

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The courses regularly taught at the College are described in this section, though other courses may be offered on an occasional basis. Unless otherwise indicated, all courses are worth 6 ECTS units.

The courses are listed by subject area, which is also indicated by the first three letters of the course code. Courses are offered at three levels. Courses at the 100 level are introductory and can be taken by all students. They are often taken in the first year. Courses at the 200 and 300 levels are more advanced and often cannot be taken without first having passed an introductory course in the subject. Some of these upper-level courses may even require successful completion of a 200-level course. Any such prerequisites are indicated at the end of the course description. Exemptions from prerequisites may be granted by the course instructor and must be notified in writing to the Head of Academic Administration.

The frequency of course offerings is indicated. It may occasionally be necessary to adapt the semesters in which courses are given.

Art (ART)

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 (museumology, cultural management and sponsorship). *Offered annually in spring semester.*

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). *Offered each semester.*

Biology (BIO)

Introduction to Biology

BIO 101E

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. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2010).*

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. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2009)*

Business (BUS)**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. *Offered each semester*

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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Business and Media Ethics**BUS 201E**

Starts with an overview of main schools of ethics, such as Aristotelians, epicureans, stoics and utilitarians. This is followed by a general overview of topics in business and media ethics, such as stakeholder theory, relationships with employees, consumers and suppliers, fairness in competition and deontological codes for journalists. Finally specific topics will be discussed, such as the role of embedded journalists in war zones, abuse of market power according to the European Commission and problems regarding privacy in cyberspace. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2010)*

Prerequisite: at least one 100-level course in business, economics or communications

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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

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). *Offered annually in fall semester*

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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Pre-requisite: BUS 241E

Information Systems **BUS 251E**

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 Modelling 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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Pre-requisite: BUS 101E

Selected Topics in Business

BUS 281E/381E

Topic to be announced together with the prerequisites

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. It covers European, US and Asian firms as well as both the manufacturing and service industries. Concepts are studied through the use of case studies. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Prerequisites: 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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

Prerequisite: BUS 101E

Mergers, Acquisitions and Related Transactions

BUS 312E

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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Prerequisite: BUS 101E

Finance

BUS 321E

Focuses on the theory and practice of corporate financing decisions, including the management of working capital, capital structure decisions, dividend policy, cost of financing and long term financing. *Offered annually in fall semester*

Prerequisites: 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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Prerequisites: ECN 101E, BUS 101E

Virtual Enterprises & Electronic Business

BUS 351E

Focuses on information systems requirements and management issues relating to the conduct of business over the internet/intranet and on the development and management of virtual enterprises. Topics include web design, electronic commerce and virtual supply chains. *Offered annually in fall semester*

Prerequisites: BUS 251E

Operations Management

BUS 361E

Surveys 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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Prerequisite: BUS 101E

Corporate Strategy

BUS 391E

Business capstone course focusing on strategy formulation, implementation and performance. 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. Taught primarily through case studies. *Offered annually in fall semester*

Prerequisite: 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 the student's 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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Prerequisites: third-year standing in the Business major or permission of the instructor; BUS 241E required, BUS 242E recommended

Communications (CMM)

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 and 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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

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. The course allows students to propose and defend a comprehensive communication plan for a newly created company. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Language and Communication

CMM 105E

Introduces key fields in linguistics and language study so that students develop the basic conceptual framework and technical vocabulary needed to understand the nature of language and its use. Focuses on the notions of creativity, complexity and structure. Combines textbook and theoretical readings with practical exercises in language analysis. Prepares Communication majors for intermediate-level work in stylistics and discourse analysis. *Offered annually in spring semester*

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. *Offered annually in spring semester*
Prerequisite: CMM 105E

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. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2010)*
Prerequisite: CMM 105E

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. *Offered annually in fall semester*
Prerequisite: 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. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2010)*
Prerequisite: CMM 104E

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

Focuses on the writing of fictional or semi-fictional material. Mainly in a workshop format, 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. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2009)*

Stylistics **CMM 211E**

Stylistics is concerned with the aesthetic uses of language. Drawing on the concepts and analytical techniques of linguistics, it examines literary and non-literary texts to explain how the language used creates meaning, style and effect. It also asks why individuals and social groups make particular language choices in given situations. The course introduces selected topics in this broad field, including genres of discourse and gender

stylistics, and engages students in a range of practical stylistic analyses. *Offered biennially in fall semester (2009)*

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. *Offered biennially in fall semester (2009)*

