

COURSE DESCRIPTION (Group C)

Course code	Course group	Volume in ECTS credits	Course valid from	Course valid to	Reg. No.
PPE1002	C	4			

Course type (compulsory or optional)	Compulsory
Course level (study cycle)	Bachelor
Semester the course is delivered	Spring semester, 1st year
Study form (face-to-face or distant)	Face-to-face

Course title in Lithuanian

ES politika (2)

Course title in English

European Union Politics (2)

Short course annotation in Lithuanian (up to 500 characters)

Kurso paskirtis – studijuoti Europos Sąjungos institucinę struktūrą ir viešosios politikos procesą. Analizuojama Komisijos, Tarybos, Europos Parlamento, kitų institucijų formavimas, funkcijos bei galios. Studijuojami Europos teisės aktai, vieningos rinkos formavimasis, atskiros Europos Sąjungos politikos sritys, struktūriniai fondai, Lietuvos integraciniai procesai.

Short course annotation in English (up to 500 characters)

The course is aimed at studying the European Union institutions and policy-making, such as the Commission, the Council, the European Parliament and others, their formation, functions and powers are to be analyzed. European legal acts, formation of the single market, particular EU policies, budget, structural funds, Lithuanian integration processes are to be studied.

Prerequisites for entering the course

No obligatory preparation for the course is required

Course aim

Acquiring abilities to understand supranational and intergovernmental nature of the European Union, main actors and institutions.

Links between study programme outcomes, course outcomes and criteria of learning achievement evaluation

Study programme outcomes	Course outcomes	Criteria of learning achievement evaluation
1. To assess the links between political and economic structures of various political systems	Understanding the European integration process in view of the dimensions of its enlargement and deepening;	Correct understanding of two dimensions of the European integration, enlargement and deepening. Overview of main forces behind the EU integration. Reasons behind the historical EU integration and deepening processes.
	Distinguishing the types of primary and secondary European legal acts;	Ability to recognize compulsory EU legal acts and recommendations, their implementation processes and sanctions' mechanism. Knowledge of types of European legal acts, such as Treaties and secondary acts, correct methods of distinguishing between them.
	Understanding the formation of Single Market and specific areas of the European Union policy;	Ability to recognize and explain the characteristics of the four freedoms of the Single Market, conceptualizing main areas of the European Union policy and their understanding. A student is able to define EU supranational, intergovernmental, regulative and other policy types and to connect them to the EU financing perspectives.

	Characterizing the functions, roles, powers, and influence of specific European Union institutions within legislation procedures;	Correct description of formation of roles and functions of specific European Union institutions (the Commission, the Council, the Parliament, and other institutions), knowledge of their power and influence within legislation procedures.
2. To conduct comparative analysis of political and economic processes and phenomena and forecast these processes development prospects	Compare European Union political system with other political systems	Ability to see similarities and differences between European Union political system and national political systems
	Forecast the development of European integration by comparison with other political systems	Ability to see European Union political system in historical perspective

Link between course outcomes and content

Course outcomes	Content (topics)
1. Understanding the European integration process in view of the dimensions of its enlargement and deepening;	History of the European integration process The past and future of EU enlargement
2. Distinguishing the types of primary and secondary European legal acts;	Founding treaties of European Union and their past and future amendments European Union legislation procedures and legal acts. The EU judicial system and judicial review.
3. Understanding the formation of Single Market and specific areas of the European Union policy;	Different EU policies: trade policy, agriculture policy, regional policy and cohesion, common defence and security policy Formation and regulation of the Single Market.
4. Characterizing the functions, roles, powers, and influence of specific European Union institutions within legislation procedures	Bodies and institutions of the European Union: European Parliament, European Commission, consultative institutions, auditing institutions. Europeanization of national bodies and institutions.
5. Compare European Union political system with other political systems	European Union institutions in comparative perspective: legislature, executive, judiciary, interest groups
6. Forecast the development of European integration by comparison with other political systems	The transformation of the nation state from Westphalian system to EU system The imitation of EU model: regional integration and EU relations with other regional blocks

Study (teaching and learning) methods

Teaching methods: providing the knowledge and relevant information by using traditional methods and e-technologies: power point slides, commenting of video records, analysis of practical cases and events issues, interactive discussions, group work during the lectures in performing specific tasks, consultations by email and verbal consultations.

Studying methods: analysis of scientific literature, video analysis, document analysis and analysis of the other sources.

Methods of learning achievement assessment

Testing, observation and commenting of verbal presentations, student's activities in interactive discussions during the lectures.

Distribution of workload for students (contact and independent work hours)

Lectures – 30 hours;

Writing paper – 60 hours;

Individual work (including preparation for the mid-term and final exams) – 50 hours.

Structure of cumulative score and value of its constituent parts

Paper – 20 %, mid-term exam – 30 %, final exam – 50 %.

Recommended reference materials

No.	Publication year	Authors of publication and title	Publishing house	Number of copies in		
				University library	Self-study rooms	Other libraries

Basic materials

1.	2006	Hix S. Europos	Eugrimas	14		
----	------	----------------	----------	----	--	--

		Sajungos politinė sistema.				
2.	2011	Hix Simon, Hoyland Bjorn. The political system of the European Union.	Palgrave Macmillan	1		
3.	2011	Staab Andreas. The European Union explained. Second edition.	Indiana University Press: Bloomington	1		
4.	2008	Vitkus G. (ed). Europos Sąjunga. Enciklopedinis žinynas	Eugrimas	21		
5.	2005	Wallace H., Wallace W., Pollack M.A. Policy-Making in the European Union.	Oxford University Press	1		
<i>Additional literature</i>						
6.	2008	Rhodes R., Binder S., Rockman B., The Oxford Handbook of Political Institutions.	Oxford University Press: USA.	1		
7.	2012	Van Vooren Bart, EU external relations law and the European neighbourhood policy: a paradigm for coherence	Routledge: London and New York	1		
8.	2002	Gales Le.P., Lequesne C. Regions in Europe.	London;New York: Routledge	1		
9.	2000	The new institutional politics: performance and outcomes /Jan-Erik Lane and Svante Ersson	Routledge, London, New York	1		
10.	1999	Cairns W. Europos Sąjungos teisės įvadas.	Eugrimas	18		
Course programme designed by						
Assoc.prof.A.Pukšto, PhD student V.Isoda, Department of Political Science, VMU						