

11. DESCRIPTIONS FOR COURSES IN THE THREE-YEAR-PROGRAMME

Course Codes

Each course is identified as follows:

- The three letters indicate the subject area of the course
- The first digit of the number indicates the level of the course
- Each course earns 6 ECTS credits as indicated by “E”

What is the Level of a Course?

The first digit in the course code indicates the level of the course. There are 100-, 200- and 300-level courses. The distinction in levels is based on pre-requisites (courses that must be taken and passed before the chosen course), on skill progression or on both. 200-level courses may have a 100-level course as a prerequisite and all 300-level courses have a 100- or 200-level course as a prerequisite. Skill progression is another reason to distinguish between course levels. 300-level courses typically require skills that have been developed in 100- and 200-level courses. Most syllabi explain the skill progression for a specific discipline and indicate which skills students are expected to have mastered at the beginning of the course.

11.1 What are Requisites?

Pre-requisite – A course that must be taken before the chosen course. When an exception is granted by an instructor, it must be in writing to the Registrar.

Co-requisite – A course that must be taken before or at the same time as the chosen course.

Concurrent – A course that must be taken at the same time as the chosen course.

Course Subject Areas:

ART	–	Art & Civilization
BUS	–	Business
CMM	–	Communications
COR	–	Core Requirements
ECN	–	Economics
ENV	–	Environmental Sciences
HIS	–	History
IA	–	International Affairs
INT	–	Internship
LAW	–	Law
LDU	–	Dutch
LFR	–	French

LGS	–	Literature Studies
MTH	–	Mathematics
PHL	–	Philosophy
POL	–	Political Science
SOC	–	Sociology
STA	–	Statistics

11.3 Course Descriptions

Courses in the Core Curriculum

As part of its liberal arts approach to education, Vesalius College has developed a new Core Curriculum consisting of nine courses. Six of these, abbreviated “COR”, are required of all students. Within these six courses, students who cannot demonstrate intermediate-level knowledge (104 level) of a language other than English will opt for Dutch or French to meet their other language requirement. The remaining three courses are known as free electives, meaning that students may choose these courses to reflect their individual interests and to broaden their scope of intellectual inquiry. Free electives may be chosen from among the courses available in majors other than the one chosen by the student, provided any pre-requisites are satisfied, and also from additional courses not associated with any major listed below. These additional courses are offered at the Dean’s discretion.

Courses in the Majors

In addition to the Core Curriculum, students majoring in Business, Communications and International Affairs take courses that develop their field of specialisation in depth or introduce basic concepts from supporting disciplines. The major allows room for choice, giving students the opportunity to pursue their personal interests or career prospects within the major field. Course descriptions of major requirements and major electives also follow.

ART - Art

Introduction to Art History

ART 101E

Surveys Western art from the early Christian era to 1800 with an emphasis on major artists, works and art movements.

Origins of Art

ART 108E

Provides a concise introduction to the history of art, of both the Old and the New World. Analyses the material culture of primitive societies and ancient cultures (c. 3000 BC to 1500 AD) by means of video and slide presentations. Includes other topics such as the methodology of anthropology, archaeology and art history. Also discusses some current applications of history or art (museology, cultural management and sponsorship).

Art in Belgium

ART 109E

In-depth study of a chosen period of Belgian art (Gothic or Baroque or Art Nouveau) in its diverse forms: painting, architecture and sculpture.

Modern and Post-Modern Art in Context

ART 111E

Studies a selection of modern and post-modern works of art with emphasis on contributions by Belgian and European artists within an international, comparative frame. Students are introduced to a number of stylistic developments and rifts in 20th century and contemporary visual culture as well as the thematic and rhetorical diversity of works of art. The approach is interdisciplinary, working with historical, literary and recent theoretical materials and references. Field trips to museum collections and temporary exhibitions are part of the programme.

European Studies

ART 361E

A programme of field trips to different European cities with an introductory seminar for each trip. Studies the historical, cultural and economic aspects of each city as well as the country in which it is located. Special emphasis is placed on the history of art and architecture. (All costs for the trips are to be paid by the participants).

BIO - Biology

Introduction to Biology

BIO 101E

This course serves as an introduction to basic biological concepts for non-science majors. The first half of the course involves the study of basic principles, such as scientific methodology, genetics, evolution and cellular biology, which will serve as building blocks for the second half of the course. The second half of the course applies the previously acquired biological principles to the study of how biology affects our daily lives with respect to nutrition, cancer, drugs and addiction and AIDS.

Human Health

BIO 103E

This course is designed to guide students in the self-evaluation and management of the essential components of a healthy lifestyle. Discussion topics will include: psychological health, stress management, violence and abuse, reproduction, relationships and sexuality, drug use, alcohol and tobacco, nutrition, weight management, physical fitness, cardiovascular health, cancer, aging, dying and death. Students will develop skills in critical thinking, research and presentation and will be expected to participate in in-class discussions that will focus on student self-evaluation of several of the topics covered in class.

BUS - Business

Introduction to Business

BUS 101E

Introduces students to the internal organisation of firms and to the legal, economic, political and social environment in which they operate. Aims to show how accounting, finance, marketing, operations, human resources and innovation, all

fields that the student will later study, contribute to realising the objectives of the firm. Students also learn how to find and analyse information about businesses.

Business Law

BUS 111E

Introduces the legal context in which business is conducted in civil and common law jurisdictions. After examining the sources and components of law, considers in-depth the law of contracts, the law of torts, finance of international trade, intellectual property rights, agency and distributorship, conflicts of law and competent courts, international commercial arbitration, bankruptcy and receivership and the law of corporations.

Human Resource Management

BUS 211E

Examines the sub-system of staff planning, recruitment and selection, training and development, position control, audit and evaluation and salary and benefit administration that constitute the human resource function of all organisations. Emphasis is placed on the role of these activities as services and support-control systems. Topics include recruitment and selection, personnel planning, testing employees, training, performance management, compensation, managing labour relations, ethics and fair treatment.

Pre-requisite: BUS 101E

Management of Innovation and Technical Change

BUS 213E

Provides tools and ways of thinking related to managing and sustaining innovation as a means of creating value. Themes to be addressed include features and characteristics of technological innovation, strategy/structure/environment and innovation, effects of new technology on employees and managers, implications for occupational health and safety, the learning organisation and the culture of change, performance management and intellectual property.

