migration, Population and Education. Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.
3. d'Artis K. and P. Lecca, (2018). Long-Term Social, Economic and Fiscal Effects of Immigration into the EU: The Role of the Integration Policy. The World Economy, Wiley Blackwell, vol. 41(10), pp. 2599-2630.
4. Hofstede, G. G. J. Hofstede, and M. Minkov (2010). Cultures and Organizations: Software of the Mind, 3rd ed., New York: McGraw-Hill.
5. Perlitz, M. and Fr. Seger (2004). European Cultures and Management Styles. International Journal of Asian Management 3(1), pp. 1-26.
6. Lelieveldt, H. (2015). The Politics of the European Union. 2nd ed., Cambridge University Press.