COURSE DESCRIPTIONS: Bachelor’s Programme

The courses regularly taught in the Bachelor’s programme are described in this section, though other courses may be offered on an occasional basis. Courses with a G-code are worth 6 ECTS credits, courses with a P-code 7.5 ECTS credits.

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 Head of Department and must be notified in writing to the Head of Academic Administration.

Courses at partner institutions

The Vesalius curriculum includes courses that are offered by partner institutions, such as the Free University of Brussels (VUB), Boston University and the Royal Music Conservatory. While these courses are, in principle, also open to study abroad students, it needs to be taken into account that they do not always follow the same academic calendar as that of Vesalius College. This may require a certain degree of flexibility on the part of students with respect to their travel arrangements. The study abroad department will deal with such requests on a case-by-case basis. Information on the available courses will be distributed before the pre-registration period each semester. Students taking courses at partner institutions must follow their rules concerning schedules, examinations, and other academic matters.

Art (ART)

Art in Belgium ART 101G

Based around three case studies of art in Belgium (or the equivalent cultural area before Belgium’s independence in 1830), the course intends to function as an eye-opener towards art and culture in Belgium from the 15th to the 20th century, by using a number of analytical tools in art appreciation, art historiography, the collecting and display of art, including some business and legal aspects. The course should provide an historical and intellectual framework for the other courses given at Vesalius College and life in Brussels during the Summer Course, so that students can contextualise the rich and diversified aspects of Belgian culture, as well as its quirky ones.

Introduction to design ART 102G

When function and technologic answers are equally international, when only the price makes the difference in production, the design by its cultural approach makes the market decision. Designing a drinkable water bottle is a cultural knowledge.
The act of drinking, how objects are used is cultural. This course explores the potential of the individual diversity to enhance one's own capacity to develop a personal cultural power and teach how to communicate by discovering or creating a universal language through the objects. 5 weeks and 3 steps to experiment and produce a new design concept that creates a future market without any knowledge in design or production.

Art in Europe ART 301G

A course focusing on European history and culture, which includes field trips to different European cities (Antwerp, Bruges, Tournai and Brussels for Belgium; Amsterdam for the Netherlands; Paris for France). This course 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 as an additional fee collected at registration; see section on tuition and fees).

Business (BUS)

Introduction to Business BUS 101P

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.

Accounting BUS 141P

Introduces students to the subject of accounting with a particular focus on financial accounting. While the course centres on the ways in which financial statements and information can be used to improve the quality of decision making, students also learn the basic principles of double-entry bookkeeping. Major topics are: cash flow, financial ratios and analysis, inventory, current and non-current liabilities and equity structures. The course also looks at accounting treatment of groups of companies and the audit process.

Human Resources Management BUS 211G

Examines the sub-system of staff planning, recruitment and selection, training and development, position control, audit and evaluation and that constitute the human resource function of all organisations. Emphasis is placed on the role of these activities as they relate to the organisation and the organisational managers and leaders. Topics include recruitment and selection, personnel planning, testing employees, training, performance management, compensation, managing labour relations, organisation behaviour, organisational culture, ethics and fair treatment.

Prerequisite: BUS 101P
Corporate Governance BUS 212G

The course examines the theory and practice of corporate governance. We define a corporate governance system as the set of constraints on minority shareholder expropriation set by (1) internal corporate control mechanisms (such as the board), (2) external capital market monitoring and pricing, and (3) laws and regulations. Students learn how the design of the corporate governance system determines the ability of individual firms to compete. Discusses how and why governance systems differ across countries.
Prerequisite: BUS 101P

Management of Innovation and Technical Change BUS 213G

Provides tools and ways of thinking that is 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.
Prerequisite: BUS 101P

Management of Art and Culture BUS 214G

The pressing need for a high standard knowledge of art management forms the foundations of this course, which captures the essentials of management for culture and arts organizations both in profit and not for profit contexts. Students get acquainted with modern day strategic management issues posed to arts organizations and learn to view such issues both from a general as well as an operational perspective. Financial and marketing management provide for an in depth approach, whereby a strong theoretical framework offers firm links to present day practices and cases.

Organisational Leadership BUS 215G

Explores the challenges to effective leadership and management that the contemporary manager faces in a rapidly changing environment. Focus is on leadership styles and motivational techniques conducive to high performance in various organisational settings with a very diverse workforce. Topics include issues in the design of organisations, the corporate/organisational culture, the design and enrichment of jobs, and communication within organisations.
Prerequisite: BUS 101P

Strategic Management BUS 216G

This course focuses on strategy formulation, implementation and performance, and deals with the identification and analysis of external opportunities and constraints faced by a company. The course also centres on the development of internal capabilities in response to those factors. Through theory and cases studies, the main functions of the corporation are investigated.
products/services, research and development; manufacturing, logistics, marketing, finance/accounting, and human resources.
Prerequisite: BUS 101P

Business in China BUS 217G

This course covers the economic and political aspects of doing business in China. China’s 1978 open door policy resulted not only in substantial economy growth but also in great chances for Western companies to participate in China’s unique economy. China’s ‘red capitalism’ is highly distinct to Western economies with its private entrepreneurship and financial liberalization on the one hand, and a Communist Party that reigns with great power on the other hand. This course will cover both the underlying theories and a number of real-world examples to discuss economic and political reality in China.
Prerequisite: HUM 101P

Corporate Finance BUS 221G

This course focuses on establishing the operating and technical foundation for financial decision-making in firms. Many of the fundamental concepts and tools that will be introduced apply equally well one’s own personal financial management. Students will learn about: the structure of the firm and financial markets, the notion of time impact on money, the trade-off between risk and return, the approach to balance investments with capital funding, the impact of firm’s financial policy on leverage and shareholders’ return, the management of the funds needed for operations, the advantage of utilising Islamic financial tools, and the implications of corporate finance in a global context.
Prerequisites: BUS 101P, STA 101P