Pre-requisite: BUS 101E

Marketing

BUS 231E

Analyses the role of marketing in creating customer satisfaction. Discusses the importance of market segmentation, targeting and positioning, starting from understanding customer needs and translating these into superior perceived value, quality and service for the target market. Illustrates how to compose an effective marketing programme and stresses the application of concepts through the use of case studies.

Pre-requisite: BUS 101E

Financial Accounting

BUS 241E

Provides a comprehensive grounding in the principles of financial accounting, including the underlying concepts and process involved in the preparation of financial statements. Introduces the differences between the accounting principles sanctioned by the International Accounting Standards Committee (IASC) that guide the preparation of financial statements in the EU and the General Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) that govern financial statements prepared in the USA. Illustrates how financial statements are used by external decision-makers (creditors, investors) as well as internal decision-makers (managers).

Pre-requisite: BUS 101E

Managerial Accounting

BUS 242E

Introduces students to the vital role that management accounting plays in organisations for decision-making, planning and controlling operations. Explains how management accounting systems support the operational and strategic needs of an enterprise. Topics include budgeting, costing methods including activity-based costs, capital investments and performance measurement.

Pre-requisite: BUS 241E

Information Systems

BUS 251E

This course covers topics in business data processing including data structures used in business applications, file organisation, sequential and random file access as well as an introduction to database concepts and data normalisation. In addition, the course examines some simple DBMS packages, methods of information systems analysis and design for organisations with data processing resources (concepts of Unified Modeling Language), system feasibility, information requirement analysis, organisational policy and procedures, database use including data dictionaries, software design and implementation management, project control and systems-level testing and installation.

Pre-requisite: BUS 101E

International Business

BUS 301E

Introduces advanced students to the major fields of international business: organisation, finance, marketing and human resources management. Examines both the international environment and the nature and form of international business arrangements with a special focus on the role of multinational enterprises. Theory covers European, US and Asian firms as well as both the manufacturing and services industries. Applies concepts through the use of case studies.

Pre-requisites: ECN 101E, BUS 101E

International Business Negotiations

BUS 302E

Introduces students to some basic concepts of the theory of negotiations while providing hands-on application of such concepts in simulated negotiations of complex international business transactions of a project nature. Also deals with the preparation/analysis of positions and reporting on progress and outcomes.

Pre-requisite: BUS 101E

Managing Legal Issues in International Business

BUS 311E

This is a hands-on course. The objective is emphatically not to provide participants with lectures on international business law. Rather, participants should learn how to use counsel most effectively when and where needed, and how to stay on top of a legal issue so that they, and not counsel or outside events, manage the process, be this a negotiation, legislative project or litigation/arbitration. The course does not stress conveying specific national, positive legal provisions in detail, but familiarises the non-lawyer with selected key concepts in common and civil law and involves the participants in exercises on international commercial legal issues. The course also includes a visit to the Palace of Justice, its courts, the Bar Association and the Supreme Court President's chambers.

Pre-requisite: BUS 101E

Mergers, Acquisitions and Related Transactions

BUS 312E

This course covers the main types of mergers and acquisitions (including leveraged buy-outs; management buy-outs; friendly and hostile mergers and acquisitions), and of related transactions (including divestments; de-mergers; privatisations; alliances, partnerships and joint-ventures). These transactions are studied from all the main points of view. The topics covered include: motives; search for potential acquisitions, acquirers and partners; the role of advisers; bid tactics; legal and regulatory issues; valuation; financing; accounting and tax issues; organizational and human aspects; integration; successes and failures.

Pre-requisite: BUS 101E

Finance

BUS 321E

Focuses on the theory and practice of corporate financing decisions, the management of working capital, capital structure decisions, dividend policy, cost of financing and long term financing.

Pre-requisites: BUS 101E, MTH 140E, BUS 241E

International Finance

BUS 325E

Examines the financing of a multinational enterprise and surveys international investing. Areas covered include currency, interest rate and negotiable securities markets. Also discusses hedging and interest rate arbitrage, foreign exchange, futures and options as well as international money, capital markets and international financing.

Pre-requisites: ECN 101E, BUS 101E

Virtual Enterprises & Electronic Business

BUS 351E

With organisations increasingly conducting business over the Internet/intranet, focuses on information systems requirements and management issues relating to development and management of virtual enterprises. Topics include web design, electronic commerce and virtual supply chains.

Pre-requisites: BUS 101E, BUS 251E

Intellectual Property Rights

BUS 352E

This course introduces students to the origin, history and basic concepts of intellectual property rights (IPR), and provides them with the skills to apply this theoretical knowledge to practical cases. Students should acquire a basic understanding of the different forms of IPRs, how they originate or are created, how they are used in practice and how they interact.

Pre-requisites: BUS 101E and BUS 111E required; LAW 301E recommended

Operations Management

BUS 361E

An overview of the practice and important issues involved in production and operations management: value-driven operations management, quality function deployment, supply chain management, enterprise resource planning (ERP), materials planning and scheduling (MPS, MRP II, JIT, TOC), inventory management, quality management, group technology and cellular manufacturing and flexible manufacturing systems. Includes video presentations and guest lectures.

Pre-requisite: BUS 101E

Management Science

BUS 362E

Focuses on quantitative approaches to define, explore and solve complex management problems and to support decision-making. Emphasis is placed on problem formulation, quantitative modelling (using relevant software) and interpretation of results. Methods learned include linear and non-linear programming, as well as Monte-Carlo simulation. In this course, modelling skills are developed using complex real-world problems.

Pre-requisites: MTH140E, STA101E and BUS101E

Corporate Strategy

BUS 391E

Business capstone course focusing on the strategy formulation, implementation and performance of businesses. Deals with the identification and analysis of external opportunities and constraints and with the development of internal capabilities in response to these factors. Investigates the main functions of the corporation: products/services, research and development; manufacturing, logistics, marketing, finance/accounting, and human resources. Primarily case-study driven.

