

Syllabus

Dates of the Angers Summer Programme 2010:

Wednesday 16 June – Thursday 15 July

Website for detailed organisational information:

<http://www.essca.fr> > international > programmes > summer programmes > ASP

Staff in charge of the Angers Summer Programme 2010

Programme coordinator:	Dr Marie-Noëlle Cocton
Programme assistant:	Laëtitia Rainard
Academic programme supervisor:	Dr Albrecht Sonntag
Director of international relations:	Carol Chaplais

Overview:

	Course title	Total volume	Suggested ECTS
Course 1	European Union Studies	60 hours	7 ECTS
Course 2	European Economics	30 hours	3 ECTS
Course 3	Culture and Communication	30 hours	2 ECTS

Textbooks and course material:

Generally students will have **up to six contact hours per day**.

Given the compact and itinerant nature of this summer school, students are not expected to buy textbooks. Each lecturer will provide specifically compiled readers in class, most of which will also be available electronically on ESSCA's intranet.



European Union Studies

Course coordinator:	Dr Marie-Noëlle Cocton E-mail: marie-noelle.cocton@essca.fr
Course instructors:	Dr Thomas Hoerber (Sessions 1 to 11) Julien Gascard (Jean Monnet House, session 12) plus: a series of field visits and meetings (Brussels)
Teaching language:	English
Total number of hours:	60 (Angers, Brussels, Paris).
ECTS credits:	7

Prerequisites

- curiosity about Europe, the European Union and issues of geopolitics
- open-mindedness and readiness to put into question what is believed to be "normal"
- courage to ask "stupid questions" any time

Presentation and Learning Objectives

The European Union is contemporary history written before our eyes in all its complexity. And the Union is still very young: in March 2007, it only celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome, often considered as its birthday.

For this reason the approach and the objectives of this course must be interdisciplinary:

The first approach is historical: the objective is to understand where the idea of a European Community comes from and with what kind of institutions it could be realised in the geopolitical constellation of the postwar years.

The second approach is cultural: the specificity of the European institutional framework is studied in order to provide students with the necessary tools to make sense of the present European environment in which people, institutions and companies move and work.

These are completed in a third, socio-political, approach: following the dense input from the Brussels seminar with its series of visits and meetings, several sessions are held on the Paris campus that will deepen the understanding of the European Union's impact on the lives of Europeans and the meaning(s) of the integration process. This part will focus on issues such as European citizenship, European social models and cultural policies.

At the end of the summer programme, students will have developed a critical awareness of the major achievements and difficulties of the process of European integration, and a deeper understanding of the socio-political, economical and cultural challenges of the European continent's near future.

Course Schedule

Teaching is organised in 3-hour sessions. Most sessions are taught in Angers, and are completed by a series of visits, meetings and debates that are organised within the schedule of the Brussels seminar. Sessions 11 and 12 will be taught in Paris (last week of the programme).

Session 1 ***Introduction: Defining Europe***

Objective: seize the problematic character of the concept of Europe

Contents: ♦ Discussion of different definitions of Europe and "EU"
 ♦ The meaning of "European Integration" and its current phase

Session 2/3 ***Historical field visit to the D-Day landing beaches***

Objective: understand the legacy of war and the longing for peace in 1944/45

Contents: ♦ Guided visit and explanation of the Canadian Juno Beach Center
 ♦ Visit of the American cemetery of Saint-Laurent-Colleville
 ♦ Visit to the German cemetery of La Cambe, with its peace garden

Session 4 ***The idea and emergence of the European Union***

Objective: understand the geopolitical constellation in which the contemporary idea of a European community emerged

Contents: ♦ Study and interpretation of visionary texts about European unity
 ♦ The action of Jean Monnet before and after 1950
 ♦ The impact of the European Recovery Plan (Marshall Plan)
 ♦ The functioning of the European Coal and Steel Community

Session 5 ***The development of the European Union***

Objective: understand the different phases of development and enlargement of the European Union from 1957 to the present

Contents: ♦ The different enlargements of the EU between 1973 and 2007
 ♦ From the Treaty of Rome (1957) to the Berlin Declaration (2007)

Session 6/7 ***The institutional framework of the European Union***

Objectives: define the role of each major institution of the EU
 understand the complexity of the decision-making process

Contents: ♦ The European Commission as supranational institution
 ♦ The European Council as intergovernmental institution
 ♦ The European Parliament as representation of a European "demos"
 ♦ The decision-making process in the institutional triangle
 ♦ A survey of other major European institutions

Session 8 ***A Constitution for the European Union?***

Objective: understand and discuss reform proposals for the European Union

Contents: ♦ The limits and weaknesses of the EU's institutional framework
 ♦ Federalist visions of the future EU & projects of institutional reform

- ♦ The work of the European convention and the constitutional draft
- ♦ The constitutional debate and the referenda of 2005
- ♦ The Lisbon treaty