Financial Mathematics BUS 223G

Financial Mathematics is an essential tool that enhances a manager’s ability to make effective economic decisions. This course provides solid, practical, up-to-date coverage of the mathematical techniques students must master to succeed in business today. It puts a great emphasis on the analysis of business problems. The course objective is to give students a good understanding about the mathematical concepts and techniques and teach them how to use these to solve related business problems in an effective way. The issues will be explained against the background of the fast changing global market. Students with study a variety of exercises and examples that are realistic; this will help them with personal financial matters and investments as well as in their professional careers.
Prerequisite: BUS 141P

Marketing BUS 231G

Analyzes 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.
Prerequisite: BUS 101P

Social Marketing BUS 233G

Social marketing is the systematic application of marketing, along with other concepts and techniques, to achieve specific behavioural goals for a social good. Social marketing can be applied to promote merit goods, or to make a society avoid demerit goods and thus to promote society’s well being as a whole.
Prerequisite: BUS 101P

Sociology and Psychology of Marketing BUS 234G

Marketing is defined as the activity, set of institutions, and processes for creating, communicating, delivering, and exchanging offerings that have value for customers, clients, partners, and society at large. This course investigates all the marketing functions from a social and psychological aspect in order to better understand the customer’s behaviour.
Prerequisite: BUS 101P

Managerial Accounting BUS 241G

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, capital investments and performance measurement.
Prerequisite: BUS 141P

Sustainable Development BUS 261G

This course will examine some of the theoretical and practical issues surrounding corporate responsibility (CR) and sustainable development. Topics to be covered include trends in corporate responsibility, the political economy of sustainable development and the growing significance of communications, especially corporate reporting, to the field. Students will also learn best practice in CR programmes and strategic communications for CR.

International Business BUS 301G

Introduces advanced students to the major fields of international business: organisation, production, finance, marketing and human resources management. Examines both the international environment and the nature of international business arrangements with a special focus on the role of multinational enterprises. The course covers European, US and Asian firms as well as both manufacturing and service industries. Both theories and case studies are studied.
Prerequisites: ECN 101P, BUS 101
Operations Management

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.
Prerequisite: BUS 101P

Mergers and Acquisitions

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; organisational and human aspects; integration; successes and failures. Taught primarily through case studies.
Prerequisite: BUS 101P

Financial Markets and Investments

This course provides a thorough analysis of the different financial markets from a global perspective: the bond market, stock market, and foreign exchange (FOREX) market. Areas covered are valuation and time value of money, interest rates and related markets, derivatives and capital budgeting. A FOREX game will be organised and students will learn how to interpret market indicators. Through presentations, students will also learn about the global financial crisis and the effects on the eurozone.
Prerequisites: STA 101P and BUS 101P

International Finance

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.
Prerequisites: ECN 101P, BUS 101P

Business Information Systems

Uses systems theory to describe information systems. Starting from basic concepts (such as logic gates and the representation of data in binary form), computers (including central processing units, internal and external memory, input/output buses), communications protocols, computer networks, operating systems, middleware, applications software and file formats are explained. Usage of
information systems in organisations will be discussed. On a practical level, students will learn to use spreadsheets and relational database servers.
Prerequisite: BUS 101P

Capstone Entrepreneurship BUS 391G

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.
Prerequisites: BUS 101P and third-year standing in the Business major.

Capstone: International Marketing BUS 392G

This capstone course focuses on international marketing, and how to enter and operate effectively in foreign markets. It introduces suitable ways to select international markets and discusses alternative strategies to enter those markets through comparing, contrasting and benchmarking of those foreign markets’ socio-cultural, political, economic, and legal characteristics. This capstone course will provide marketing knowledge that strike a balance between localization and globalization in product, promotion, pricing, and distribution, to meet the needs and expectations of the chosen foreign market.
Prerequisites: BUS 101P and third-year standing in the Business major.

Communication (CMM)

Human Communication CMM 101P

Allows future practitioners to study the nature and usage of language, as well as verbal and non-verbal communication. Students will be asked to present a number of oral presentations throughout the semester – from individual to large group. This introductory course studies the nature, components and purposes of human communication and familiarizes students with the basic theoretical and practical models of various communication fields; including intercultural and organisational communication.

Mass Communication CMM 102P

Starts with an overview of the uses functions and the social impact of mass communication as well as its history and rise in modern society. Students will become familiar with the content and strategy of different types of mass media, including press, radio, television, the music industry, cinema, as well as the advertising, and the public relations industries.
Course Descriptions

Intercultural Communication CMM 201G

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.
Prerequisite: CMM 101P

Journalism CMM 203G

Aims to give students a clear understanding of the news media function in society and to increase students’ awareness of the ethics and social role of journalism. It discusses issues of news values and selectivity, news gatekeeping and framing, and news agenda setting. It examines the changes in the media field as the world continues to become a digitally driven one. It is also designed to teach students the basic writing and information gathering skills. Lectures and practical work are combined in class sessions, and there are several writing and reporting assignments under deadline.

Organisational Communication CMM 241G

Familiarises students with the dynamics of interpersonal communication within groups. Introduces the theory and practice (mainly though 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.

Corporate Communications & Public Relations CMM 242 G

Explores multiple perspectives of public relations and corporate communications. Particular attention is drawn to the science and the art of effective communication with the public, the media, shareholders and employees. Next to textbook examples, students will receive first hand information from practitioners who will share their professional experience. In the course of this class students will evaluate PR campaigns, write press articles and lead a discussion.