Prerequisite: CMM 101E recommended

Corporate Communication & Public Relations

CMM 242E

Corporate culture is expressed through corporate communications and public relations. This course assesses the tools the communications manager has at his disposal to shape a company's image internally and externally. Particular attention is paid to corporate communication strategy development within perceived cultural narratives, with students researching and assessing the quality and nature of the communication flow within an organisation or company of their choice. Public relations are approached by evaluating numerous case studies and situational analyses. *Offered annually in fall semester*

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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

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. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2010)*

Prerequisite: 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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

Prerequisite: CMM 101E recommended

Selected Topics in Communications

CMM 281E/381E

Topic to be announced together with the prerequisites

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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Prerequisite: 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 authors and publications for the development of communication theory and learn to situate them in their historical context. Students participate in panel discussions where key theories, authors and publications are analysed and possible applications are discussed. *Offered annually in fall semester*

Prerequisite: CMM 102E

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, and the development of information society policies in Europe, as well as the regulation of ICT content and infrastructure and the new debates on citizen privacy vs. freedom of information and security. Also looks into the future political uses of ICTs, including service delivery (e-government) and public value creation (e-governance), and the parallel developments in the relationship between civil society and the Internet. *Offered annually in fall semester*

Prerequisite: 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, the entertainment industry and the telecommunications sector. Students also gain a clear understanding of the creation of the global media marketplace and how international communication evolves in the Internet age. Furthermore, the course discusses the international governance structures related to media, news, telecommunications and the Internet.
Offered biennially in spring semester (2009)

Prerequisite: 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.
Offered annually in spring semester

International Journalism **CMM 343E**

Teaches basic professional skills with a definite commitment to excellence in all ethical forms of journalism (elite media, respectable tabloids, regional papers, commercial or public service radio and TV, websites and blogging). The course mixes general presentations (on ethics, the state of international reporting) with very practical classes. It highlights the problems of doing international reporting (time and resource constraints, etc) and introduces more innovative and less conventional forms of reporting (transnational reporting, preventive journalism, etc.) *To be offered in summer 2009*

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. This course also considers how media companies need to approach the media, stakeholders and the public in a public relations context. *Offered biennially in fall semester (2008)*

Prerequisite: 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. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2009)*

Prerequisites: 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. *Offered biennially in fall semester (2009)*

Prerequisite: CMM 203E; POL 231E recommended

Communication Capstone Course

CMM 391E and CMM 392E

Provides students with an opportunity to work, under the direction of an adviser, on an extended research problem in communications. Requires students to integrate knowledge and exercise the skills acquired throughout their work in the major. By calling for sophisticated understanding of theoretical issues as well as an appreciation of ways to construct empirical research solutions, it prepares students for independent research at graduate level. *Offered each semester: CMM 391E in fall, CMM 392E in spring*

Prerequisite: SOC 203E

Economics (ECN)

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. *Offered each semester*

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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

Prerequisite: 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. *Offered annually in the spring semester*

Prerequisites: 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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Prerequisite: ECN 101E

Selected Topics in Economics **ECN 281E/381E**

Topic to be announced together with the prerequisites

Industrial Organization and Competition **ECN 301E**

Extends the analysis of the firm and market structure by adding insights from game theory, principal-agent theory, transaction cost economics, economic sociology and behavioural economics. The course analyzes various forms of imperfect competition: oligopoly, Bertrand and Cournot competition, homogeneous and differentiated products, monopolistic competition and location analysis. Other topics include the classical structure-conduct-performance paradigm, concentration and mergers, research and development, compatibility and standards, advertising, quality, durability, warranties, pricing and marketing tactics. A survey of competition theory discusses workable competition, the Chicago School of Economics, Austrian economics and contestable markets, and studies European competition law and policy. Students must investigate an industrial sector of their own choosing. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2011)*

Prerequisite: ECN 211E

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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Prerequisite: 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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

Prerequisite: One course each in economics and political science or permission of instructor.

History (HIS)

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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Modern Europe: 1648 to 1848

HIS 201E

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. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2010)*

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. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2009)*

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. *Offered annually in fall semester from 2009. Also offered exceptionally in spring 2009*

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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

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. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2010)*

Prerequisite: 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. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2009)*

Prerequisites: 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. *Offered in fall 2008*

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

Honours Essay (HON)**Honours Essay****HON 393E**

The Honours Essay is a research paper of 10,000-12,000 words (including footnotes, but excluding bibliography) that may be undertaken by qualified students, with the assistance of an essay adviser, in semester 5 or 6 of the Bachelor's degree programme. The Honours Essay counts as a 300-level course and is worth 6 ECTS credits. An Honours Essay in the field of the major (Business and International Affairs only) counts towards the Major Electives of the majors.

In order to qualify for the Honours Essay, a student must at the start of the semester during which it is to be written, have earned at least 120 ECTS credits, have successfully completed HUM 112E, and have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0.

