

## Vesalius College

### Course description

**Course title:** Policies in the EU

**Course code:** POL 333E

**Teacher responsible:** Dr. M. Theo Jans

**Course description:**

The course familiarizes students with institutions, actors and policy patterns of EU policy domains (agriculture, fisheries, environmental policy, social policy, internal market, foreign and security policy), as well as with public policy approaches and concepts used to analyze EU policies. The course provides an in depth discussion of challenges of EU policy-making: asymmetry, path dependency, complexity, accountability, legitimacy, public participation, implementation and monitoring deficits, governance, etc. The course refers extensively to policy cases and domains to clarify theories and concepts, which are juxtaposed to highlight their explanatory advantages and weaknesses.

**Course objectives:**

At the end of the module the students should be able to:

- describe and analyze the organization of a selected number of EU policy domains
- identify the main differences between integration theories
- describe and illustrate key concepts for the study of EU policy-making
- apply theoretical concepts to concrete instances of EU policy-making
- discuss recurring policy problems in the EU policy process
- read and analyze academic publications
- develop research, writing and presentation skills

The course builds on skills acquired in other courses:

- adequate referencing and use of primary and secondary sources
- independent planning and preparation of final papers (through research proposal) use of academic journal articles

**Grade weighting scheme:**

Final paper	Midterm	Final exam
40%	20%	40%

**Course material (handbooks, readers, readings, newspapers, magazines) and references:**

A textbook *Michele Cini (2007) European Union Politics. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2nd. edition* will be used and is available in the campus bookshop.