

1. OVERVIEW

Subject Area	European Union Law
Degree	Bachelor's Degree in Law
School/Faculty	Faculty of Social Sciences
Year	Second
ECTS	6
Type	Core
Language(s)	Spanish
Delivery Mode	On campus
Semester	First

2. INTRODUCTION

Since its accession in 1986, Spain has been part of the international organisation that best represents the model of peaceful integration between sovereign states.

The European Union, despite its shortcomings and much needed improvements, has facilitated the longest period of peace and prosperity in European history. Its citizens enjoy levels of freedom, tolerance and solidarity that are found nowhere else in the world.

This subject area aims to familiarise students with the European Union, its *raison d'être*, how it functions and governing bodies, as well as the key role its initiatives and legislation play in the daily lives of its citizens.

Thus, we will study its background, when it was created and how it has been built. We will also address its nature and system of competences, resulting from the express conferral of the Member States. We will then analyse its institutions, its legal procedures, sources of law and the rules that govern the relations between these sources and the respective domestic systems of the countries within it. We will then look at its main achievements, such as the single market, the Economic and Monetary Union, the Charter of Fundamental Rights and European citizenship. Finally, we will look at a selection of its major common policies.

3. SKILLS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Basic skills (CB, by the acronym in Spanish):

- CB1: Students have demonstrated possession and understanding of knowledge in a study area that builds on general secondary education, and is typically at a level that, while supported by advanced textbooks, also includes aspects that involve knowledge from the forefront of their field of study.

- CB2: Students can apply their knowledge to their work professionally and possess the necessary skills, usually demonstrated by forming and defending opinions, as well as resolving problems within their study area.
- CB3: Students have the ability to gather and interpret relevant information (usually within their study area) to form opinions which include reflecting on relevant social, scientific or ethical matters.
- CB4: Students can communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- CB5: Students have developed the learning skills necessary to undertake further study in a much more independent manner.

Cross-curricular skills (CT, as per the Spanish acronym):

- CT01: Responsibility: Students should be able to accept the consequences of and take responsibility for their own actions.
- CT02: Self-confidence: Students should be able to act with confidence and with sufficient motivation to achieve their objectives.
- CT04: Communication skills: Students should be able to effectively express concepts and ideas, as well as possess clear and concise written communication skills and effective public speaking skills.

Specific skills (CE, as per the Spanish acronym):

- CE01: Know and understand the components, structure, resources, interpretation and application of the legal system, and interpret the sources and fundamental legal concepts of the different legal systems.
- CE12: Develop critical awareness in the study of the legal system.
- CE13: Understand how legal institutions work.

Learning outcomes (RA, as per the Spanish acronym):

- RA1: Understanding of the nature, meaning, objectives and logic of the European communities. Identification and understanding of its institutional system, difference between the various EU laws and their characteristics.
- RA2: Knowledge of EU decision-making and law-making processes and understanding of how the domestic law of the Member States interacts with EU law.
- RA3: Definition of EU powers and identification and understanding of the different EU policies.
- RA4: Application of theory in practice, understanding and interpretation of EU texts and problem-solving through the use of EU law.

The following table shows how the skills developed in the course match up with the intended learning outcomes:

Skills	Learning outcomes
CB1, CB4, CB5, CT01, CT02, CT04, CE01, CE13	RA1
CB3, CB4, CB5, CT01, CT02, CT04, CE12	RA2
CB2, CB4, CB5, CT01, CT02, CT04, CE01	RA3
CB2, CB4, CB5, CT01, CT02, CT04, CE01	RA4

4. CONTENTS

The contents of this subject area are divided into the following nine units:

- Unit 1 - History of the EU.
- Unit 2 - European integration process.
- Unit 3 - Nature and system of powers.
- Unit 4 - Institutions.
- Unit 5 - Legal system.
- Unit 6 - The single market.
- Unit 7 - The Economic and Monetary Union.
- Unit 8 - EU citizenship and fundamental rights.
- Unit 9 - Common policies.

Lectures and tutorials will be combined with activities to be completed by students individually or in groups, such as the analysis of judgments, spoken presentations, text commentaries, essays, debates or mock scenarios.

5. TEACHING/LEARNING METHODS

The types of teaching/learning methods are as follows:

- Case studies.
- Collaborative learning.
- Problem-based learning.
- Lecture.
- Mock scenarios.

6. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

The types of learning activities, plus the amount of time spent on each activity, are as follows:

Learning activity	Number of hours
Lectures	25 h
Application of ICT to professional activity	25 h
Build knowledge of comparative law	12.5 h
Autonomous learning	12.5 h
Theory/practical knowledge tests	37.5 h
Case studies	25 h
Development of legal argumentation technique.	12.5 h
TOTAL	150 h

7. ASSESSMENT

The assessment methods, plus their weighting in the final grade for the course, are as follows:

Assessment system	Weighting
Essays and reports	20%
Presentations	15%
Practical exercises	25%
Knowledge tests	40%

On the Virtual Campus, when you open the subject area, you can see all the details of your assessment activities, including the deadlines and assessment procedures for each activity.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Core legislation

“Tratado de la Unión Europea y Tratado de Funcionamiento de la Unión Europea” (Editorial Tecnos. 2012).

Core bibliography

“El ABC del Derecho de la Unión Europea” (Klaus-Dieter Borchardt. OPUE. 2017)

Recommended bibliography

- “Derecho de la Unión Europea” (C. Molina del Pozo. Editorial Reus. 2019)
- “Instituciones y Derecho de la Unión Europea” (A. Mangas. Editorial Tecnos. 2020)
- “Instituciones de la Unión Europea” (C. Escobar. Editorial Tirant lo Blanch. 2020)
- “Nociones básicas de Derecho de la Unión Europea” (C. Fernández de Casadeventa. Editorial Ramón Areces, 2021)

Online resources

- Portal web de la Unión Europea: https://europa.eu/european-union/index_es

9. PLAGIARISM RULES

In line with the disciplinary rules for students of Universidad Europea:

- Plagiarism of all or part of any kind of intellectual work is considered a serious offence.
- Any student who commits the serious offence of plagiarism or cheating to pass an assessment test shall be disqualified from the corresponding exam(s), with the offence and reason for disqualification appearing on their academic record.