Pre-requisite: ECN 101E, BUS 101E, third-year standing in the Business major

Entrepreneurship

BUS 392E

Business capstone course designed to develop understanding of the entrepreneurial process and small business management and to explore the strategies that improve new venture performance. The core task is for the student to produce an actual business plan for his/her own venture that includes information such as: the technical concepts of the product or service, a marketing plan, an outline for the first three years and a financing plan (equity/leverage). Also develops skills in written business communication and oral presentations that allow students to integrate entrepreneurship concepts and interact with business experts.

Pre-requisite: third-year standing in the Business major; BUS 241E required, BUS 242E recommended

Honours Essay

BUS 393E

See section 10.4 for description and pre-requisites.

CMM - Communications

Introduction to Human Communication

CMM 101E

Allows future communication practitioners to study and comprehend the preliminaries to language as well as to verbal and non-verbal communication. Strong focus on public communication on the preparation and organisation of public speeches. Studies the nature, components and purposes of human communication. Familiarizes students with the basic theoretical and practical models of various communication courses offered within the major - namely organisational, intercultural and mass communication.

Introduction to Mass Communication**CMM 102E**

Starts with an overview of the uses and functions of mass communication and the history and rise of mass media in modern society. Studies the content and strategy of different types of mass media such as the printed press, radio, television and Internet, as well as the advertising, public relations, music and film industries.

Introduction to Organisational Communication**CMM 104E**

Familiarises students with the dynamics of interpersonal communication within groups. Introduces the theory and practice (mainly through case studies) used by organisations to plan, develop, implement and evaluate a variety of communication strategies.

Language and Communication**CMM 105E**

Introduces key fields in the study of language such as semiotics, linguistics, pragmatics so that students develop a basic conceptual framework and the technical vocabulary necessary for understanding the nature of language and its use. Combines readings from key names in the disciplines with practical exercises in language analysis. Prepares Communication majors for the intermediate-level study of discourse analysis and stylistics.

Print Journalism**CMM 203E**

An advanced workshop on writing for print media, covering the ways in which journalists seek, collect, assess, write and publish information on specialised news stories and feature articles for newspapers and magazines. Includes extensive discussion of good taste, ethics and the responsibilities of the media as well as the basics of communication law. Also includes field trips. Pre-requisite: CMM 103E

Broadcast Journalism**CMM 204E**

A workshop on writing for the broadcast media that familiarises students with the techniques of radio and TV news (broadcast news and style, setting up of interviews, news reading mechanics and basic principles of recording). Also focuses on the writing and production techniques needed to create radio and television shows, covering the fundamentals of writing body copies, liner notes, features, news, radio documentaries and docudramas. Students write a number of scripts and storylines made for a variety of broadcast outlets and gain some practical insights as to how to translate an idea or concept into an actual audiovisual production. Pre-requisite: CMM 103E

Film: History, Theories, Narration and Scriptwriting**CMM 205E**

Develops and refines writing skills in the audio-visual field. Expands cinematic vocabulary by familiarising students with fundamental film structure and narrative as well as basic film theories and a broad range of genres (including Italian neo-realism, the French nouvelle vague and British social cinema as well as mainstream productions). Analyses the constitutive elements of film narration and explains basic visual techniques. By the end of the course students will have mastered the techniques necessary to provide a professionally written screenplay. Pre-requisite: CMM 102E recommended

Business Writing**CMM 206E**

This project-based course covers the complete process of business communication writing from the development of print and graphic materials (reports, grant proposals, business plans, correspondence) through the management of information as text and/or images, to participation in meetings as well as the preparation and presentation of oral arguments. In addition, the course is designed to instil a sense of professionalism through prompt, accurate, conscientious fulfilment of assignments and ensure that students develop ethical standards relevant to professional communication. Pre-requisite: CMM 104E

Scriptwriting for Radio and Television**CMM 207E**

This course will mainly follow a workshop format and will focus on writing fictional or semi-fictional material. Students will be involved in creating storyboards, photonovels and scripts for music videos and commercials as a preparation for the creation of radio dramatisations, TV docudramas and TV serials, be they original stories or adaptations generally in a 'full-length format' in order to build up a significant portfolio of scriptwriting samples. Pre-requisite: CMM 204E

Literature and Communication**CMM 211E**

Building on the concepts introduced in CMM 105E, this course focuses on stylistics and discourse analysis as a way of developing the conceptual knowledge, analytical skills and sensitivity needed for understanding the language and structure of literary texts. Control texts will be introduced to show students how to apply what they have learned to non-literary discourse. Required readings from classic theorists in the disciplines are combined with exercises in practical analysis. Prerequisite: CMM 105E

Rhetoric**CMM 231E**

Introduces the history and study of persuasion and rhetorical theories from classical Greece to the present. Uses these theories to analyse persuasive messages of all types (public speeches, dialogues, television debates, theological arguments, articles, etc.). Analyses and assesses the implications of these persuasive messages, be they expressed in a democratic or dictatorial context, for society. Through role-plays and mock trials, students hone their persuasive and argumentation skills. Pre-requisite: CMM 101E recommended

Corporate Communication & Public Relations**CMM 242E**

Examines the specificity and characteristics of the various mechanisms that have arisen under the cover of corporate communications. Particular attention is paid to strategy development and evaluation in corporate communications, with students researching and assessing the quality and nature of the communication flow within an organisation or company of their choice. Public relations are discussed by evaluating numerous cases (from corporations to media empires) that call for a number of possible strategic PR responses. Includes practicals. Pre-requisite: CMM 104E

Communication Research Methods

CMM 243E

This course introduces social and behavioural research methods for investigating communication problems and processes. It has two strands. The first consists of formal lectures about the scientific method and the principles of quantitative and qualitative research. It covers several techniques, i.e. survey research, interviewing, content analysis and participant observation. Students learn how to read, understand and evaluate research studies. The focus of the second strand is on practical procedures of communication research. The principal themes include data collection, transformation and analysis, and the presentation of findings. During this course, students are expected to carry out a small-scale collaborative research project and to report results independently in a scientific paper. Pre-requisite: STA 101E

Political Communication

CMM 251E

Looks at the use made of the media by political actors who range from presidents to terrorists and analyses the ways in which communication strategies may be used to shape public opinion. Focuses on the roles of political reporting, advertising and public relations in politics and provides a detailed consideration of the political and philosophical implications of the changing mass communication landscape as fuelled by the impact of the new communication technologies.

