

Title and Code of Course: Roots, Turning Points and Ideas: the Historical Evolution of the European Cooperation I Semester

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Credit Point Value: 6	Number of Lessons per Week: 2	Type of Course: Seminar <input type="checkbox"/> Lecture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Method of Evaluation: Oral Examination <input type="checkbox"/> In-Class Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Course Description:

The aspirations to unite the European continent have been with us for centuries. After the Second World War, Europe was divided and based on a system of free and not free countries occupied by the Soviet Union. The free countries chose the path of integration and established the European communities. After the collapse of the Soviet Union and the regime changes, the liberated East-Central European countries joined the European Union. Different phases marked by major turning points can be distinguished in the historical evolution of the European integration. The European cooperation had to face with many crises and challenges from the market integration to political cooperation. Among the fundamental debates are what strategies the European cooperation used to justify its existence, who holds sovereignty, whether there is European sovereignty, the relationship between Member States and European institutions, and how national identities relate to a European identity.

The primary aim of the course is to provide a comprehensive overview of the roots, turning Points and ideas throughout the historical evolution of the European integration. In doing so, it offers insights into founding era as well as to the various visions of the European integration process exploring the major turning points and achievements. The course also addresses the role and interplays of the supranational, intergovernmental and national institutions in the growth of the integration and the dynamics of its development. It assesses, in a historical dimension, the various competing interests and visions surrounding European cooperation. The course accepts as a basic premise that the challenges surrounding the present and the future of the European cooperation can be comprehended in light of the important events of the past.

Bibliography (recommended):

Luuk Van MIDDELAAR *The Passage to Europe. How a Continent Became a Union* (Yale University Press, 2014);

Joseph H. H. WEILER, *A Christian Europe* (Szent István Társulat, Budapest, 2006);

Larry SIEDENTOP: *Democracy in Europe* (Columbia University Press, 2001)