Political Communication CMM 251G

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.
Film: History, Theories, Narration and Scriptwriting  
CMM 261G

Develops and refines writing skills in the audio-visual field. The course expands students’ cinematic vocabulary by allowing them to become familiar with fundamental film structure and narrative forms in mainstream productions. It also allows them to gain an understanding of basic film theories and develop an appreciation for a number of seminal film movements (including Italian neo-realism, the French nouvelle vague and British social cinema, and Dogma). Analyses the constitutive elements of narration as applied to films and explains basic visual techniques. By the end of the course students will have mastered the techniques necessary to provide a professionally written screenplay, which they will pitch to a professional.

Convergence Media and Transmedia Writing  
CMM 263G

Aims to introduce students to how narratives and brands are increasingly conceptualized and produced across multiple media platforms as well as assess the major cultural, social and political changes that have occurred as a result of increased media convergence. It will analyze how this shift is impacting and transforming audience participation, interaction and consumption of mediatised content. The course also provides students with the opportunity to create a major transmedia storytelling project over the course of the entire semester. This in turn will allow them to become familiar with the tools needed to master the art and craft of writing for both traditional and new media outlets (from literary texts and radio dramatizations to photo-stories and web episodes) while at the same time ensuring that they create a fully interactive space with the intended audience. Students will thus have the opportunity to build up a significant portfolio of audiovisual scriptwriting samples.

Communication Theories  
CMM 301G

Provides a broad historical overview of the main communication theories and their historical development and links them to current debates about traditional, new media and the Internet. Students review key authors and publications in the development of communication theory and learn to situate them in their historical and socio-economic context. Students discuss books and articles in class and learn to relate them to past and current issues and theories.  
Prerequisite: CMM 101P

International Communication  
CMM 322G

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.  
Prerequisite: CMM 101P
Marketing Communication & Advertising  
CMM 341G

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.
Prerequisite: CMM 101P

European Communication Policies  
CMM 351G

Provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the media policies in Europe. It examines the changing nature of the relationship of media and European societies from the post-war period until the present. By systematically analysing several distinctive features of different media this course examines the extent to which there exist distinctly European media strategies and philosophical approaches in different countries or regions in spite of the widespread globalization, convergence, concentration and commercialization in the European communication industry. In addition, the course aims to provide students with an understanding of the media policies in particular are shaped at the level of the European Union. The way in which media-related civil society organisations influence EU policy formation and the nature of the issues involved will be studied, as will the roles the European Commission and the European Parliament.
Prerequisite: CMM 101P

Rhetoric  
CMM 371G

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.
Prerequisite: CMM 101P

Communication Studies Capstone  
CMM 391G

The course requires students to integrate knowledge and exercise the skills acquired throughout their work in their majors, and provides students with an opportunity to work on an extended project. By calling for sophisticated understanding of theoretical issues as well as an appreciation of ways to construct empirical research solutions, it also prepares students for independent research at graduate level.
Prerequisite: CMM 101P and CMM 102P and POL 271G


**Economics** (ECN)

Economics ECN 101P

Illustrates the way in which economists view the world by the development of some basic tools of micro- and macroeconomic 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; and foreign exchange rates.

Intermediate Macroeconomics ECN 201G

This intermediate-level course examines the determination of income, employment, the price level, interest rates and exchange rates in the economy. Piece-by-piece, we construct a model that describes how each of these variables is determined in the long- and short-run. We investigate issues of long-run growth, business cycles, international trade, and monetary and fiscal policy. We pay special attention to current developments, with an international and European perspective throughout.

Prerequisite: ECN 101P

The European Economy ECN 202G

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.

Prerequisite: ECN 101P

Macroeconomic Policy ECN 203G

This course studies the macroeconomy from a policy perspective. In particular, we investigate the effects of fiscal and monetary policy in the short run, the medium run and the long run. The course starts with the derivation of the IS/LM-model, which studies the behaviour of the goods and financial markets in the short run. For the medium run, we introduce the labour market, in order to derive the AS/AD-model and to study the relationship between unemployment and inflation. After a survey of the current economic crisis, we investigate the role of expectations in the economy. Finally, we look at economic policy in an open economy.

Prerequisite: ECN101P

History of Economic Thought ECN 231G

Mainstream economic textbooks tend to represent the field as a collection of universal laws and insights. However, economics emerged through a long
historical process in which authors, in a dialogue with the works of their predecessors, tried to provide answers for pressing problems of society. The course investigates this historical process, and devotes attention to the historical context as well as the analytical contents of the theories. The study of the history of economic thought contributes to a critical understanding of economics and reinforces the insights in contemporary economics through an understanding of the underlying historical process of development. On the one hand the course provides broad overviews, but on the other hand special attention is devoted to the economic thought of several important economists: Smith, Malthus, Ricardo, Marx, Jevons, Walras, Menger, Böhm-Bawerk, Marshall, and Keynes. At the end of the course some attention will be devoted to the development of micro and macroeconomics after World War II.

Prerequisite: ECN 101P

The International Banking System

ECN 241G

This course provides an overview of the international banking system, including such topics as: the role of the banks in the financial system; regulatory and policy aspects; services offered by banks; analysis of bank performance; macroeconomic perspectives in banking; and comparison of the banking structures and environments in Europe, the U.S.A., Latin America, Japan, and developing nations.

Prerequisite: ECN 101P, BUS 141P

International Trade

ECN 302G

This course analyses the interdependence that arises from international trade in goods and services. We cover the following topics: the gains from trade, the pattern of trade, the impact of protection, international factor movements, and trade policy. We pay special attention to the European Union and its relationship to other regional trading blocs.

Prerequisite: ECN 101P

Intermediate Microeconomics

ECN 311G

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.

Prerequisites: ECN 101P, MTH 201G

Ethics for Economics and Business

ECN 312G

This course investigates ethical theory and its application to economics and business. We discuss utilitarianism (consequentialism), Kantian ethics, social contract theory, intuitionism, virtue ethics and feminist ethics. Topics discussed in business ethics include corporate social responsibility,
stakeholder management, environmental ethics and human rights. The course also discusses topics in welfare economics, such as Pareto optimality, consumer and producer surplus and the capabilities approach. Students have to provide presentations and produce a research paper about a relevant topic of their own choosing.