European Media Governance

CMM 261E

Provides students with a comprehensive understanding of media policies in Europe and the European Union. Examines the changing nature of the relationship of media and European societies from the post-war period until the present. Systematically analyses several distinctive features of different media to examine the extent to which distinctly European media strategies and philosophical approaches exist, in spite of widespread globalisation in the communication industry. Pre-requisite: CMM 102E recommended

Intercultural Communication

CMM 271E

Deals initially with the phenomenon of culture in a broad sense and then moves to different ways of studying culture. Highlights major theoretical issues via a series of short case studies illustrating the difficulty of studying culture, intercultural contact and identity (in all their complexity) in an academic manner. Presents several existing theoretical models to show the theoretical, methodological and practical issues involved in this typically interdisciplinary field and how the issues have been dealt with so far. Pre-requisite: CMM 101E recommended

Major Texts and Key Issues in Intercultural Communication

CMM 291E

Examines a sampling of major texts and key cases representative of the main challenges faced by Intercultural Studies as an academic discipline. Texts are drawn from books and articles of international scholarly acclaim and chosen to reflect the wide scope of issues covered by Intercultural Studies. Discussion topics come from history, politics, sociology, economics, management, media studies and cultural studies to keep a primarily interdisciplinary approach. Pre-requisite: CMM 101E recommended

Cultural Studies and Cross-Cultural Capability**CMM 302E**

Part one highlights major theoretical issues in the discipline of Cross-Cultural Capability (or Language and Intercultural Communication), exploring this field in the broader context of Cultural Studies, presenting its origins and growth as an academic discipline, and critically examining its jargon and methodology. Part two applies these insights to the Low Countries within the Belgian, Dutch and European contexts. Topics include the “building blocks” of Flemish, Belgian and Dutch identities and intercultural differences with the United States. A contrastive/comparative approach is applied to political, economic, geographical, historical, religious, etc. data. Specific emphasis is put on “transferability of knowledge” so that students learn to carry out research on similar topics independently.

Pre-requisite: CMM 271E

Communication Theories**CMM 310E**

Provides an overview of theoretical models in a number of communication fields and focuses on explanatory theory and empirical research. Students review key publications for the development of communication theory and participate in panel discussions where key theories are analysed and possible applications are discussed.

Pre-requisite: CMM 101E, CMM 102E, CMM 243E

E-Government and ICT Policies**CMM 321E**

Examines the impact of the new Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) on society. Discusses in detail the process of digitisation, telecommunications regulation and the development of ICTs standards, the regulation of the ICTs’ content and the new debates on citizens’ privacy vs. freedom of information and security. Also looks into the future political aspects of the ICTs, such as e-government, and the development of civil society and the Internet.

Pre-requisite: CMM 102E recommended

International Communication**CMM 322E**

Introduces the historical context and examines different approaches to international communication from the modernisation and cultural imperialism theories to cultural studies and critical political economy perspectives. The course also examines the theories and problems related to the international function of the news media and how international public diplomacy and propaganda operate. Students also gain a clear understanding of the creation of the global media marketplace and how international communication evolves in the Internet age.

Pre-requisite: CMM 102E; CMM 251E is recommended

Marketing Communication & Advertising**CMM 341E**

Surveys theoretical models of marketing communication with particular emphasis on a coherent and integrated approach to communication. Students are involved in the design and implementation of a strategic communication scheme for different publics. The increasingly global nature of marketing and advertising are considered allowing students to gain a sense of how important cultural factors are and why they need to be taken into consideration when selling a service, a product or a media production on an international scale. Guest speakers and visits to marketing departments are included.

Pre-requisite: CMM 104E or BUS 231E

Media Management

CMM 345E

Mass media represents one of the most dramatically changing growth sectors in the world today. This course gives the opportunity to students to study the unique challenges of managing media organisations in a fast-paced global environment. Focus is on the market analysis, planning, organisation, financial management, promotion, distribution and human resource management of media organisations. Particular emphasis will be placed on the Appreciative Inquiry model as applied to media companies.

Pre-requisite: CMM 102E

Lobbying in the EU

CMM 346E

With Brussels the home of thousands of lobby organisations employing numerous public affairs specialists whose task is to facilitate dialogue between private or public organisations and the decision-makers of the European Union, this course focuses on the ways in which lobbyists help these organisations to follow, analyse and even influence the decisions of the European Union.

Pre-requisites: none, but at least one of the following are strongly recommended: CMM 104E, CMM 242E, POL 231E or POL 332E

International Reporting in Brussels

CMM 352E

Enhances writing, reporting and analytical skills so that students can produce articles on the European Union, NATO and other intergovernmental and international non-governmental organisations based in Brussels, the city with the highest number of accredited international journalists worldwide. Requires attendance at news conferences and briefings in European Parliament, European Council, European Commission, European Investment Bank, NATO and UN headquarters.

Pre-requisite: CMM 203E; POL 231E recommended

Communication Research Project I & II

CMM 391E and CMM 392E

Under the direction of a faculty adviser, work on a paper that prepares for further academic research or a future profession. Topic to reflect the “capstone” notion - e.g. demonstrate the knowledge and skills acquired in the various communications courses taken for the major at Vesalius College and during any study abroad experience.

Pre-requisite: CMM 310E

COR - Core

Critical Thinking and Academic Writing I and II

COR 111E, COR 112E

Teaches the essential structures of written and spoken exposition, introduces students to the modes of critical thinking and writing practiced in the different academic disciplines and analyses a variety of models that provide criteria for evaluating the students’ own written and oral work. Must be taken in sequence.

COR 111E is a pre-requisite for COR 112E

Note: COR 112E is an inherent pre-requisite for ALL 300-level courses. Students who have not successfully completed this course will be unable to take any 300-level courses.

Science & Society

COR 291E

Interdisciplinary approach to challenging issues concerning the role of the natural sciences in society. Develops critical reading and writing skills. Themes for this required course vary according to instructor(s).

Pre-requisite: COR 112E. COR 291E preferably should be taken in the second year.

Values & Society

COR 391E

Interdisciplinary approach to the course focusing on challenging issues concerning the role of the humanities in society. Develops critical reading and writing skills. Themes vary according to instructor(s).

