This course constitutes the academic element of either the EU Study Tour offered through Capilano University, or another European Study Tour approved by the program.

European Union Study Tour 2015:
Our 12th Study Tour will commence in Brussels on May 10th and conclude after three exciting and stimulating weeks, May 29th. Participants experience meetings and events with public servants and politicians of the European Union. Included are valuable opportunities to meet with representatives of the EU's neighbors -- the Russian Federation, Ukraine-- as well as NGO's representing European civil society.

The program includes meeting with other European institutions, notably the European Central Bank, the Council of Europe and the European Court of Justice, at their locations and headquarters. Additionally, with some of our European partners we will present special programs on youth, human trafficking, and the environment.

Ideally, you would meet briefly before you go to Europe and once you have returned / submitted your work.

Please see the requirement below to prepare your meeting and tour project.

Requirements:

a) 20% annotated bibliography / literature review. Your review of the literature should expand on the one provided by this course outline. Add government documents, newspaper clips read while in the EU, books, blogs and webpages.

b) 10% List of questions raised during 20 of the attended talks (40-60 questions),

c) 10% List of assessments of at least 20 of the attended talks (set up your own criteria)

d) 60% List of 20 summaries of attended talks, comments and notes. This may take the form of (1) a blog, or (2) a folder with the summaries or (3) a formal academic paper; the format is your choice. Each summary/entry should be at least 150 words long. In all at least 10 to 12 pages are expected. This paper is due end of July. This paper is to be defended with your professor.

Grading:

|-------|-----------|-----------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

Readings:
This course uses the recommended readings that are posted on the Capilano Study tour web site: [http://www.capilanou.ca/european-union-study-tours/Study-Materials/](http://www.capilanou.ca/european-union-study-tours/Study-Materials/)

Study materials are articles and other materials that participants in the EU Study Tour are expected to read before and during the Study Tour. Study materials are also used in preparing for several internal seminars held during the Study Tour. The materials listed or reproduced below reflect some of the key themes to be developed on the Study Tour. All students are expected to participate in common thematic assignments, which must be prepared during the pre-Tour period in Canada. The topics for Study Tour 2015 are given below.

The students on the Study Tour have diverse backgrounds. Some are pursuing graduate level work in European studies and the European Union. Undergraduates vary considerably in the number of relevant courses focusing on the European Union, which they have completed. We expect all students to be familiar with the scope of subjects covered in Michelle Cini’s European Union Politics or its equivalent. If you haven’t accomplished this in course work we strongly suggest you acquire the textbook and read it before departure.


**The thematic assignments for 2015 focuses on the issues below:**
Theme 1: The comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between Canada and the EU.

Topics and Questions
· what does it mean economically for Europe?
· how does CETA relate to current negotiations with the US for a similar agreement and how would the latter affect CETA’s implementation and impact?
· how does the CETA fit into the larger EU trade strategy?
· who will benefit the most in Europe and who stand to lose?

Readings
Theme 2: Ever Deeper Union?

Topics and Questions

· Critiques of the economic crisis: a feminist approach
· The United Kingdom: elections and the possibility of BRexit
· Greece: Syriza, the Troika, and austerity
· Is a banking union sufficient to guard against future shocks? What role do central banks play?
· Critiques of further economic integration: EMU and democratic deficit

Readings

6. The Deutsche Bundesbank website (familiarize yourself with the current issues): http://www.bundesbank.de/Navigation/EN/Home/home_node.html
Multiculturalism and Immigration

Topics and Questions
· How do European approaches to multiculturalism and immigration differ from North American approaches?
· To what extent can we expect "Europe" or the European Union to cooperate on matters of immigration?
· If the nation state and nationalism is part of the "problem", is more "Europe" part of the solution?

Readings

Articles:


There are several other blogs on these pages. Use the search functions to find other related content.
EU-Russia relations and the European Neighbourhood Policy with the Ukraine

Topics and Questions

· What principles have guided the EU’s Eastern Partnership Policy and how successful has it been in meeting its objectives? Is the EU reassessing the policy in light of the Ukrainian crisis, and what are some of the issues involved?
· Assess various explanations of the Ukraine crisis and how it relates to underlying issues in the EU-Russian relationship in the period leading up to the crisis.
· In light of Russia’s promotion of the Eurasian Customs Union and of the Ukraine crisis, what are the main issues and options facing the EU in its relations with Russia, moving forward (both in the short and medium term)?

Readings