Prerequisites: ECN101P, BUS101P

International Political Economy

ECN 321G

Studies the interactions among political, economic, and social institutions and processes and how they affect international relations. Describes approaches to international political economy: mercantilist, neoliberal, radical, and contemporary. Analyzes structures of trade, finance, security, and knowledge. Compares change, transition, and development in different regions. Analyzes global problems, including energy, migration, and environment.

Prerequisite: ECN101E or POL101P

History (HIS)

Evolution of the International System, 1815-1914

HIS 201G

Designed to introduce students of International Affairs to the practice of diplomacy and the evolution of the International System from the Congress of Vienna to the eve of World War I. 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 century.

Prerequisite: HIS 101P

History: Methods and Problems

HIS 271G

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.

Prerequisite: HIS 101P


HIS 301G

Introduces students to the major events and patterns of 20th century history from the outbreak of the First World War to the fall of the Berlin Wall and the end of the division of Europe so as to understand the defining trends and tensions in the international system today. Focuses on key questions such as: Why did the international system break down so catastrophically in 1914 and could this happen again? Is ideology or nationalism the principal legacy of the 20th century? What do the experiments in international governance exemplified
in the League of Nations and the early years of the United Nations tell us about the possibilities for a system of global governance in the 21st century? What caused the Cold War and which security concepts used in handling the US-Soviet relationship during the Cold War could still be useful today in dealing with regional disputes and relationships between the West and the emerging new global powers? The course will help students to better understand the art and practice of diplomacy, the changing nature of military conflict, and the role of ideas and ideologies in promoting either conflict or peace.

Prerequisites: HIS 101P

History of Genocide HIS 311G

This course introduces students to the historical study of genocides and mass atrocities from antiquity to contemporary times. Students will study the meaning, occurrence, causes and consequences of genocides throughout history and will gain a nuanced understanding of underlying common causes and the specificities of each case study. Even though the course covers case studies in Europe, North and South America, Africa and Australia throughout history, particular emphasis is placed on the European dimension of the history of genocide.

History of Transatlantic Relations HIS 321G

This course assesses the history of Transatlantic relations between the United States and core European powers. Students will acquire in-depth knowledge on major political, social and cultural developments from the French Revolution to the end of the Cold War. The final part of the course will allow students to gain a nuanced understanding of recurring periods of cooperation and rivalry among the major powers on both sides of the Atlantic throughout the last 200 years.

Honours Essay (HON)

Honours Essay HON 393G

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 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 201G, 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 in triplicate 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)**

*Composition for Academic Communication*  
**HUM 101P**

In this course, students will improve their language skills, moving from the colloquial and conversational, to the professional and academic level. Students will transfer language strategies such as listening, reading, note-taking, speaking in class, asserting themselves in small groups, and writing, from their native languages into English. Additionally, students will learn the conventions of academic writing, from the initial considerations of purpose and audience, through thesis, summary and a variety of writing strategies (anecdotes and examples, narration, description, comparison and contrast) through to the finished product: the undergraduate thesis-based, synthesis essay. Expectations concerning academic honesty and the avoidance of plagiarism will also be reinforced. In keeping with the Liberal Arts philosophy of the College, the readings for the course will be drawn from sociology, philosophy, history, politics, science, economics, language, and literature.

*Writing and Critical Inquiry*  
**HUM 201P**

In this course, students will learn to critically analyze the diction, structure, audience and methods of argumentation in a wide variety of texts and then judge the success or failure of these texts. Other topics include the history of the book, the discernment between fact and opinion and for the motivations of authors, and recognition and avoidance of logical fallacies. The student is expected to apply these persuasive devices and methods to his/her own writing and to evaluate critically his/her work and the work of other students in the class. Two new writing strategies will be introduced: the extended definition and reasoning from cause and effect. Additionally, the students will be asked to engage in graded, oral debates.
**Internship** (INT)

Internship  
INT 381G

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)

Introduction to International and European Law  
LAW 101P

This course explains the basic rules of (1) international law: legal sources, treaties, rights and duties of states, international organisations, status of the individual, the global commons, diplomatic and consular law; (2) European law: the two basic treaties governing the European Union, the EU institutions, the internal market, agricultural and regional policy, external relations, judicial cooperation and the rights of citizens and third country nationals.

Introduction to Legal Principles and Theories  
LAW 102P

The course covers the basic legal concepts, issues and themes that are common to the world’s major legal systems. Students will become familiar with the legal principles and theories that they will encounter throughout the entire Law programme at Vesalius. Topics include legal history, nature and components of law, relationship between morality and law, natural law and legal positivism, hierarchy of legal sources, role of legislators and courts, the process of legal analysis (including judicial opinions, facts, legal issues, applicable law and the judgment), contracts law, torts law, criminal law, public/private law, jurisprudence, substantive and procedural issues, and conflicts of law.

Business Law  
LAW 111P

This course introduces the legal context in which business is conducted in civil and common law jurisdictions. After examining the sources and components of law, students will consider the law of contracts, torts, international trade, intellectual property rights, agency and distributorship, conflicts of law and competent courts, law of corporations, bankruptcy and receivership. In focusing on emerging trends in Business Law and related contemporary legal debates, students will gain a sensitivity to the importance of ethical considerations in legal business decision making: business decision makers need to consider not just whether a decision is “legal,” but also whether it is “ethical.”

Humanitarian Law  
LAW 201G

The course explains the major principles concerning the Law of The Hague (legal means and methods of warfare) and the Law of Geneva concerning protection...
of sick, wounded, prisoners of war, and civilians. In addition, the course explains the complex network of treaties, and the role of the UN Security Council in upholding and enforcing respect for international humanitarian law. The course explains also a range of treaties which complement the four Geneva conventions, for example regarding the prohibition of certain weapons, or the protection of cultural property during war.