Pre-requisite: COR 112E. COR 391E should be taken after COR 291E and in the third year.

ECN - Economics

Introduction to Economics

ECN 101E

Illustrates the way in which economists view the world by the development of some basic tools of economic analysis and by their application in understanding the behaviour of households, firms and government. Problems include: trade and specialisation; the operation of markets; industrial structure and economic welfare; the determination of aggregate output and the price level; and fiscal and monetary policy.

Macroeconomics

ECN 201E

Provides an intermediate-level exposition of macroeconomic theories, analytically-oriented and focusing on the determinants of output, employment, prices and interest rates with applications to public policy. Topics include the IS-LM model, aggregate supply and aggregate demand, fiscal and monetary policies, long-term growth, inflation and unemployment, open economy and macroeconomics.

Pre-requisite: ECN 101E

Microeconomics

ECN 211E

Provides a rigorous intermediate-level treatment of microeconomic theory with applications to business and public policy. Topics include the mathematical foundations of economic theory; the theory of individual economic behaviour; the theory of the firm and economic organisation; perfect competition, general equilibrium, and economics of information; corporate behaviour and strategy under imperfect competition; capital theory; labour markets; welfare economics and public choice.

Pre-requisites: ECN 101E, MTH 140E

The European Economy: Structure and Performance

ECN 271E

Examines in detail the current structure of the European economy - the what, who, how and why of production, distribution and consumption. Discusses, for example, differences among countries in economic organisation, in financial institutions and labour relations, as well as the role and influence of the European Union as against that of nation states. Assesses recent economic performance across Europe and attends throughout to the ways in which the European economy is similar to or different from economies in other parts of the world.

Pre-requisite: ECN 101E

Comparative Economic Systems

ECN 302E

Examines theories of capitalism and socialism, both neoclassical and alternative, with attention to the recent evolution of advanced capitalist economies: USA, UK, Belgium, France, Germany, Japan and others. Looks to the historical background and current transformation of Russia, China and other socialist and ex-socialist countries as well as gives some attention to international organisations such as NAFTA and the EU. Together with ECN 304E, this course covers the entire world economy.

Pre-requisite: ECN 101E

Development Economics

ECN 304E

Focuses on theories of economic development, both neoclassical and alternative, with attention to the problems of development in economies in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Emphasises issues rather than countries. Covers substantial empirical material, provides numerous examples and pays some attention to international organisations such as the World Bank and the IMF. Together with ECN 302E, this course covers the entire world economy.

Pre-requisite: ECN 101E

Economics of the Public and Nonprofit Sectors

ECN 305E

The role of government and nonprofit sectors in the economy. Public expenditures: benefit-cost analysis, national security and regulatory policy with special attention to environmental policy. Taxation: efficiency, equity, incentive effects. Transfers and social programmes. Special attention to the advantages and disadvantages of the modern welfare state. Local public finance, intergovernmental fiscal relations, relations between public and nonprofit sectors. Prerequisites: ECN 211E, STA 201E

International Trade

ECN 307E

Analyses the interdependence that arises from international trade in goods and services. Includes themes such as the gains from trade, the pattern of trade, the impact of protection, international factor movements and trade policy. Pays special attention to the nature and impact of the European Union and to its relationship to other regional trading blocs.

Pre-requisite: ECN 101E

International Monetary Economics

ECN 308E

Analyses the interdependence that arises from international trade in financial assets. Examines such themes as the balance of payments, theories of exchange rate determination, exchange rate regimes and international macroeconomic policy. Gives special attention to the process of European monetary integration.

Pre-requisite: ECN 101E

Economics of the European Union

ECN 334E

Begins with a brief overview of EU history and institutions. Examines the theory of economic integration, both micro and macro, and policies of the single European market: competition, transport, energy, environment and labour. It also looks at structural policies: agriculture, fisheries, regional policy and social policy. Also studied are external relations and enlargement. Prerequisite: One course each in economics and political science or permission of instructor.

ENV - Environment

Physical Geography

ENV 101E

Deals with the functioning of the physical environment of the earth, examining the close relationships that exist among and within the global systems at the surface of the earth: lithosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere. Emphasis on the significance of these relationships for the human environment.

HIS - History

Modern Europe: 1848 to the Present

HIS 112E

Stresses the development of modern society since the Revolutions of 1848 beginning with an analysis of the causes, course and consequences of the 1848 upheavals in Europe and continuing with an overview of the economic and social consequences of industrialisation, the evolution of parliamentary democracy, the origins and development of liberalism, nationalism and socialism, diplomatic and military developments from Lord Palmerston to the end of the Cold War. Ends with an examination of political, economic, social and cultural developments in Europe since 1945 with special emphasis on the origins and development of the European Union.

Modern Europe: 1648 to 1848

HIS 201E

The course introduces students to the main political, social, economic and intellectual developments that contributed to the development of Western Civilization and its common culture from the Westphalian Settlement of 1648 to the Revolutions of 1848. Absolutism, the Enlightenment, the French Revolution, Napoleon, the Vienna Settlement and Restoration shall constitute the focal points.

Development of the Major Powers: 1815 to 1945

HIS 202E

Studies the domestic history of France, the United Kingdom, Germany and Russia stressing political, social and economic developments directly related to the powers' current state, with particular focus on nationalism, liberalism, conservatism and totalitarianism as dominant ideologies. Connects international affairs to domestic developments. Includes weekly discussion periods and two extensive primary source workshops.

History of Postwar Europe

HIS 213E

Examines political, economic, social and cultural developments in Western, Central and Eastern Europe from the end of World War II to the aftermath of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union. Specific topics include the origins, evolution and end of the Cold War, the process of de-colonisation, the origin and development of the European Union, the rise and evolution of the welfare state, the spread of mass production and consumption, the role of ideology, the revival of nationalism and post-war cultural trends.

American History: Colonisation to Cold War**HIS 221E**

Surveys American history emphasising political, social and economic issues most directly related to development of the contemporary United States: discovery and colonisation, the American Revolution, expansion and sectional tensions, the Civil War and Reconstruction, imperialism, World War I, the New Deal and World War II. Requires formal analysis of primary sources.

