*Metropolitan University Prague – MUP*

*Department of International Relations and European Studies*

**Theories of European Integration**

Summer 2023  
Master’s Degree – first year

Group 1. Monday:10.30-11.50 (room 307)

Group 2. Tuesday: 15.00-16.20 (room 021)

Lecturer: Associate Professor Mats Braun, PhD (mats.[braun@mup.cz](mailto:braun@mup.cz)). Office hours: Monday10:00-12:00 (room 304), or by appointment.

Teaching assistant: Oleksandra Kovalevska (sasha.kovalevska1@gmail.com)

**Course description**

The aim of the course is to deepen the student’s understanding of the European integration process that started after the end of World War II through a detailed examination of existing integration theories both from the field of international relations and comparative politics. Throughout the course, questions are discussed relating to the causes and the driving forces behind the integration process. Moreover, the course pays attention to how integration theories understand the possibilities of a reversal of the integration process and potential disintegration. The course content also entails comparative outlooks to processes of regional integration in other parts of the world.

The course includes a specific focus on the EU as an actor in relation to climate change.

**Course requirements**

Seminar discussions – 25%

Final take-home exam – 25%

Video– 25%

Research paper – 25%

**Seminar discussions** - Participants should be prepared to discuss seminar questions based on the selected readings. Students who cannot participate in the sessions must submit written literature reviews of a minimum 500 words per session.

**Take-home – final exam** –During the exam period participants receive questions in the form of a take-home exam. The test aims to check that participants have understood the basic features of the readings for the first eight sessions of the course. Instructions questions and submissions are provided through MSTeams in the assignment folder.

**Video and research paper** – The task is to explain how a theory of your choice brings increased understanding to a topic linked to European integration and the environment. The first thing you need to consider is a suitable research question. You are then expected to record a short video that explains A) the research problem, B) the usefulness of the theory and

C) the potential conclusions in such a way that it becomes intelligible to someone who never studied IR. If you also bring some clarity to the empirical task under investigation that is a plus. The video should be approximately five minutes long. The topic should be selected in consultation with one of the instructors.

In addition, a short paper should be written that briefly explains the same content as the video but in proper academic language (including references to sources etc.). The paper should be approximately 2000 words in length.

For the video and paper assignment, you are expected to work in small groups of 2 to 3 persons. The videos should be completed by the final session of the course.

**Required readings**

* Wiener, Antje, Tanja A. Börzel and Thomas Risse (eds.) *European Integration Theory,* 3rd. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019.
* Book chapters and articles from other sources as indicated in the course schedule, below.

**Recommended Readings:**

Students will be recommended readings for their specific research topic. The following books provide good introductions to European integration and can be recommended as background reading to the discussions during the course:

* Daniel Kenealy, John Peterson, and Richard Corbett (eds.) The European Union: How does it work? 5th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.
* Dinan, Desmond, Europe Recast – A History of European Integration. London: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2014.
* Nugent, Neil The Government and Politics of the European Union, 6th ed, Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2006.

Other recommended sources:

* Academic journals- *Journal of Common Market Studies, Journal of European Public Policy* and others.
* Specialized internet news coverage – EurActiv ([www.euractiv.com](http://www.euractiv.com)), EU Observer – ([www.euobserver.com](http://www.euobserver.com)).
* [www.europa.eu](http://www.europa.eu) – official website of the EU.

**Course schedule and compulsory readings**

**27.2/28.2. Session 1**. Introduction – what are theories of European integration?

**6.3./7.3. Session 2.**- How to understand European integration. Introducing the heterogeneous world of integration theories and the broader study of regionalism.

Readings:

- Wiener and Diez (2019), Introducing the Mosaic of Integration Theory, in Wiener, Börzel and Risse (eds), *European Integration Theory*, Oxford University Press.

- Börzel and Risse (2016), Introduction – Framework of the Handbook and Conceptual Clarifications, in the *Oxford Handbook of Comparative Regionalism*.