During the semester preceding that in which the Honours Essay is written, a student who is likely to qualify should ask a faculty member to serve as an adviser for the Honours Essay and submit to the adviser a research proposal of approximately 300 words. If the adviser approves the proposal, then the student may register for the Honours Essay, conditional on meeting the requirements specified above.

During the semester, the student should meet regularly with the essay adviser to discuss the progress of the research. The essay must be submitted by the end of the last week of teaching and will be assessed by the adviser and by an additional reader appointed by the head of the relevant curriculum committee.

Students interested in doing an Honours Essay should ask the administration for a document laying out in greater detail the procedures for applying and submitting the essay and the criteria for its assessment. They are advised to obtain this document early in the semester preceding the one in which the honours essay is to be done.

Humanities (HUM)

Critical Thinking and Academic Writing I and II **HUM 111E, HUM 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.

HUM 111E is a prerequisite for HUM 112E *Both courses are offered each semester*

Note: HUM 112E is a prerequisite for ALL 300-level courses. Students who have not successfully completed this course will be unable to take any 300-level courses.

The Problem of Free Will **HUM 271E**

Drawing on interdisciplinary readings from literature, philosophy, history, art, political science and neurobiology, this course examines free will as a complex, unresolved and evolving problem for thinkers and artists in the Western tradition, from the time of the ancient Greeks to the late 20th century. *Offered biennially in fall semester (2009)*

Prerequisite: HUM 112E

Modernism and the European Avant-garde: 1899-1930 **HUM 272E**

Examines the cultural history of Europe during the early decades of the twentieth century, which was a period of daring innovation. Artists across Europe seemed to be of one mind as they challenged traditional notions of aesthetic values and the established canon. Modernism, avant-garde, impressionism, cubism, futurism, expressionism, surrealism, DADAism will be examined in terms of their first contemporary definition

(often as a manifesto) as well as later 20th century application of these terms. The course will examine “texts” in the widest sense possible: primarily literary texts, but also musical texts, plastic texts, graphic texts, celluloid texts. Authors/artists will include Joyce, Conrad, Eliot, Woolf, Owen, Apollinaire, Satie, Stravinsky, Schoenberg, Debussy, Brecht, Eisenstein, Lang, Vertov, Buñuel, Picasso, Magritte, Kandinsky, Malevich, Chagall, and Delauney. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2009)*

Prerequisite: HUM 112E

Internship (INT)

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. Prerequisites: 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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

Prerequisites: one other upper-level course in international relations, history or politics

Languages - Dutch (LDU)

Elementary Dutch I and II

LDU 101E, LDU 102E

This sequence focuses on listening and understanding, vocabulary and basic practical grammar. After these courses students should be able to manage living in a Dutch-speaking environment, to participate in everyday conversations, to read and understand basic Dutch texts and to compose simple written work. Students will also learn more about Dutch/Belgian culture while working on different projects. LDU 101E is designed for students with no prior knowledge of Dutch. LDU 102E is for students with the equivalent one semester of college Dutch as assessed by a placement test.

LDU 101E to be offered in fall 2008; frequency of these courses to be determined

Intermediate Dutch I and II

LDU 103E, 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. *Offered annually, LDU 103E in the fall, LDU 104E in the spring*
Prerequisite: LDU 102E or placement Test

Languages - French (LFR)

Elementary French I & II

LFR 101E, LFR 102E

This sequence focuses listening and understanding, vocabulary and basic practical grammar. After these courses students should be able to manage living in a French-speaking environment, to participate in everyday conversations, to read and understand basic French texts and to compose simple written work. Students will also learn more about French/Belgian culture while working on different projects. LFR 101E is designed for students with no prior knowledge of French, and LFR 102E is for students with the equivalent one semester of college French as assessed by a placement test. *Both courses offered each semester*

Intermediate French I & II

LFR 103E, LFR 104E

This sequence focuses on the acquisition of major elements of French grammar, as well as a more advanced level of comprehension, accurate and active communication skills and a broader coverage of vocabulary. Compositions, essays, oral presentations and reading newspaper articles are a part of these courses. French culture will be highlighted through a theatre project. *Both courses offered each semester*

Prerequisite for LFR 103E: LFR 102E or placement test.

