The European Union at 60: What’s Next?

Study abroad in Germany for 3 weeks (May 15 – June 3, 2018):

• Study the politics and economics of European integration since 1958.
• Explore current EU challenges and possible solutions (e.g., Brexit, Eurozone crisis, immigration/asylum policies)
• Travel to Frankfurt, Brussels (Belgium), Strasbourg (France), and Luxembourg (Luxembourg) to visit EU institutions.
• Stay at a monastery “Nikolauskloster” and study at the historic castle “Schloss Dyck.”
• Earn 6 UNM credits in 2 linked courses, POLS 320 and ECON 478, taught by two UNM specialists on European Union politics and economics.

NOTE: Courses meet for 5 Saturday sessions at UNM between March 31 and April 28, 2018.

Estimated program cost: $1,400-1,600 plus airfare, GEO application fee, travel/health insurance. Use your Spring tuition! Scholarships available (Regents’ International Travel Grants, ISI Summer Scholarships).

Program website: http://schlossdyckunm.weebly.com

For more information, contact:

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Course Descriptions

POLS 320: European Union Politics—What’s Nexit?
(Topics in Comparative Politics, 3 credits, cross-listed as INTS 499)
Taught by Dr. Kendra Koivu, Assistant Professor of Political Science, klkoivu@unm.edu

Using a political perspective, we will trace the process of European integration over the past 60+ years and discuss some of the current challenges faced by the European Union (EU). Starting with a discussion of the political origins and decision-making institutions of the European Union (EU), we will discuss integration, institutional, and democratic theory. Topics include the democratic deficits of EU decision-making institutions, the political consequences of the 2008 financial crisis, the refugee crisis, far-right nationalist movements and Euroscepticism, and recent elections in Britain, France, Germany, and Austria. While the UNM portion of the course is mostly lecture-based, the study-abroad trip focuses on experiential learning about the problems and prospects for further political integration in the EU in the surroundings where they are unfolding. Students will analyze the current Brexit negotiations, the political consequences of the 2008 financial crisis, Euroscepticism, as well as the recent elections in Britain, France, Germany, and Austria.

ECON 478: European Union Economics—What’s Nexit?
(Seminar in International Studies, 3 credits, cross-listed as POLS 478 and INTS 499)
Taught by Dr. Christine Sauer, Professor of Economics, sauer@unm.edu

Using an economic perspective, we will trace the process of European integration over the past 60+ years and discuss some of the current challenges faced by the European Union (EU). Starting with an overview of the economic origins and history of the EU, we will explore both the microeconomic and macroeconomic aspects of European integration using standard tools of economic analysis. Topics include the effects of preferential trade liberalization, benefits and costs of monetary union, monetary/fiscal policy, and financial markets in the EU and/or Eurozone. While the UNM portion of the course is mostly lecture-based, the study-abroad trip focuses on experiential learning about the problems and prospects for further economic integration in the EU in the surroundings where they are unfolding. Students will analyze current issues and policy proposals pertaining to Brexit, the lingering Eurozone crisis, fiscal union, and/or further integration of EU financial markets using economic data and the essential tools from the first part of the course.

Planned field trips for both courses:

- Frankfurt/Germany: European Central Bank and Money Museum
- Brussels/Belgium: European Parliament, Parliamentarium, and/or House of European History
- Strasbourg/France: European Parliament
- Luxembourg City/Luxembourg: Court of Justice of the European Union