History of the Middle East**HIS 261E**

Introduces students to the main events and developments in the history of the Middle East from the Ottoman defeat of the Byzantine Empire in 1453 to the present. For background and context, discusses certain historical developments occurring before 1453, such as the advent and spread of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Examines the impact of European Imperialism on the region as well as the origins and evolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

History: Methods and Problems**HIS 271E**

Explores the theory, practice and application of history by investigating various classical issues of historiography and extending the student's techniques of historical analysis and research. Includes an inquiry into the nature of the discipline, basic historical theory, the notion of historical truth, the nature of evidence, the auxiliary sciences, comprehensive research techniques, writing and organisation, classical and modern research trends and the so called "new" histories.

Pre-requisite: HIS 112E

History of Conflicts since 1914**HIS 301E**

Focuses on important (in terms of their origins, impact and consequences) conflicts, both internal and international, from 1914 to the present. Highlights World Wars I and II as well as selected post-World War II conflicts in Algeria, the Horn of Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, Southeast Asia, the Balkans, Central America, Korea, the Middle East and Northern Ireland.

Pre-requisites: HIS 112E, POL 211E or approval by instructor

U.S. Foreign Policy: 1898 to the Present**HIS 321E**

Provides students with a thorough survey of the United States' foreign policy since 1898. Emphasises the rise to superpower status by the US between 1898 and 1945, the US Cold War policies and the role of the US today and in the future with regard to "New World Order" and the "War on Terrorism". Pays special attention to economic and ideological aspects of policy formation as well as political, military and strategic considerations.

Prerequisites: HIS 112E, POL 211E or approval by instructor

Germany Under National Socialism

HIS 341E

Takes a combined intentionalist-structuralist approach to the analysis of the ideology, society, economy and policies of the Third Reich from 1933-1945. Includes discussion of the rise of the NSDAP, party ideology and racial theory, the party's political structure, the governmental framework of the Führerstaat, the SS, social, economic and cultural policy, foreign policy, the Holocaust, as well as current issues in research. Includes discussion periods and primary sources workshops. A good knowledge of German is an asset for the course, though not essential.

Pre-requisite: HIS 112E

IA - International Affairs

Honours Essay

IA 393E

See section 10.4 for description and pre-requisites.

INT - Internship

Internship

INT 381E

Working in a sponsoring firm or organisation, students undertake a 150-hour, semester-long project on a theme or topic related to their major. Requires students to work on-site at least 10 hours per week, keep a daily activity log and write a project report.

Pre-requisites: Students in second semester of second year or first semester of third year, good academic standing and approval by the Internship Committee

LAW - Law

International Law

LAW 301E

Familiarises students with the fundamental concepts and principles of modern international law. Introduces the historical and theoretical development of international law as well as its basic methodology.

Pre-requisites: COR 112E plus one other upper-level course in international relations, history or politics

LDU - Dutch

Intermediate Dutch I and II

LDU 103E and LDU 104E

Build on the basic skills learned in elementary Dutch. Review major points of Dutch grammar, especially those causing trouble for non-native speakers. Focus on students expressing themselves fluently in speech and writing on a wide variety of topical issues by the end of the sequence. Use a variety of texts and audio-visual materials to improve listening comprehension, reading and writing skills and fluency in speaking, to enrich vocabulary and to deepen understanding of Flemish and Dutch culture.

Pre-requisite: Placement Test

LFR - French

Elementary Practical French I & II

LFR 107E, LFR 108E

Designed for study abroad students. These courses focus on giving the students situational competence allowing them to understand and express themselves orally while living in a French-speaking environment. LFR 107 is for students with no prior knowledge of French and LFR 108 is for students with the equivalent one semester of college-level French as assessed by a placement test.

Advanced French I & II

LFR 201E, LFR 202E

After a short but thorough review of basic verb conjugations, these courses examine selected grammatical difficulties and complete the coverage of French grammar. They develop vocabulary, comprehension and oral skills as well as writing at advanced level using newspaper articles on a variety of topics of current interest. French culture will be highlighted through a theatre project.

Pre-requisite for LFR 201E is LFR 104E or Placement Test

Pre-requisite for LFR 202E is LFR 201E or Placement Test

LIT - Literature

Form and Meaning in Literature

LIT 111E

An introduction to reading and interpreting short stories, poems and plays.

Masters of Antiquity

LIT 112E

Surveys selected works from Greek, Roman and Biblical literature and mythology with attention to their influence on the literary tradition of Western Europe.

The Short Story and Novella

LIT 241E

Explores the development of the short story and the novella in the Western tradition, with particular attention paid to the changing techniques of the genre.

Lyric Poetry

LIT 242E

Examines the origins and development of lyric poetry in the Western tradition with particular attention to major types of modern lyric.

The Epic

LIT 244E

Examines the origins and evolving conventions of epic poetry in the Western literary tradition from Homer through Milton. Where relevant, considers the relationship between epic poetry and national consciousness.

MTH - Mathematics

Mathematics for Business and Economics

MTH 140E

Teaches the mathematical skills required for problem solving and decision making in the business world through use of mathematical models and specialised techniques. Topics include: functions as mathematical models, equation-solving techniques,

differential and integral calculus, exponential growth and time-value of money and partial derivatives and their applications in economic functions.

PHL - Philosophy

Introduction to Philosophy

PHL 101E

Treats a number of questions raised in some form or other by every thoughtful person, such as: Do we know how the world really is and how do we know that we know? What is the relation of mind to matter? Is human freedom real or is it an illusion? Does life have a meaning or is the very question itself meaningless? Readings by both classical and recent philosophers bring these questions to life and invite discussion.

Contemporary Ethical Issues

PHL 112E

This course consists of three parts. First, reviews and discusses the main modern ethical theories; second, examines how these theories can be applied to a number of pressing moral issues of our time, such as euthanasia, famine relief, abortion and inequality; third, discusses a number of individual questions of morality such as: What is the use of feeling guilty about anything? What is wrong, if anything, with being sentimental? What is the value of being sincere? Is there anything odd about wanting to be a moral saint and, if so, why?