Criminal Law  
LAW 203G

This course highlights the differences between civil law and criminal law through the historical development of criminal law. Basic concepts are addressed such as the acts classified as crimes, the distinction between more serious offenses (felonies) and less serious offences (misdemeanors), punishments (including incarceration and fines), the difference between the prosecuting office and the tribunal/court, the investigation process, the role of law enforcement agencies. Penal codes of several countries will be used to illustrate the general theory of criminal law.

Advanced Business Law  
LAW 211G

Building on the concepts learned in Business Law, this course further examines the sources and components of law as well as the question of conflicts of law, competency of courts and various legal regimes governing international business transactions and operations. Students will further explore the laws of finance, sales, employment, corporations and other business associations, mergers and acquisitions, debtor-creditor relations, secured transactions, bankruptcy and receivership. 
Prerequisite: LAW 111P

International Commercial Arbitration  
LAW 212G

This course covers the basics of the law and practice governing international commercial arbitration, mediation and alternate dispute resolution. It provides students with both the theoretical and practical aspects of commercial arbitration, including topics such as the enforcement of arbitration agreements, review of the major international arbitral institutions and their rules of procedure. In studying the relationship between international arbitration and national court systems, students will review court decisions on arbitration, perform research on arbitration at the global level and draft arbitration agreements.

Intellectual Property Law  
LAW 213G

This course provides an introduction to the four primary types of intellectual property protection: patent, copyright, trademark, and trade secret. Students will gain a basic understanding of the various grounds for and limitations of such protections by exploring the policies and legal principles which support international and European protection of intellectual property rights, designs, protection of trade secrets as well as the sources of those rights. Special topics will include acquisition of rights, registration, infringement, remedies and international aspects of these laws. The course also examines the function of international intellectual property organizations and recent developments in the EU.
European Organisations

The European Union has become the most influential organisation in Europe, with a membership of 27 European states. However, 21 independent European intergovernmental organisations or European cooperation frameworks exist which are active in fields not, or not completely, covered by the activities of the European Union. These 21 European Organisations are divided in four sectors: economy & finance, political and security, science, and river commissions. The course will explain the law and policy of the 21 European organisations: their origins, membership, activities and cooperation among them or with the European Union. The students will acquire a complete overview of the all existing European intergovernmental organisations. Another objective is to prepare students of the International Affairs major to the job market in the world of European organisations and the related sectors (procurement for contractors, sub-contractors). Prerequisite: LAW 101P or any course dealing with an introduction to EU law

EU Constitutional Law

The course focuses on the rights of EU citizens (inter alia the Charter of Fundamental Rights) and the institutions (European Parliament, Council, European Council, Commission, European Court of Justice and other organs) as well as the decision-making and controlling procedures of the President of the European Union. The operation of the EU institutions will be explained in all major areas of the European Union policies, with special attention to the internal market, the area of freedom, security and justice, as well as the common foreign and security policy. Prerequisite: LAW 101P

Comparative Constitutional Law

This course gives a legal overview and basic knowledge of the constitutions of the major countries in the world. It will address the origins of constitutionalism (American and French Revolutions), the state institutions and their powers, the constitutional rights of citizens, the changing nature of the constitutions, inter alia constitutional review, unitary versus federal states.

Methods: Legal Analysis, Research and Writing

This course is designed to develop the student’s ability to identify legal issues and communicate such findings effectively, particularly in the written form. In developing the ability for legal analysis and problem solving skills, students will focus particularly on the interplay between international and European law, through historical, political and economic dimensions. Students will be encouraged to apply legal knowledge gained in previous courses in a number of ways. Finally, students will be provided with the opportunity for enhanced use of appropriate legal research methods and tools within the framework of class assignments. Prerequisite: LAW 102P or one other upper-level course in law

Current Challenges in International Law

This course familiarises students with the fundamental concepts and principles of
modern international law. It provides an introduction to the historical and theoretical development of international law as well as its basic methodology in order better to understand present day developments. Students will learn how to apply the often abstract rules of international law to current events which are often controversial and claimed by opposing views. Use will be made of newspaper reports, international legal briefs, governmental declarations, decisions of international organizations and the most recent international case law. Prerequisite: one other upper-level course in international relations, history or politics.

Environmental Law

LAW 302G

The contents of this course include the general principles of environmental law, the legal and institutional framework comprising subjects such as the actors (states, international organizations, NGOs, etc.), environmental treaties, resolutions of the UN General Assembly and other international bodies, EU regulations and directives, and the general problems of compliance, implementation, enforcement and dispute settlement.

Human Rights

LAW 303G

This course focuses on the principles regarding the status of individuals under international law, the ‘International Bill of Human Rights’, regional human rights instruments, human rights related to expulsion and extradition, stateless persons, refugees and asylum, and the treatment standards regarding foreigners. The course incorporates major case law.

Competition Law

LAW 311G

In this course, students will examine the role of competition law and policy, at both the EU and national levels and within the global economy. The different regimes of competition law will be closely analyzed, including the interaction between trade and competition and the process of internationalization of competition law and policy. Students will explore various issues related to competition law, including abuse of dominant position, anti-competitive agreements, the interface between Intellectual Property Rights and competition law and other current issues related to business strategy. Prerequisite: BUS 101P or LAW 111P.

International Banking Law and Financial Regulation

LAW 312G

This course introduces students to the legal and regulatory environment of international banking and finance. In exploring the fundamental legal issues, emphasis will be placed on the international and European context in order to reflect the globalization of the financial markets. Students will become familiar with the regulation of capital markets as well as the traditional financial market sectors of insurance and commercial & investment banking. This course will enable students to benefit from the “big picture” of banking and finance while considering related legal challenges. Prerequisite: BUS 101P, ECN 101P or LAW 111P.
EU Law of Freedom, Security and Justice  LAW 321G

The course addresses issues which have become part of EU cooperation in matters of asylum, rules concerning the external borders, immigration policies and policies concerning third countries’ citizens, combating illicit drugs, fraud, judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters, custom cooperation, the fight against terrorism, drugs and organized crime.

