Instructor Fall 2021: Dr. Amy Verdun

Course delivery: In the Fall 2021 term, this course will be delivered face-to-face and on campus.

Course description:
This course gives an introduction of the history, policies and challenges facing the European Union (EU). It examines the basic structures and processes of EU governance. Special emphasis is placed on the rationale for integration (theoretical concepts and approaches), institutions, actors, policies and policy-making. The course also examines a number of current events and recent challenges facing the EU. Some of these topics include Brexit, the issue of enlargement of the EU (recent past and future), the migrant crisis, the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as issues surrounding the financial crisis and related economic considerations. The course will follow the political and economic developments taking place within the EU throughout the duration of the course. Thus, students are encouraged to follow the news during the semester.

Course outcomes/objectives:
- Understand the historical context that led to the formation of the EU
- Understand the theoretical political science concepts of European integration and consider their applicability over time
- Demonstrate the ability to discuss and analyze critically, both verbally and in writing
- Exhibit the necessary tools and skills for writing a good research paper

Topics may include:
Covid-19 Pandemic
Energy and the environment
European neighbourhood policy
Migration issues
Policy-making and governance
Security and defence
Trade and monetary policy

This summary provides an overall sense of the course and is not considered an official course outline. Detailed course outlines will be available for all registered students on the first day of class.