

Course Syllabus

Title and Number: Borders and European Integration from a comparative European-American perspective

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Course Introduction

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisite Courses: none

Class Meets: Regular class meets on Wednesdays, Symposium on Monday November 28 – Tuesday, November 29, two class visits

Course Introduction:

The course deals with Border Studies and their relevance for European Integration by taking on a comparative European-American perspective. It will start by assessing the multiple types and functions of borders in International Relations and by pointing at the different relevance of borders for economic, political and cultural identification within the EU and in the USA. I will then focus more in detail on the specific role of borders in the history of European Integration and cross-border cooperation by comparing it with other areas in the world, especial the American continent. Finally, it will apply the tools of Border Studies for the analysis of border crises, mainly with regard to migration, COVID-19 and to border conflicts in Europe.

General Education Area and Learning Outcome (if relevant):

European Studies/Border Studies

Instructional Materials

Required Instructional Materials:

Wassenberg, B., Reitel, B., *Territorial Cooperation in Europe. A historical perspective.*, Bruxelles, 2015.
https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/publications/brochures/2015/territorial-cooperation-in-europe-a-historical-perspective

Wassenberg, B., Reitel, B., *Critical Dictionary on Borders, Cross-Border Cooperation and European Integration*, Peter Lang, 2020, (<https://www.peterlang.com/document/1057026>).

Optional Instructional Materials:

Course Learning Outcomes

Students will learn about the role of borders in globalization and European Integration. They will acquire fundamental knowledge about the EU's border regimes (internal market, Frontex, territorial cooperation). In comparison to the US, they will learn about the specific European border identities (European, national, regional) and the different types of multi-level-governance in European border regions. They will also learn how to analyze and manage crises and conflicts at borders in a European context in comparison to the US. The students will acquire professional competences by a practical application of their knowledge. For this purpose, there are specific sessions on intercultural learning to deal with the management of cultural borders and a symposium, which will deal with a border crisis/conflict.

Class Schedule and Sequence of Instruction*

Session	Date	Content
1	Wednesday, September 14 9:00 – 12:00 3 hours	Introduction Border Studies
2	Wednesday, September 21 9:00 – 12:00 3 hours	Borders and Identity in European Integration in comparison to the US : cultural borders
3	Wednesday, September 28 9:00 – 12:00 3 hours	Borders, European Integration and Globalization: economic borders
4	Wednesday, October 05 9:00 – 12:00 3hours	Borders and Governance in European Integration in comparison to the US: political borders
5	Wednesday, October 12 9:00 – 12:00	Border crises in Europe: migration
6	Wednesday, October 19 9:00 – 12:00 3 hours	Culture and Career session I

7	Wednesday, October 26 9:00 – 12:00 3 hours	Cross-border cooperation in Europe: origin, history and governance
8	Wednesday, November 2 9:00 – 12:00 3 hours	Case study: The Upper Rhine Region
9	Wednesday, November 9 3 hours	No class
10	Wednesday, November 16 9:00 – 12:00 3 hours	Culture and Career session II
11	Wednesday, November 23 9:00 – 12:00 3 hours	Border crisis in Europe: COVID-19
12	Monday, November 28 9:00 – 12:00 3 hours	Symposium
13	Tuesday, November 29 9:00 – 12:00 3 hours	Symposium
14	Wednesday, November 30 9:00 – 12:00 3 hours	Student class presentations
15	Wednesday, December 7 9:00 – 12:00 3 hours	Student class presentations
16	Wednesday, December 14 9:00 – 12:00 3 hours	Make-up session

Class Excursions and Visits

Session	Date	Content
1	TBC 2 instructional hours	The Euro Institute
2	Friday, October 14 2 instructional hours	The US Consulate

Assessment

Short Descriptions of and Grading Criteria for Major Assignments/Assessments:

Weight/Distribution of Course Points:	Points (100%)
Group presentation Symposium	30
Individual paper: oral presentation	25
Individual paper: written	25
Intercultural management	20

Mid-Semester/Session Grade:

Session	Expected Timeline of Major Assignments/Assessments and Topics/Units
1	
2	
3	Assessment intercultural management
4	Assessment intercultural management
5	
6	
7	
8	Group presentation Symposium
9	Group presentation Symposium
10	
11	
12	
13	Written paper and oral presentation
14	Written paper and oral presentation
15	Written paper and oral presentation

Final Grading Scale:



Instructor/Course

Attendance Policy: obligatory

Participation Policy: bonus point for active participation

Late Assignment and Missed Exam Policy: minus point