Laws of the EU Internal Market  LAW 322G

This advanced course provides a systematic analysis of the internal market, namely the free movement of goods including custom duties and taxation, quantitative restrictions and similar measures, free movement of capital, free movement of services (including the freedom of establishment), and the freedom of movement of people (including the Schengen Area). Related topics will also include the competition rules, monetary union and state subsidies.

International and EU Law Capstone  LAW 391G

The course is devoted to landmark judgments and legal opinions of the judicial bodies of both the European Union and the International Court of Justice and its predecessor, ICSID arbitration, mixed claims commissions and the ILOAT tribunal. With respect to the European Union, students will examine holdings of the Court of Justice of the European Union, the General Court, and the European Civil Service Tribunal. The course culminates in a high-level research paper or project of the student’s choice, where students will be required to analyze the structure and legal reasoning of judgments and legal opinions related to their topic. Prerequisite: LAW 271G and third year standing in the Law major, or with permission of the instructor

Languages

Chinese (LCH)

Introduction to Chinese Language and Culture  LCH 102G

This course, designed for students with no prior knowledge of Chinese, is primarily a first course in the language, but also exposes students to various aspects of Chinese culture. The emphasis will be on understanding, speaking and reading. The course will be conducted, as far as possible, in Chinese from the beginning. After these courses students should be able to read Chinese with correct pronunciation and tone, write basic strokes in the correct order, understand Chinese texts and dialogues concerning the most useful and practical situations learned. Among the cultural topics will be: the origins and development of the Chinese language, a brief introduction to Chinese history, religions and the two major philosophical schools Confucians and Taoists.
**Dutch** (LDU)

Elementary Dutch LDU 101G

This course 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. Designed for students with no prior knowledge of Dutch.

**French** (LFR)

Elementary French I & II LFR 101G, LFR 102G

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. LFR101E is designed for students with no prior knowledge of French, and LFR102E is for students with the equivalent one semester of college French as assessed by a placement test.

Intermediate French I & II LFR 201G, LFR 202G

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 given each semester.

Prerequisite for LFR201E: LFR102E or placement test.
Prerequisite for LFR202E: LFR201E or placement test.

Advanced French I & II LFR 301G, LFR 302G

At the outset of each course students are prepared and tested on the conjugation of all tenses of basic verbs, since this is essential knowledge for the advanced programme. The two courses are comparable in their methods of instruction (advanced vocabulary and grammar practice, class discussions, essay writing, oral presentations and a theatre project) but each has its own programme in advanced grammar and its own theme as shown in the course titles. The theatre project, including the study of an author, a play, and a visit to the theatre, is different each semester. The two courses complement each other in the development of vocabulary, comprehension, writing and oral skills, and may be taken in any order.

Prerequisite for LFR 301E: LFR 202E or placement test
Prerequisite for LFR 302E: LFR 202E or placement test
**Mathematics (MTH)**

Methods: Mathematics for Business and Economics  
MTH 201G

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.

**Philosophy (PHL)**

History of Western Philosophy  
PHL 101G

Provides a general overview of the main philosophical topics discussed from the presocratics to the postmodernists. The course develops historically the most important subfields of philosophy: philosophy of nature, philosophy of mind, metaphysics, ethics, epistemology (theory of knowledge), aesthetics and philosophy of history. We successively discuss presocratic philosophy, Plato, Aristotle, Hellenistic philosophy, the early and late Middle Ages, Descartes, Hume, Kant, Hegel, Marx, Nietzsche, Heidegger and postmodernism. Students are required to read primary sources, to write short papers, and to participate in debates on philosophical questions.

History and Philosophy of Science  
PHL 201G

In this course, the history and philosophy of science is studied, starting from the origins of science in ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt and Greece to present day science and technology. Key issues from the philosophy of science (such as Popper’s falsifiability, Kuhn’s paradigm shifts, Gödel’s incompleteness and Poincaré’s conventionalism) will be illustrated by historical case studies (such as the Copernican revolution, the shift from classical physics to quantum mechanics or the evolution theory). While the focus of this class will be on natural sciences, we will also consider the problem of the scientific method in humane and social sciences.

**Politics (POL)**

Global Politics  
POL 101P

This is a basic introductory course, introducing students to core concepts, processes and events in global politics. It gives an insight in the so-called ‘global’ dimension of world politics, which encompasses the worldwide, the regional, the national and the sub-national levels. In this course, students will study concepts and issues related to state and sovereignty, the nation and globalization; power and war; diplomacy and sanctions, identity and terrorism. The study of these issues will help outline the interdependence and interconnectedness of state and non-state actors in world politics.
European Peace and Security Studies (EPSS) 

This foundational course provides an introduction to the main theoretical approaches and concepts required for understanding contemporary issues of peace and conflict. The main schools of thought of International Relations Theory as well as main-stream and critical perspectives of security and strategy studies will be introduced and will be applied to core security issues, such as crisis management (military and civilian), conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, disarmament as well as the promotion of environmental security, human security and human rights. Particular emphasis will be placed on the evolution of and approaches by the European Union and NATO, but examples from the United Nations and related security organisations will also be drawn on.

Theories of International Relations

This course introduces and applies the major paradigms, key authors and core theories in the discipline of International Relations. The course allows students to study and apply major IR theories with the help historical and contemporary political empirical case studies in order to illustrate, as well as test, central assumptions and arguments of these approaches. The course provides a knowledge base for the further study of International Relations theories as well as for understanding core processes, actors and power relations in international politics.