The Brussels Seminar

The Brussels seminar deepens the understanding of the European Union's current scope and international role. It is composed of a series of visits and meetings with actors from the European scene, including:

- ♦ Visit to the European Commission (3 specialised presentations)
- ♦ Visit to the Council of the European Union (1 presentation)
- ♦ Visit to the European Parliament (meeting with a Member of the EP)
- ♦ Visit to the representation of a major region of the EU
- ♦ Meeting with a lobbyist
- ♦ Meeting with a media correspondent
- ♦ Meeting with representatives from a think-tank organisation

Each student is expected to write a detailed report about the meetings and the Brussels experience (to be submitted at the end of the programme). In order to complete this report, at least six hours of self-study work are scheduled within the programme.

Session 9-11 Dimensions, Policies and Impact of European Integration

Objectives: analyse and deepen the insight gained in the Brussels seminar
understand the impact of European integration in various fields

Contents:

- ♦ Cultural policies
- ♦ The debate on the European Social Model
- ♦ The EU as an actor on the world stage
- ♦ The different dimensions of the integration process
- ♦ Outlook: future scenarios and challenges

Session 12 European citizenship

Objective: Session 12 is held on the last afternoon of the programme at the house of Jean Monnet outside Paris, in the very place where the whole idea of the European Community was born. It is a wrap-up class of all the lessons of the preceding five weeks in Angers, Brussels and Paris. A conference by Julien Gascard from the Association Jean Monnet is followed by a general debate and debriefing.

Contents:

- ♦ discuss European citizenship and identity
- ♦ discuss the finality of the European integration process

Assessment

25% - An intermediate test on the historical background and institutional framework

50% - An individual written report about the meetings of the Brussels seminar

25% - A short essay on a topic dealt within the last sessions.

European Economics

Course coordinator:	Dr Marie-Noëlle Cocton E-mail: marie-noelle.cocton@essca.fr
Course instructors:	Dr David Rees (Angers)
Teaching language:	English
Total number of hours:	30
ECTS credits:	3

Prerequisites

- basic knowledge about the history of the EU and the main EU institutions
- interest of the EU from an economic perspective
- ability to listen to others and to be open-minded

Presentation and Learning Objectives

This course aims to provide a general understanding of the European Union from an economic perspective. It looks at the functioning and the policies of the European Union and the effects both within and outside the EU of the application of those policies; this inevitably leads to an approach that combines both economics and politics. In order to understand some of the economic issues studied, the programme includes lessons on basic macro-economic theory. By the end of the course, students should be able to provide their personal, critical analysis of the most controversial European economic, political and social issues.

Course Schedule

Teaching is organised in 3-hour sessions, all taught in Angers. Time for autonomous work on the group presentations will be reserved in the schedule.

Session 1 ***Introduction to European Economics: All you ever wanted to know about European Economics but were afraid to ask.***

Objective: understand basic features of the European economic space

Contents: ♦ True/False quiz and European opinionaire
 ♦ Discussion and course outline
 plus: choice of group projects

Session 2 ***How countries manage and mismanage their economies***

Objective: revise the fundamental tools and concepts of traditional economic policy

Contents: ♦ Money-what it is, how it works and what can go wrong (crashes)
 ♦ Financial sovereignty
 ♦ Monetary policy

Session 3 ***Is bigger better?***

Objective: distinguish between the European and national level of economics

Contents: ♦ Airbus
♦ Galileo
♦ Economies of Scale

Session 4 *How to ruin your company?*

Objective: understand the risks of international trade and the interplay between different macroeconomic policies (EuroZone, USA, China, EU-non-Eurozone etc.)

Contents: ♦ Exchange rate fluctuations
♦ Import-Export risk (role-play exercise)
♦ Elasticity

Session 5 *To tax or not to tax – that is the question*

Objective: understand the economics and politics of fiscal policy

Contents: ♦ Direct and indirect taxation
♦ Controlling a national budget
♦ Tax choices – who pays how much and why? (EU comparisons)
♦ Social service or profit-based company?
♦ Group exercise – ESSCALand train services

Session 6 *Joining the club*

Objective: understand the motivations, benefits and uncertainties linked to accession to the European Union and/or to the Eurozone

Contents: ♦ The Copenhagen criteria
♦ The Maastricht criteria (with application exercise)
♦ Productivity, mobility and employment in the Eurozone
Prospects of Euro compatibility and adoption in Britain

Session 7 *Feeding or cheating?*

Objective: study and understand the internal and external impact of the EU's most fully integrated economic policy: the Common Agricultural Policy

Contents: ♦ The origin of the CAP
♦ World Food Economics
♦ Present and future of European agriculture
♦ EU dumping: the cases of chicken (DVD) and sugar

Session 8 *Case study: the United Kingdom in the European Union*

Objective: understand the special relationship between the UK and the EU

Contents: ♦ History of UK accession to the European Community and membership
♦ Specific problems of EU legitimacy in the United Kingdom

- ♦ Multiple-choice test (1h) on course content

Sessions 9-10 Presentation of group projects on current European economic issues

Students will present group projects on topics of economics or European economic policy defined together at the beginning of the course

Group presentations will be followed by a wrap-up and debriefing session.