Social Philosophy

PHL 212E

Reflects on the question of what makes a society a good society. Distinguishes the different values that are thought to make a society good, defines and discusses their mutual relationships: freedom, security, political participation (democracy), distributive justice, well-being, a sense of community, the rule of law and justice in punishment. Reviews different philosophical theories that stress some of these values over the others and assesses their relative merits, giving a number of specific questions more detailed attention.

PHS - Physics

Introduction to Physics

PHS 101E

A beginning course in classical physics with emphasis upon the concept of energy, problem solving and numerous examples. Basic principles of Newtonian mechanics including mass-inertia, velocity and acceleration, forces, and conservation of momentum and energy. Further topics include angular momentum, central forces, work and power. A first introduction to classical electricity and magnetism is also given with topics such as electro and magnetostatics, the electric field, electric current, resistance, electric potential and electrical devices.

POL - Politics

Introduction to Political Concepts and Theories

POL 101E

This is a basic introductory course to political science. In this course, students will study concepts such as democracy and justice; nation and nationalism; power and justice; state and sovereignty; leadership and governmental institutions. The study of these concepts helps outline the relationship between the individual, the society and the state. Furthermore, these concepts serve as a basis for students to understand different political theories and prepare them to conduct research in political science.

Inquiry in International Affairs

POL 103E

Explores issues specific to the study of society: discovery and rationalisation through an understanding of common language, core concepts and scholarly goals of social science research in International Affairs. Examines the disciplines important to international affairs: history, sociology, anthropology, economics and political science.

Evolution of the International System: 1815 to 1945

POL 211E

Designed to introduce students of International Affairs to the practice of diplomacy and the evolution of the International System. Though historical in approach, lectures focus on how the diplomatic system functioned, how policy was formulated and what role certain concepts and theories (balance of power, Concert of Europe, collective security, war as an instrument of policy, etc.) played during this period. Pays special attention to helping students build up an international relations vocabulary. Assumes a basic knowledge of European history in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Pre-requisite: HIS 112E

Introduction to International Relations

POL 212E

Introduces the major paradigms in the discipline of international relations, viz. realism, pluralism and globalism. Use of historical and up-to-date examples illustrate, as well as test, central assumptions and arguments of these approaches aiming to provide a framework offering a fundamental insight to the mechanisms and dynamics of world politics. Provides a knowledge base useful for the further study of international relations as well as everyday dealings with international politics.

American Government and Politics

POL 221E

Offers a comprehensive survey of the institutions of American government and the processes of American politics. Examines institutions such as federalism and the relation of state to local governments, the presidency, Congress and the courts and processes such as domestic and foreign policy, voting and political participation. Pays attention to such specific issues as foreign policy, economic management and civil liberties.

Introduction to the European Union

POL 231E

Explores the origins of the European Union and its development, explains the construction of European institutions and discusses its status as an organisation. Surveys historical landmarks in the European Union's development and focuses on

the workings and politics of the major institutions of the European Union and how each contributes to the process of European integration. Visits a session of the European Parliament and includes guest lectures bringing current problems in the democratisation of the European integration process into the classroom.

Comparative States and Political Institutions **POL 232E**

Studies “the state” and its major institutional features from a comparative perspective. Considers the nature of “the state” and the logic of comparative methodology and discusses different frameworks for carrying out comparative political study. Using an institutional framework, considers characteristics of European liberal democracy (as practised in the U.K., France and Germany). Examines state socialism, as practised in China, as an alternative to liberal democracy. Also explores the impact of these two models on countries in the developing world.

European Identity, Euro-scepticism and the Legitimacy Problem of the EU **POL 241E**

Explores the various dimensions of the legitimacy and identity crisis of the European Union. It analyses the causes for popular rejection of the Constitution and scepticism to the European Union. Studies and compares the role and ideologies of Euro-sceptic political parties. It reflects upon the problems of defining a European identity with particular emphasis on the problematic position within Europe of minorities of non-European origin.

History of Political Thought from Machiavelli to Marx **POL 251E**

Provides an overview of the history of modern political thought based on an examination of classic texts by Machiavelli, Hobbes, Montesquieu, Rousseau, Tocqueville and Marx. Analyses the significance of their works to modern scientific and ideological debate.

Contemporary Political Debates **POL 252E**

Debates key policy dilemmas in contemporary liberal democracies such as the limits of cultural and religious diversity, the balance between security and individual freedom, cosmopolitanism versus patriotism and the causal links between capitalism and democracy. Introduces topics using recent policy documents and then examines classical and modern political texts in order to build conceptually coherent arguments to support conflicting positions on the respective policy dilemmas.

International Political Economy **POL 311E**

Studies the interaction between “state” and “market” and how it affects international relations, the conflict between evolving global economic and technical interdependence and the continuing compartmentalisation of sovereign states’ political systems. Analyses the main structures of power in the world economy: trade, finance, security, and knowledge. Discusses the secondary power structures of production, energy and environment.

Pre-requisite: One course each in economics and politics

Organisations in Globalisation

POL 313E

Analyses the role different types of organisation play in the globalisation process including cross border organisations and their challenges and opportunities for global governance. Provides tools for understanding differences and similarities between global organisations with a focus on political and civil society governmental and non-governmental organisations. Utilises organisations with representation in Brussels for descriptive student projects on the problems of transnational organisations and their influence on the political process. Concludes with seminar sessions focusing on the future role of global organisations in governance. Complements POL 314E but focuses on organisations outside, or complementary to, the UN.

The United Nations and Global Governance

POL 314E

Studies the United Nations organisation as the protagonist in processes of conflict control, dispute settlement and the maintenance of international peace and security. The historical background and genesis of the United Nations are examined, as well as the UN machinery for diplomatic and judicial dispute settlement and conflict resolution. Places special emphasis on the UN's ability to organise a framework for global governance in sustainable development, as well as to address the security challenges of the new century. Pre-requisite: At least one politics/international affairs course

Model United Nations (MUN) Preparatory Course

POL 315E

Prepares Vesalius students to represent a country at the MUN meeting, an annual forum gathering students from around the globe to discuss current world problems. Helps students, who speak on behalf of an assigned country on a variety of issues decided each year to expand their understanding of diplomacy, global geopolitics and international relations. Provides opportunities for the delegates to forge friendships that transcend nationality. Pre-requisite: At least one POL course, POL 314E recommended

Peace and Security Studies

POL 317E

Investigates different theories regarding conflict, peace and security as seen from the military as well as the non-military aspects of security. Discusses issues such as security communities, alliances, democratic peace hypotheses, conflict management, conflict resolution, conflict prevention, third-party intervention, mediation, etc. Interaction between military and civilian questions will be illustrated and critically analysed with reference to current security environments.

