

## **THE EUROPEAN UNION**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The course deals with the evolution and integration of Europe, from Common Market to political union; the contending world views (e.g. Christian roots, and secular philosophies); the draft Constitution and the new Treaty of Lisbon (e.g. Charter of Fundamental Rights); the restructuring of independent nation-states into a supranational structure, with demands for a common foreign & defense policies, adjustments to a common currency, and the struggle for social cohesion and cultural identity. The course also deals with the EU's global role, especially as it relates to the "Trans-Atlantic" agenda.

### **COURSE PURPOSE**

The course seeks to promote a transcendental understanding of European integration, and to apply Judeo - Christian principles to an analysis of European peoples and nations, and new institutions and organizations within the unfolding global order.

### **CONNECTION TO PROGRAM OF STUDY**

The Government program is designed to train leaders to help discern the foundations of peoples and nation-states, good order and good government. This course will help evaluate European policies on the basis of justice and peace, protection of fundamental freedoms and basic human rights, and how well national interests are balanced with the need for European security.

### **COURSE GOALS**

On the basis of transcendental norms, critically analyze:

- A. The integration of religion, ideology, political ideas and European institutions.
- B. The religious foundations of European civilization; the quest for sovereignty of peoples and nations, foreign policies, and international organizations.
- C. The secular presuppositions of humanist, functionalist and communist, approaches to national interest, power, justice, global peace and new European order.
- D. Current European conflicts and evaluate the decisions of political leaders and policy recommendations of experts and civil servants.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

- A. Learn to read and analyze basic European documents and policy statements.
- B. Develop a balanced knowledge between justice and peace, national defense and disarmament, bilateral, multilateral, and new regional relations.
- C. Discern the political and new ideological direction of global governance and global security in the New Europe.
- D. Develop an academic and activist passion to promote righteousness and peace, international cooperation, and protect the Christian heritage of European nations.

## TEXTS AND OTHER READINGS

### A. Required Texts:

The required textbook is **Understanding European Institutions**, edited by Alex Warleigh. New York: Routledge, 2002 (paperback).

The required European Union documents are available at the on-line **European Union Web** gateway: [http://europa.eu.int./index\\_ns\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int./index_ns_en.htm)

### B. Electronic Texts:

Many new books on the European Union and global integration are now available as electronic publications. Check the University Library catalog and databases in ebrary and netlibrary databases for e-Books. See the bibliography.

Additional readings of documents, declarations, and speeches are available via the relevant web pages, corresponding to the schedule of topics. Other documents may be available in Blackboard under Course Materials.

### C. Reference Resources.

Below are several important links.

A to Z index of EU websites: <http://www.eurunion.org/infores/euindex.htm>

Home page: [http://europa.eu.int./index\\_ns\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int./index_ns_en.htm)

EU documents: [http://europa.eu.int./documents/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int./documents/index_en.htm)

Treaty of Lisbon: [http://europa.eu/lisbon\\_treaty/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/lisbon_treaty/index_en.htm)

EU News: [http://europa.eu.int./news/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int./news/index_en.htm)

EU-US news: <http://www.eurunion.org/>

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