Assessment

50% - Group presentations (see sessions 9-10 above)

50% - Multiple-choice test (1h during session 8)

Culture and Communication

Course coordinator:	Dr Marie-Noëlle Cocton E-mail: marie-noelle.cocton@essca.fr
Course instructors:	Dr Marie-Noëlle Cocton (Angers and Paris) Dr Albrecht Sonntag (Angers) Pascal Drouin (Angers)
Teaching language:	English
Total number of hours:	24h plus a series of subject-related field visits (4 x 1,5h)
ECTS credits:	2

Prerequisites

- interest for issues of intercultural communication
- curiosity for concepts of social psychology and collective identity
- interest for the culture of France

Presentation and Learning Objectives

This course makes sense of the students' intercultural experience during this summer programme itself by providing them with appropriate tools to analyze their observations of cultural difference and singularity and to understand the barriers one would need to overcome to communicate with other. The course introduces students to concepts of cultural and intercultural studies, highlighting the apparent paradox of Europeaness: the belonging to an increasingly integrated supranational community, while remaining attached to the Europe's cultural diversity and the preservation of cultural particularities. A special emphasis is given to France, the programme's host country, as an example for a nation-state whose culture has been and still is the object of a significant discourse of cultural distinction. Notions of national identity are exemplified and illustrated during several field visits focusing on different periods of history and their impact on contemporary France.

Course Schedule

Teaching is organised in 3-hour sessions.

Session 1/2 *Introduction to fundamental intercultural concepts*

Objective: become familiar with the basic concepts of communication and gain awareness of the obstacles that prevent communication from working efficiently and appropriately

Contents:

- ♦ Simulation game and collective analysis
- ♦ The concept of communication (theories and application)
- ♦ The intercultural communication competence
- ♦ Barriers to intercultural communication

Session 3 *French people and culture: discourse, myth, and reality*

Objective: understand the patterns of French cultural perception and self-perception in Europe and the rest of the world

Contents: ♦ The gap between reputation and self-perception
♦ Use and abuse of hetero-stereotypes and auto-stereotypes

Session 4 ***Culture on the table, food and national culture***

Objective: understand the importance of historical echoes of rurality in contemporary France through an analysis of the place of gastronomy in the national psyche

Contents: ♦ French gastronomy: roots, diversity, discourse, challenges
♦ The concept of “terroir” and that of “savoir-vivre”
♦ The identity of each specific region and its local products

Subject-related field visits:

- ♦ Visit to a local market to discover the local products (Angers)
- ♦ Dinner in an old restaurant to enjoy a typical French meal (Paris)

Session 5 ***Culture in a glass: the French wine industry***

Objective: understand the heritage and tradition of French wine industry

Contents: ♦ The history of wine
♦ Study of the French and Loire valley terroirs
♦ The place of wine in the national culture and the current situation of the French wine industry

Subject-related field visits:

- ♦ Visit to a traditional family-owned vineyard of the Anjou region and meeting with the owner.

Session 6 ***Dimensions of identity***

Objective: become familiar with the mental processes that underpin individual and collective identity construction

Contents: ♦ Cultures and subcultures in the identity formation process
♦ The salience of national culture in the individual formation process
♦ Social engineering and feelings of belonging
♦ Nationalism and its impact in a globalised world

Session 7 ***Globally shared practices and national narratives of singularity***

Objective: understand the dialectical nature of the process of cultural globalization through the case study of football

Contents: ♦ Drivers of cultural globalisation

- ♦ Football as a global game: study of identity expression at the World Cup
- ♦ Convergence vs. Divergence Theories
- ♦ Globalisation discourse and its impact on the collective perception patterns

Session 8 ***Tradition, heritage and collective memory***

Objective: understand the lasting impact of abstract and concrete national heritage on identity patterns in the contemporary era of globalization

Illustrate the concept of “national identity” and that of “heritage” through focuses on different key periods of national history

Contents: ♦ The concept of “patrimoine”
 ♦ Cultural and architectural heritage and their impact on collective memory
 ♦ The role of “collective memory” in the identity-formation process

Subject-related field visits: (sites of the UNESCO world heritage list)

- ♦ Visit to the Royal Abbey of Fontevraud (era: the French revolution, key topic: Republican values and secularism)
- ♦ Visit to the Châteaux de la Loire: Chenonceaux, Amboise & the Clos Lucé (era: the Renaissance, key topic: modernity and the nation-state)

Assessment

50% - Written exam

50% - Multiple-choice test