European energy security strategies in a world of growing insecurities

Energy is at the heart of economic development. It fuels transportation systems, powers factories, lights government and office buildings, schools and hospitals, heats homes and keeps foods cold. The European Union’s prosperity and security thus hinges on a stable and abundant supply of energy. Since the oil crisis of the 1970s most EU member states have not had to experience any long-lasting supply disruption, yet the world stage and the global energy landscape have both changed dramatically. The course will debate those factors that currently drive energy policy decisions in Europe, including the actions of nations such as the United States, Russia, China, India, and Japan, climate change negotiations, and the quest for energy independence.

The EU’s Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)

This EPSS course provides an overview and in-depth analysis of the historical evolution, institutional settings, procedures and core policies of the European Union’s Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) in both theory and practice. Whilst the first part of the course analyzes the evolution of the CFSP and its major policy areas in the wider historical and theoretical context of the European Union as an International Actor since the end of the Cold War, the second part of the course provides a critical assessment of the impact and effectiveness of the EU as a Foreign and Security actor in the field. Particular emphasis is placed on the EU’s Military and Civilian Operations, conducted since 2003. In addition, the course will take a closer look at the wide range of security actors and international organisations the EU has collaborated with in the context of the CFSP.
Course Descriptions

Understanding Contemporary Conflicts in Europe and Beyond  POL 222G

This EPSS course provides an in-depth analysis of the roots and causes of contemporary conflicts in Europe’s periphery (Bosnia, Kosovo, Georgia / South Ossetia, Chechnya) and in those regions where either the European Union or NATO have become active security actors (ranging from the Chad, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Somalia to Afghanistan and Aceh). At the end of the course, students will have gained a nuanced and comprehensive understanding of the complex underpinnings of contemporary conflicts as well as of the demands placed on external international actors that try to contribute to mitigating such a diverse range of conflicts and crises.

The Breakup of Yugoslavia and Post-War Reconstruction in the Balkans  POL 223G

This interdisciplinary course is aimed at students interested in the study of peace and conflict resolution, international relations, political science, sociology, and history. It combines a historical overview of the breakup of Yugoslavia and the wars of 1990 with a theoretical discussion on peace and conflict resolution. The course consists of a series of lectures and presentations where we will look at the main events and causes that led to the break-up of Yugoslavia in the 1990s as well as the impact the conflict has had on the security, economic, demographic, and religious situation in the region. No background in Yugoslav history or politics is assumed. The role of nationalist ideology and organization in the breakdown and building of state structures is a key element of this course, as is conflict, often violent, surrounding the implementation of state building projects. A final element of major significance is the impact of international intervention or world geopolitics, particularly the interests of Great Powers and their attempts to shape state building projects of local actors. The course will assist the students to identify and analyze the causes of the conflict, and more importantly, to learn how to anticipate such conflicts in the future.

International Approaches to State-Building, Reform and Good Governance  POL 224G

The interdisciplinary course is aimed to engage students with the debates on the origins, development and deterioration of states. Approaches to promoting good governance and state-building as a part of the post-Soviet transition, African studies, development studies, security studies, post-conflict reconstruction, have been the subject of numerous academic and policy debates. Students will learn about these different approaches as well as how they are interlinked with democracy assistance and security sector reform initiatives. Students will review the indicators for state capacity and good governance, will assess issues critical for development of states in transition and will discuss models of state-society relationship. While the primary focus of the course will be on the role of the international actors in state-building efforts, the course will also focus on issues linked to the concept of nation, national movements and civil society. The course consists of lectures, seminar discussions and will include guest speakers as well as interactive exercises.
European Union Politics  

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. Visits the European Parliament and includes guest lectures bringing current problems in the process of the European integration process into the classroom.

Political Institutions of European Countries  

Studies European states, their major institutional features and their political system 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. While taking the major European liberal democracies (the U.K., France and Germany) as a starting point, it purports to review and compare political systems from Western and Central-Eastern Europe. For EU member states, it also intends to analyse the effects of European integration on political systems.

The EU’s Approach to Democratisation and Human Rights  

This course examines the historical evolution, policies and overall track-record of major European countries and the European Union itself in the field of democratisation and the promotion of human rights. The first part of the course provides a comprehensive overview of the main conceptualisations, debates and core issues related to human rights and democracy promotion. The second part of the course consists of a critical analysis of both the internal and external human rights policies and democratisation efforts of the European Union and major European states.

The Government and Politics of Global Powers  

This course introduces students to the politics, key features and global influence of major established states and emerging powers. Students analyze the role of western “established” powers, such as the United States, Britain, France and Germany as well the growing influence of “emerging” powers such as the BRICS (Brazil, China, India and South Africa) and beyond. The course also sheds light on processes and dynamics of major political global transformations and the changing nature of “power”.

Prerequisite: one politics course

Diplomacy and International Negotiations  

This course provides students with in-depth knowledge and essential skills for understanding the evolution, mechanisms and impact of diplomacy and international negotiations. The course is divided into two parts. The first part provides an introduction into diplomacy and the theory of international negotiations. The second part deals with the practice of diplomacy and negotiations. The course provides an analysis of diplomatic approaches to global issues and current world problems, such as peace and security, climate
change and international trade. It examines cases of successful diplomacy and/or failed diplomacy. It also avails a forum in which teams of students speak on behalf of an assigned country on a variety of selected issues to expand their understanding of diplomacy, global geopolitics and international relations.

International Organisations and Global Governance POL 243G

This course provides an analysis of the historical evolution, policies and impact of core International Organisations in the field of Global Governance. Students examine and evaluate the policy-making processes, successes and failures of major International Organizations in addressing core global challenges, such as global peace and security, global economic governance, development and the global fight against hunger, climate change and environmental governance, the global rule of law, human rights and democratisation.

