



Germany in the European Union. German and European Foreign Policies in a World of Regions

Fall Term 2024: 2 September – 13 December 2024
(break: 21-25 October 2024)

CATEGORY

Politics and Law

COURSE STRUCTURE

3 contact hours à 45 min per week (14 weeks)

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Time

Day: Wednesday, 4:00-6:30 pm

Place

Schönhauser Allee 10, 10119 Berlin
Room 1.23

COURSE LANGUAGE

English

Language requirements (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages)
English B2

TARGET GROUP

International exchange students of all subjects with a strong interest in the course topic. Humboldt Perspectives Study Abroad courses are designed for undergraduate students. Master students may participate if their home university agrees.

A course suitable for all students interested and/or familiar with International Relations, European and EU issues, Global geoeconomics and geopolitics – or passionate to learn more about the world of the XXI century and Germany/EU's role in it.

CREDITS = 6 ECTS

All courses are accredited according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

COURSE DESCRIPTION

At the end of the module students should have

- strong research foundations on how to use the heuristic theoretical concepts of multipolarity, structural power, hegemony and regional governance/leadership.
- an in-depth advanced understanding of how the European Union works as an innovative multilevel governance system and the central role of Germany in said system.
- knowledge about how Germany leverages its central role within the European Union and links together with other regions in order to foster political, economic, social and cultural integration with other global major and middle powers.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

This undergraduate-level course aims at studying and analyzing the impact of Germany's structural power within both the European Union and in key regions and global players - within the multipolar context in which we live in.

By the end of the course, the students should gain the following skills:

KNOWLEDGE

It will provide students with a theoretically informed understanding of Germany, the central power within the EU, and its role as the leader of a regional and a global actor. Apart from the institutional framework of the EU, the module enables the students to examine the different tools through which the EU and its member-states, particularly Germany, pursue its foreign policies.

The main learning outcomes aims at

- Providing an advanced understanding how European and German foreign policy works in the global context.
- Reflecting on how European and German foreign policy could improve its effectiveness and impact in the world.

ACADEMIC/TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- Communicating difficult theoretical complex terms and apply them yes well-thought-out group presentations on different instances of Germany's power and foreign policy effects in different regions of the world.
- Contributing to well-informed discussions on German and European foreign policy.

COMPETENCIES

- Preparing a written essay analyzing and developing arguments on specific topics of European foreign policy.

KEY READINGS

Main books:

Bulmer, Simon and Paterson, William E. (2018). *Germany and the European Union: Europe's Reluctant Hegemon?* London: Red Globe Press.

Bindi, Federiga (2022). *The Foreign Policy of the European Union. Assessing Europe's Role in the World*. 3rd Edition. Washington D.C: Brookings Institution Press.

Further recommended books:

- Anderson, Perry (2017). *The H-Word: The Peripeteia of Hegemony*. London and New York: Verso.
- Beck, Ulrich (2013). *German Europe*. Cambridge: Polity Press
- Crawford, Beverly (2007). *German Power and Foreign Policy: Embedded Hegemony in Europe*. London: Palgrave Macmillian
- Dutkiewicz, Piotr; Casier, Tom and Scholte, Jan Aart, eds. (2021). *Hegemony and world order: reimagining power in global politics*. New York, NY: Routledge.
- E. Smith, Karen (2014). *European Union Foreign Policy in a Changing World*. 3rd Edition. Cambridge: Polity
- Kim, Min-hyung and A. Caporaso, James (2022). *Power relations and comparative regionalism: Europe, East Asia, and Latin America*. Abingdon, Oxon; New York, NY: Routledge.
- Maihold, Günther et al eds. (2021). *German Foreign Policy in Transition: Volatile Conditions, New Momentum*. SWP Research Paper.
- Strange, Susan (1988). *States and Markets*. London: Pinter Publishers.
- Webber, Douglas (2019). *European Disintegration? The politics of crisis in the European Union*. London: Red Globe Press.

Official governmental documents:

European Union Global Strategy (2016): *Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe - A Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign And Security Policy*. June 2016

ASSIGNMENT INFO

Workload and assignments

In order to be granted 6 ECTS, participants will be asked to

- actively attend all sessions (a minimum of 80% attendance is required for classroom and online sessions)
- prepare (by reading the assigned article for each week) and revise the classroom/online sessions
- hand in the following **assignments**:
 - Written Paper (3000 words minimum)
 - Make a 15 minute group-presentation on one of the topics of the second part of the semester (weeks 9 to 14)

Failure to fulfil one of the mentioned components results in failure of the class.

Assessment Components

The final grade will be composed of the above-mentioned assignments.

YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Alberto Cunha, European Studies PhD in King's College London and Research Associate in *Institut für Europäische Politik*, Berlin.

COURSE SCHEDULE

3 hours à 45 min per week

Week 1: History (i) – The EU since the 1950s

- Opening question: What countries and political ideas made possible the creation and enduring existence of the European Union?
- Assigned reading: Warzoulet, L. (2019) 'The EEC/EU as an Evolving Compromise between French Dirigism and German Ordoliberalism (1957–1995)', *Journal of Common Market Studies* 57(1), pp.77-93.
- Excursion (if possible): to *Europäisches Haus*, Mitte.

