

【Course Description】

This course presents what regional economic integration is and how it has been established while considering the case of Europe - the European Union. The EU, currently composed of 28 countries, is facing a lot of economic difficulties while enjoying a fairly high-level of economic development. The course studies the current economic situations the EU is facing.

【Class Goals】

- 1) To understand the outline of the EU history and institutional structure.
- 2) To understand the current fiscal and financial situations of the EU.
- 3) To understand the actual policy challenges of the EU.

【Course Schedule】

- 1: Guidance
- 2: Historical Development
- 3: Institution and Budget
- 4: Important Characteristics of the EU Economy
- 5: The European Monetary System
- 6: The European monetary union
- 7: Midterm Report and Discussion -1-
- 8: Fiscal Policy and the Stability Pact
- 9: Economic Integration and Its Impact
- 10: Taxation and the European Business Environment
- 11: Midterm Report and Discussion -2-
- 12: Economic Integration and Economic Policies
- 13: Sustainable Development Policy as a Basis of Economic Policies - the EU -
- 14: Sustainable Development Policy as a Basis of Economic Policies - Nordic countries -
- 15: Industrial Competitiveness Policies - the EU -
- 16: Industrial Competitiveness Policies - Nordic countries -
- 17: Midterm Report and Discussion -3-
- 18: Environmental Policies - the EU-
- 19: Environmental Policies - Nordic countries -
- 20: Social Policy - the EU -
- 21: Social Policy - Nordic countries -
- 22: Midterm Report and Discussion -4-
- 23: Employment Policy
- 24: Competition Policy
- 25: Agricultural Policy
- 26: Regional Policy
- 27: Midterm Report and Discussion -5-
- 28: Conclusions - the Future Perspective of the EU
- 29: Concluding Discussion
- 30: Q&A Session

【Preparation for Class】

Students are required to read the text/sub-text and the course outline as well as the related newspaper article and e-materials which are available on the Webpage in advance. 2 hours to be spent at each session.

【Review of Class】

Students are recommended to summarize the lecture and note your own remarks on it. 2 hours to be spent at each session.

【Remarks for Class】

Prerequisites: KC-2103 (Introduction to Economics B) or Consent of Instructor. And students are advised to pay attention to political economic news and to read newspaper articles on these topics on a daily basis.

【Texts】

Texts will be delivered in advance through the webpage.

【Reference Books】

To be available on ItsClass Site.

【Evaluation Criteria】

- 40% - Final Essay
- 30% - Mid-term reports and presentations/discussions
- 30% - Session participation and discussion

【Notes】