Intermediate Research Methods POL271G

This course exposes students to the main quantitative and qualitative research methods required for International Affairs and analysis in the Social Sciences. Students will learn to the main methodological approaches from the field of political science, communication studies and policy-oriented security studies. The course also provides essential skills required for analysing and tackling major research issues.

Contemporary Political Debates POL 301G

Debates key policy and normative dilemmas in contemporary liberal democracies. Introduces topics using recent academic literature and policy documents and then examines classical and modern political texts in order to build conceptually coherent arguments to support conflicting positions on political and normative dilemmas.

History of Political Thought POL 302G

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

NATO and Transatlantic Approaches to Security POL 321G

This EPSS course explores the history, track-record and major political and policy challenges related to both the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and wider US-Europe transatlantic relations more generally. Students will examine the waxing and waning of US-EU relations in the field of security and will assess the evolution, institutions, policy-making processes and impact of NATO’s core security policies. The final part of the course invites students to explore emerging and future challenges NATO and US-EU relations will face. Pre-requisite: one course in politics
The EU and Military Approaches to Security  POL 322G

This EPSS course provides an in-depth analysis of core actors, key dimensions and approaches to promoting security through military means. Particular emphasis will be placed on the so-called ‘comprehensive approach’. The course provides a conceptual and theoretical introduction to military security by focusing on the concepts of threat, risk, security and conflict and their evolution. It explores the changing nature of war and the complexity of today’s conflicts and analyses the role of the military in security issues such as deterrence; arms control disarmament; proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and small arms and light weapons; failed states; terrorism and counterterrorism; and human and man-made disasters. The influence of the privatisation of international security and the evolution of military equipment on the role of the military will be discussed. Finally, students will study the specificity of the military in crisis management, the main approaches to peace support operations and military crisis management in the UN, EU and NATO frameworks, the comprehensive approach, and the role of the military in state building. Pre-requisite: one course in politics.

European and Global Governance of Migration  POL 332G

This course provides an overview of the EU policy-making structures as they apply to migration policy as well as broader themes of EU justice and home affairs. It includes an analysis of the changes of EU governance in the area of justice and home affairs: its origins and evolution as well as the current debates, including security and human rights aspects. In addition to the strong EU focus, the course also maps out the development of the global governance of migration. It explores the role of different stakeholders who are active in migration debates, including different states, international non-governmental organisations, and lobby groups (many of which are active in Brussels). Overall, the course draws on different debates on migration and relates them to broader developments in global politics, including the economic crisis, issues of national identity, immigrant settlement and integration.

Policies in the European Union  POL 333G

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. Prerequisite: none, POL 231G recommended

The United Nations and Global Governance  POL 341G

This course provides students with a comprehensive analysis of the evolution, institutions, policy-making procedures and policy outputs of the United Nations system within the context of Global Governance. The course assesses and evaluates the successes, failures and future prospects of the UN system in
addressing fundamental global challenges in the areas of peace and security, development, climate change and human rights. Particular emphasis is placed on the evolution, mechanisms and impacts of United Nations Peacekeeping. Prerequisite: At least one politics/international affairs course

**International Affairs Research Methods**  
**POL 371G**

This advanced research method course provides students with in-depth knowledge and skills required for confidently and effectively mastering research, policy analysis and policy advice in the field of International Affairs. Students will not only deepen their knowledge and skills of quantitative and qualitative research methods required for graduate studies, but will also acquire essential professional, analytical and research-related skill-sets needed for a successful career in International Affairs.

**International Affairs Capstone**  
**POL 391G**

The International Affairs Capstone course provides students with an opportunity to integrate their knowledge and exercise the skills acquired throughout their studies and apply them to a concrete policy-problem. As the final, summative and integrative course of the IA Programme, students will be tasked to apply their knowledge and skills in a highly independent, theory-driven, but policy-oriented manner. Students usually work for the duration of the capstone course as policy advisors or policy analysts for a “client” (policy-maker from Brussels-based organizations, such as the European Union or NATO) on a real-life problem. By calling for the integration and application of their multi-disciplinary knowledge, the Capstone course seeks to prepare students both for independent research at the graduate level and to bridge the gap between academic studies and the professional realm of policy-oriented analysis. Prerequisite: HIS 271G or POL 271G, and third-year standing in the International Affairs major; or permission of the instructor

**Psychology (PSY)**

**Introduction to Psychology**  
**PSY 101G**

This course is aimed to provide students with an introduction into the research field of psychology. Students get acquainted to core concepts and existing domains within Psychology. Psychology as a scientific discipline and the interconnection between sub domains in Psychology are central issues in this course. Topics that will be treated include: what is psychology, biology of behaviour, sensation and perception, states of consciousness, learning and adaptation, motivation and emotion, development over the life span, personality, adjusting to life (stress, coping and health), psychological disorders, social thinking and behaviour, etc. Theory will be supported by demos, class experiments, exercises and film fragments.
Statistics (STA)

Quantitative Methods  
STA 101P  
Statistics is the art of using data to make numerical conjectures about problems. Descriptive statistics is the art of summarizing data. Topics include: histograms, the average, the standard deviation, the normal curve, correlation. Much statistical reasoning depends on the theory of probability. Topics include: chance models, expected value, standard error, probability histograms, convergence to the normal curve. Statistical inference is the art of making valid generalizations from samples. Topics include: estimation, measurement error, tests of statistical significance.

Intermediate Statistics  
STA 301G  
Methods: Statistics for Business and Economics first reviews the basic concepts of statistical inference: sample variability, estimation with confidence intervals, and tests of statistical significance. The course then extends inference by looking into: (i) small-sample tests for averages (t-test); (ii) hypothesis tests comparing two sample averages; and (iii) Chi-square tests. The course finally introduces the student to simple regression (fitting a line to a scatter plot) and multiple regression (the generalization of the regression technique to more than one explanatory variable). Students learn how to use a statistical calculator and statistical software to do their own quantitative research.  
Prerequisite: STA 101P