Week 2: History (ii) – The central role of Reunified Germany since 1990

- Opening question: Why is reunified Germany the 'power in the middle' of the EU and what is the nature of this power and its effects throughout the continent?
- Assigned reading: Maull, Hanns W. (2018). "Reflective, Hegemonic, Geo-economic, Civilian ...? The Puzzle of German Power". *German Politics*, Volume 27, 2018 - Issue 4, pp.460-478.

Week 3: Theory (i) – Multipolarity and Power in a World of Regions

- Opening question: Why is the current geopolitical context marked by regionalism and multipolarity, and what is the role of middle powers?
- Assigned reading: Moeini, Arta et al (2022). "Middle Powers in the Multipolar World". *Institute for Peace & Diplomacy*.

Week 4: Theory (ii) – Hegemony and Structural Power

- Opening question: What is the origin and evolution of the concepts 'Hegemony' and 'structural power'?
- Assigned reading: Strange, Susan (1987). "The persistent myth of lost hegemony". *International Organisation* 41, 4 (Autumn), pp. 551 – 574.

Week 5: EU (i) - The functioning of the CFSP

- Opening question: What are the institutions that have defined the European Union's CFSP since its origins until today?

- Assigned reading: Mälksoo, Maria (2016). "From the ESS to the EU Global Strategy: external policy, internal purpose". *Contemporary Security Policy*, 37:3, pp. 374-388.

Week 6: EU (ii) – European security policy and the member-states

- Opening question: What are the key member-states and moments in the post-Cold War evolution of European security policy?

- Assigned reading: Karp, Regina (2018). "Identity and anxiety: Germany's struggle to lead". *European Security*, 27:1, pp. 58-81.

Week 7: EU (iii) - Market Power Europe

- Opening question: Why was the EU called a 'normative' and 'market' power?

- Assigned reading: Damro, Chad (2015). "Market power Europe: exploring a dynamic conceptual framework". *Journal of European Public Policy*, 22:9, pp. 1336-1354.

BREAK: 21 – 25 October 2024

Week 8: Domestic sources of German power abroad

- Opening question: What are the German domestic institutions more responsible for shaping its influence abroad?

- Assigned reading: *Bundespräsidialamt (2014). "Germany's Role in the World: Reflections on Responsibility, Norms, and Alliances", Speech by Federal President Joachim Gauck at the Opening of the Munich Security Conference, 31 January 2014, Munich: http://www.bundespraesident.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/Reden/2014/01/140131-Muenchner-Sicherheitskonferenz-Englisch.pdf?__blob=publicationFile.*

- Excursion (if possible): to Bundestag or Chancellery/German Foreign Ministry

Week 9: Germany, the EU and the 'crises decade'

- Opening question: Was Germany an hegemonic power during the 'crisis decade' of the 2010s and how did its power operate?

- Assigned reading: Matthijs, Matthias (2016). "The Three Faces of German Leadership". *Survival. Global Politics and Strategy*. Volume 58, 2016 - Issue 2, pp. 135-154.

Week 10: Germany, the EU and Transatlantic Alliance

- Opening question: What is the current state of the Transatlantic Alliance after the Trump presidency and Merkel leadership?

- Assigned reading: Helwig, Niklas (2020) Out of order? The US alliance in Germany's foreign and security policy, *Contemporary Politics*, 26:4, pp. 439-457.

Week 11: Germany, the EU and China

- Opening question: Is there a common EU policy towards China or it is more a matter for each of its more powerful member-states?

- Assigned reading: Bundesregierung (2014). "Joint Declaration between Germany and China". *The Federal Government*.

Week 12: Germany, the EU and the Post-Soviet Space

- Opening question: Europe lived an historic moment in 2022, eight years after the Crimean crisis. Is there a 'special' role for Germany within the EU's response?

- Assigned reading: Fix, Liana (2018). "The Different 'Shades' of German Power: Germany and EU Foreign Policy during the Ukraine Conflict". *German Politics*, Volume 27, 2018 - Issue 4, pp. 498-515.

Week 13: Germany, the EU and the European Neighbourhood Policy

- Opening question: What have been the main accomplishments and shortcomings of the EU's neighbourhood policy?

- Assigned reading: E. Smith, Michael (2016). "Implementing the Global Strategy where it matters most: the EU's credibility deficit and the European neighbourhood". *Contemporary Security Policy*, 37:3, pp. 446-460.

Week 14: Germany, the EU and Asia-Pacific

- Opening question: Should a strategic autonomous EU be a player in the Asia-pacific?

- Assigned reading: Lay Hwee, Yeo (2017). "EU's Strategic Autonomy and ASEAN's Centrality - Pathways towards EU-ASEAN partnership with a strategic purpose". *EU Centre Policy Brief*.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Registration on Moodle (HU's e-learning platform)

in case of online sessions

- Fully functional device (laptop, tablet, PC)
- Stable internet connection
- Software: Zoom (video/audio)
- *Recommended* hardware: external headset for better sound quality

EXPECTATIONS & POLICIES

Preparation for lively discussions: be on time, have at least the required readings completed, and points in mind for discussion or clarification.

Assignments: complete all assignments according to the specified requirements on the schedule including handing them over to the lecturer.

Commitment: pay particular attention to the lecturer and respect differences of opinions in this international classroom.

Academic guidelines: Comply with academic integrity policies, especially the academic honor code and the student code of conduct. Plagiarism in even a small assignment will result in failing the entire course.

Attendance policy: Students must contact their class teachers to catch up on missed work – to excuse absence please contact the lecturer.