Prerequisite for LFR 104E: LFR 103E or 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. *Offered annually, LFR 201E in fall, LFR 202E in spring*

Prerequisite for LFR 201E is LFR 104E or Placement Test

Prerequisite for LFR 202E is LFR 201E or Placement Test

Literature (LIT)

Short Story and Novella

LIT 241E

Studies how the short story and novella communicate in linguistic, literary and socio-cultural terms. Follows how these relatively new literary forms mirror and/or anticipate important philosophical and aesthetic movements. Examines the purpose, problems and structure of a short story collection as well as what the short story and novella share in

terms of technique and effect with other art forms, especially film. *Offered biennially in fall semester (2008)*

Prerequisite: HUM 112E

Lyric Poetry

LIT 242E

Examines how the poet expresses meaning through language, rhythm, shape, and sound. Students will explore ways of reading and develop methods for understanding poetry. Themes explored are the self, social identity, history and regionality. Critical analysis will involve discussion of attitudes, values, and judgements. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2010)*

Prerequisite: HUM 112E

Mathematics (MTH)

Mathematics for Statistics

MTH 010

This non-credit course, which will meet for one hour per week, reviews the math that is needed for STA 101E. It covers plotting points and lines, basic algebra, transposition of formulae, the laws of exponents, fractions in algebra and equation solving. Attendance at MTH010 is mandatory for students taking STA 101E. Students who have passed MTH 040 or MTH 140E are *not* required to enrol for MTH 010. A test will be administered in the first class meeting of MTH010, and students who do well will also be exempted from the rest of the course. *Offered each semester concurrently with STA 101E*

Foundation Mathematics for Business and Economics

MTH 040

Mathematics is a language, which is used to describe the patterns and laws we find in nature. It is also a means for modelling situations and solving many problems encountered in business and economics. This course is designed to provide a foundation in the techniques of algebra, graphing and functions necessary for business students going on to college level courses in mathematics. It is a prerequisite for MTH 140E: Mathematics for Business and Economics. Students with a suitable qualification in mathematics from High School will not be required to take the course. In addition, a test will be administered during orientation week. Students who do well will be exempted from the course. *Offered annually in fall semester*

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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Philosophy (PHL)

History of Western Philosophy

PHL 113E

Provides a general overview of the main topics discussed by philosophers from the presocratics to the postmodernists. Among these are philosophy of nature, philosophy of mind, metaphysics and epistemology. The course discusses presocratic philosophy, Plato, Aristotle, Hellenistic philosophy, the early and late Middle Ages, Descartes and (French) rationalism, Hume and (British) empiricism, Kant, (German) Idealism and Hegel, Marx, Nietzsche, phenomenology, existentialism, and postmodernism. Students are required to read primary sources, to write commentaries, and to participate in debates on philosophical questions. *Offered biennially in fall semester (2008)*

Physics (PHS)

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. *Offered biennially in fall semester (2009)*

Politics (POL)

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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

Prerequisite: 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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

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. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2009)*

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. *Offered biennially in fall semester (2009)*

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. *Offered biennially in fall semester (2008)*

Selected Topics in Politics

POL 281E/381E

Topic to be announced together with the prerequisites

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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

Prerequisite: 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. *Offered biennially in fall semester (2009)*

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. *Offered biennially in fall semester (2008)*

Prerequisite: 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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Prerequisite: 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. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2009)*

Prerequisites: 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. *Offered biennially in spring semester (2010)*

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. *Offered annually in spring semester*

Prerequisites: 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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

Prerequisite: 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. 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. *Offered annually in summer semester*

International Affairs Capstone

POL 391E, POL 392E

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. *Offered each semester, POL 391E in fall, POL 392E in spring*

Prerequisite: HIS 271E or SOC 203E, and third-year standing in the International Affairs major; or permission of the instructor

Science (SCI)

Science, Technology and Planet Earth

SCI 291E

In the last 200 years science and technology have revolutionised society and profoundly altered the planet that is our home. This course will examine the impact of past and present activities on the planet's resources, ecosystems and atmosphere, and look to the future in the light of population growth and development. Students will examine the evidence for and causes of climate change, investigate technologies for mitigating these changes and meeting our demand for energy, and discuss pathways to sustainable living. *Offered biennially in fall semester (2008)*

Prerequisite: HUM 112E. Note that this is a topical science course, which will require only minimal use of mathematics. It is open to students in all majors. No previous knowledge of environmental science is necessary.

History and Philosophy of Science

SCI 292E

The first part of the course discusses milestones in the history of science, with a focus on mathematics, physics, biology and economics. Topics include the development of Euclidian and non-Euclidian geometry, the Copernican revolution and the development of evolutionary theory in the natural and the social sciences. The second part of the course investigates important philosophers of science such as Popper and Kuhn. The third part of the course is devoted to ethical and social issues, such as the responsibility of the scientist (e.g., in the development of the atomic bomb) and problems in medical

ethics. *Offered biennially in fall semester (2009)*

Prerequisite: HUM 112E

Sociology (SOC)

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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

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

Statistics (STA)

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. *Offered each semester*

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. *Offered annually in fall semester*

Prerequisite: STA 101E