- Söderbaum, Fredrik (2016) – Comparative Regionalism – the History and Scholarly Development of the Field, in the *Oxford Handbook of Comparative Regionalism.*

**13.3./14.3. Session 3** Federalism

- John Erik Fossum & Markus Jachtenfuchs (2017) Federal challenges and challenges to federalism. Insights from the EU and federal states, Journal of European Public Policy, 24:4, 467-485.

- Daniel Kelem (2019) Federalism and European Integration, in Wiener, Börzel and Risse (eds), *European Integration Theory*, Oxford University Press.

**20.3./21.3. Session 4**. Intergovernmentalism

Readings:

- Moravcsik and Schimmelfennig (2019) Liberal-Intergovernmentalism, in Wiener, Börzel and Risse (eds), *European Integration Theory*, Oxford University Press

- Moravcsik, A., M.A Vachudova (2003). National Interests, State Power, and EU Enlargement, East European Politics and Societies, 17(1).

- Bickerton, CJ, Hodson, D, and Puetter, U ( 2015), The New Intergovernmentalism: European Integration in the Post‐Maastricht Era. *JCMS – Journal of Common Market Studies*, 53, 703– 722

**27.3./28.3. Session 5.** Neo-functionalism

Readings:

- Arne Neimann, Zoe Lefkofridi and Phillippe C. Schimtter (2019) Neo-functionalism, in in Wiener, Börzel and Risse (eds), *European Integration Theory*, Oxford University Press

- Wayne Sandholtz and Alec Stone Sweet (2012) Neo-functionalism and Supranational Governance, in by Erik Jones, Anand Menon, and Stephen Weatherill (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of the European Union*.

**3.4./4.4. Session 6.** Post-functionalism

Readings:

- Liesbet Hooghe and Gary Marks (2009)‘A Postfunctionalist Theory of European Integration: From Permissive Consensus to Constraining Dissensus’, *British Journal of Political Science*

-Frank Schimmelfennig (2018) ‘Brexit: differentiated disintegration in the European Union’, -*Journal of European Public Policy*, 25:8.

-Mats Braun (2019)Postfunctionalism, Identity and the Visegrad Group, *JCMS - Journal of Common Market Studies*,  <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcms.12994>

**11.4. Session 7. The EU as a Normative Power and Climate Change**

Reading: TBS

**17.4./18.4. Session 8.** Social Constructivism

Readings:

-Thomas Risse (2019) Social Constructivism and European Integration, in Wiener, Börzel and Risse (eds), *European Integration Theory*, Oxford University Press.

- Manners, I. (2002), Normative Power Europe: A Contradiction in Terms?. *JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies*, 40: 235-258.

**24.4/25.4. Session 9**. New institutionalism

Readings:

- Mark A. Pollack (2019) Rational Choice and Historical Institutionalism, in Wiener, Börzel and Risse (eds), *European Integration Theory*, Oxford University Press.

- Jeffrey Lewis (2005) The Janus Face of Brussels: Socialization and Everyday Decision making in the European Union, *International Organization* 59:4. 937-971

**2.5. Session 10. The Concept of Europeanization and the EU’s Internal Climate Agenda – hybrid lecture with participation from partner universities**

Readings: Braun, M., Ch. 6. In *Europeanization of Environmental Policy in the New Europe – Beyond Conditionality*

**9.5. Session 11. How does the War in Ukraine affect EU climate mitigation policy? Seminar with invited students from partner universities.**

**15.5.16/5. Session 12.** International Political Economy and European Integration

Readings:

- Bastian van Apeldoorn and Laura Horn (2019) Critical Political Econom, in Wiener, Börzel and Risse (eds), *European Integration Theory*, Oxford University Press.

*-* Orfeo Fioretos (2013) The Domestic Sources of Multilateral Preferences: Varieties of Capitalism in the European Community, in Hall, P. A. and D. Soskice (eds.) Varieties of Capitalism – the institutional foundations of comparative advantage . Oxford University Press.