Course Specifications
From the academic year 2016-2017 up to and including the
European Union Trade Policy (K000997)

Course size
Credits 5.0
Study time 150 h
Contact hrs 45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2017-2018
A (semester 2)  English
- group work 5.0 h
- self-reliant study activities 5.0 h
- seminar 15.0 h
- lecture 15.0 h
- microteaching 5.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2017-2018
De Ville, Ferdi  PS03  lecturer-in-charge
Orbie, Jan  PS03  co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2017-2018
Bachelor of Science in Economics  5  A
Master of Science in Economics  5  A
Master of Arts in Global Studies  5  A
Master of Science in EU-Studies  5  A
Exchange programme in Economics and Business Administration  5  A
Exchange Programme in Political and Social Sciences  5  A

Teaching languages
English

Keywords
EU Trade Policy, Trade-related aspects of EU external policies

Position of the course
This is an elective course in the Major Specific EU-issues, Master for EU-Studies. This course is organised in the second semester and partly builds upon the course on ‘European External Policy’. The aim is to enhance and deepen the students’ knowledge of and insight into EU trade politics and policies, to further develop their relevant professional skills and to help them to understand the relationship between academic research and professional work in EU trade policy.

Contents
This course offers comprehensive, profound and critical insights into EU trade policy. The course starts with lectures on EU trade policy-making, the underlying strategic vision and on how the academic literature makes sense of this EU policy domain. Consequently, we discuss the most important dimensions of the policy field: the role of the EU in the WTO, the pursuit of new bilateral trade agreements and the relation between EU trade and development, environmental and social protection and crisis policies. During the second half of the semester, we focus particularly on current dossiers, such as the negotiations with the United States on a free trade agreement. Students will deliver a presentation on an aspect of one of the current topics. Finally, experts from the policy field come and share their experiences and insights into EU trade policy.

Initial competences
To have successfully completed the educational component European External Policy
or to have acquired the competences targeted in this component in another way.

Final competences
1. Critically assess the most important historical and contemporary issues in EU trade policy.
2. Summarize and critically discuss advanced academic writings on EU trade policy.
3. Apply theoretical literature on EU trade policy to current political issues.
4. Deal with acquired knowledge on EU trade policies in a creative way, including linkage with the professional field.
5. Write down a short position paper on a specific aspect of EU trade policy.
6. Publicly defend an assigned position on a specific aspect of EU trade policy and constructively engage with that of colleagues.
7. Cooperate on a group document relating to an EU trade policy strategy.

Conditions for credit contract
Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'.

Conditions for exam contract
Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted.

Teaching methods
Group work, lecture, microteaching, seminar, self-reliant study activities

Extra information on the teaching methods
Through lectures, insights in the decision-making, academic literature and the most important aspects of EU trade policy are provided.

Through independent assignments, the students are asked to critically discuss required academic and policy literature.

Via seminars, the students learn to apply academic literature to contemporary issues within the policy domain.

In a number of microteaching sessions, students are asked to study in depth a specific issue and give a short presentation on this topic to their fellow students. Through a role play, the students learn how to approach an EU trade policy problem from a professional standpoint and to defend it both in written and orally.

The students literally bring together their acquired knowledge, insights and skills at the end of the semester, by collectively writing in a group task a new EU trade strategy.

Learning materials and price
Articles (available through ELIN), inter alia:

(Approved)
Participation, assignment


References

List on Minerva

Course content-related study coaching

- Sessions dealing with i) writing a policy and position paper, ii) defending a position in public
- Interactive support through Minerva and by personal appointments or during regular office hours.

Evaluation methods

- continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

- Participation, assignment
- Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

Extra information on the examination methods

- Throughout the semester, the students have to deliver some assignments:
  - short, critical discussions of the required theoretical and policy documents
  - a presentation for the group of an aspect of a topical dossier where they apply the acquired knowledge and insights.
  - a position paper where they assume a position in the field and where they approach a problem from a professional perspective
  - cooperate on the writing of a collective EU trade strategy
- During the classes, the students are evaluated for their active, critical and creative participation in discussions. They are also scored for their presentation skills and for how they are able to defend a certain position during a role play.

Calculation of the examination mark

- Non-Periodical assessment (100%), of which papers (50%), participation in discussions and presentation on a current topic (40%) and group work (10%).