POLI 211
European Integration and the European Union

Instructor:
Dr. Amy Verdun (Fall 2020)

Course description:
This course gives an introduction of the history, policies and challenges facing the 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, 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.

Prerequisites: None

Course outcomes/objectives:
- Understand the historical context that led to the formation of the European Union
- 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:
Policy-making and governance
Security and defence
Energy and the environment
European neighbourhood policy
Migration issues
Trade and monetary policy

Course delivery:
In the Fall 2020 term, this course will be delivered synchronously.