

First year of the Executive Master in EU Studies

The EU in World Politics

Theme/Topic:	The EU in World Politics
Expert:	Dr. Robert Kissack , Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals (IBEI)
Character:	Compulsory
ECTS Credits:	3 ECTS credits
Teaching methods:	Lecture, seminar and discussion at the presence workshop
Assessment methods:	final exam at the end of the term, assignments, active participation in workshop and forum discussion
Skills and competences:	Critical analysis, essay writing, small and large working groups (Assessment methods). A thorough understanding of the theoretical and practical dimensions of foreign policy making in the contemporary world, with reference to the European Union and its member states. An introduction to the social science discipline of International Relations.

Objective and course content:

This course is intended to provide a thorough understanding of European foreign policy in global dimension; its historical evolution, its current structure, and the key objectives it promotes. More specifically, the course is based in the social science discipline of International Relations, which focuses on the behaviour of states (and, of course, *sui generis* actors like the EU) in international politics. The web content provides the student with an overview of what IR is about and how it approaches the study of the world, and goes on to focus on foreign policy analysis, which was the traditional approach to the study of the EU. It then moves on to cover more recent developments of specific theories of EU foreign policy, as well as the institutional design and the role of the major EU actors in shaping EU foreign policy. Finally, the course explores EU relations with three major powers in the world: the US, China and Russia.

Bibliographical advice

- Hill, C. and Smith, M., eds., 2011. *International Relations and the European Union*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.