# European Economy

## Prof. Emilio Colombo

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to provide students with interpretative keys to understand and critically analyse the process of European integration by examining its economic effects and implications. The course will attempt to give answers to the main open questions in Europe. What are the effects of the European integration? What are the effects of the Euro? How binding is EU law? How far can the integration process go?

*Knowledge and understanding.* The students will study in-depth the economic analytical tools related to the analysis of the European integration process, using standard tools of microeconomics and macroeconomics.

*Ability to apply knowledge and understanding.* Students will be able to understand and interpret economic data and EU policies.

*Independence of judgement.* Students will be able to critically analyse economic policy decisions such as trade agreements, competition policies in the EU and ECB monetary policy decisions.

*Ability to learn*. Students will be able to understand both the textbook and the reading and the journal articles presented during the course.

***COURSE CONTENT***

* Historical overview on the European integration
* The European institutions: role and functions
* Duties, tariffs and preferential trade liberalization
* The market size and economies of scale
* The integration of the labour market, mobility and migration
* The Common Agricultural Policy
* Regional economic policies
* Competition policies in EU
* The commercial policy of the EU
* European monetary integration and the theory of optimum currency areas
* The Euro and the monetary policy in EU
* Fiscal policy and the stability pact

***READING LIST***

R. Baldwin-C. Wyplosz, *The Economics of European Integration* (7th edition). Ch.1, 2, 5, 6, 8-17.

Lecture notes made available by the lecturer on Blackboard.

There is an old version of the text in Italian that can be used to study the main concepts.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will be assessed through a written test consisting of one section of multiple-choice questions and one section of open-ended questions.

Further details will be provided on the course Blackboard page.

The evaluation takes into account the students’ level of understanding and their knowledge of content as well as the quality of their answers (structure, accuracy, comprehensiveness and use of appropriate vocabulary).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Students are required to have the knowledge of the essential tools of microeconomics and macroeconomics taught in the course Principles of Economics.

Further information can be found on the lecturer’s webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENGor on the Faculty notice board.