Pre-requisites: COR 112E, POL 212E or written approval from the instructor

Chinese Foreign Policy and External Relations

POL 319E

This course provides a comprehensive analysis of Chinese foreign policy and external relations since 1949. It is divided into two parts. The first part focuses on the ideational elements such as Chinese history, culture, and ideology; the material elements such as Chinese military and economic modernisation; the Chinese leadership and the decision-making procedure; and the influence of external environment, to examine the role of these elements in the making of Chinese foreign policy. The second part studies the bilateral and multilateral relations between China and the other countries and regions, which gives an overall picture of the continuities and changes of Chinese external relations.

Dilemmas of European Integration

POL 332E

Addresses key dilemmas in the policy process driving EU integration: how enlargement effects social cohesion as well as economic and political efficiency, how further expansion effects the EU, how globalisation impacts on the EU, how inter-institutional dynamics are linked to outside actors, etc.

Pre-requisites: At least one social science course with an introductory course in European Integration recommended.

Policies in the European Union

POL 333E

Aims to familiarise students with institutions, actors and policy patterns of EU policy domains (agriculture, regional development, environmental policy, social policy and foreign/security policy), as well as with public policy approaches and concepts used to analyse EU policies. Addresses challenges of EU policy-making: asymmetry, path dependency, complexity, accountability, legitimacy, public participation, implementation and monitoring deficits, hierarchical authority, enlargement, etc. Refers extensively to policy cases and domains to clarify theories and concepts, which are juxtaposed to highlight explanatory advantages and weaknesses.

Pre-requisite: none, POL 231E recommended

The European Union in the World

POL 334E

Explores the changing role of the European Union (EU) on the global stage. Although many of the individual countries of Europe have played leading roles in world affairs, the two World Wars effectively diminished the influence of Europe's countries as individual actors. This course will examine the evolution of the EU's global influence through an analysis of several key areas of influence, including enlargement, trade and economic policy and the development of defence policy.

International Politics of Development

POL 341E

Examines the political formations and policies that have emerged in the face of problems of development for nations in a subordinate position in the world economy. Topics include: problems of comparison, Third World, world system and dependency theories, colonialism, revolution and economic development, social structure and modes of development, state- and nation- building and governance for sustainable development. Special emphasis will be placed on the most recent efforts of international organisations, such as the United Nations, the European Union and the World Bank, to elaborate and implement more effective governance strategies targeting sustainable human development.

Pre-requisites: At least one course in politics/history/international relations.

Nationalism, Ethnicity and Regional Conflict

POL 342E

Surveys the problems of political stability and regional development where countries are driven by ethnic, religious or linguistic divisions. Uses topical issues to examine sources of conflict both within and between states. Uses case studies to explore the role of economic, social, political, cultural and geographic factors in the creation of tensions and the management of disputes in a regional context. Pays special attention to the impact of the global power distributions on the origins, development and termination of regional tensions and conflicts.

Pre-requisite: At least one course in politics or history

Comparative Public Policy

POL 361E

Introduces theoretical approaches to public policy analysis and presents contributions from pluralism, public choice, welfare economics, new institutionalism, governance, class analysis and rational choice perspectives to public policy analysis. Focuses on different stages of the policy cycle (agenda setting, policy formulation, decision making, implementation and evaluation) as well as on policy failure and success. Examines the design, management and implementation of large public policy projects. Provides comparative analysis of project failures and successes to give an integrated and applied view on public policy that builds on the preceding theoretical sections. Pre-requisite: At least one social science course or approval by instructor

Brussels: From Capital to Eurocapital

POL362E

Deals with the social and cultural development of Brussels from the 19th century to the present, focusing on art, architecture, ideas, politics and the role of the urban environment in supporting innovation. Invites guest lecturers, working within a theoretical framework of sociology, to trace how Brussels has hosted important thinkers and cultural movements and how development has left its mark on the urban fabric. Prerequisite: at least one 100-level course in POL or SOC

International Affairs Capstone

POL 391E

Provides students with an opportunity to work, under the direction of an adviser, on an extended research problem chosen in relation to their field and representative (as a “capstone”) of their course work at the College. Requires students to integrate knowledge and exercise the skills acquired throughout their studies. By calling for sophisticated understanding of theoretical issues as well as an appreciation of ways to empirically construct research solutions, it prepares students for independent research at graduate level. Among the themes around which the capstone seminar can be organised is the European Union as a global actor. Pre-requisite: HIS 271E or SOC 203E, third-year status

SOC - Sociology

Introduction to Sociology

SOC 101E

Introduces the theory, fundamental concepts and methodology of sociology, using a cross-cultural approach and focusing on the major institutions of society. Examines everyday problems students find in their world such as ethnic and gender conflict, inequality and tactics for social change.

Methods of Social Scientific Inquiry

SOC 203E

Focuses on the design, execution and presentation of research. Examines the logic of inquiry and the methods available to the researcher by working on specific problems in social scientific research. Focuses on the relation of choice of method to the problem and issues of reliability, validity, interpretation and perception involved in the interpretation of evidence.

Pre-requisites: STA 101E and at least one social science course at the 100-level

STA - Statistics

Introduction to Statistics

STA 101E

Teaches the statistical concepts and skills needed for problem solving and decision-making in a variety of real-world situations. Topics include describing data with graphs and numbers, correlation and simple linear regression, probability, including joint, marginal and conditional probabilities, random variables and probability distributions, random samples and sampling distributions, point and interval estimation and testing hypotheses about parameters.

Intermediate Statistics

STA 201E

Covers multiple sample tests, goodness-of-fit tests and analysis of contingency tables. Focuses on multiple regression, including indicator variables, curvilinear relationships and interaction effects, multi-co-linearity and auto correlation. Other topics may include time series and forecasting, exponential smoothing and non-parametric methods.
Pre-requisite: STA 101E