EU Security Policy (MA, 4 credits, winter term)

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Course Description
The course focuses on key topics of contemporary European security policy, with a clear focus on the EU. The course will examine concepts & theories used to make sense of EU security policy; the European External Action Service (EU diplomatic service); big & small states in EU security policy; EU strategy; resilience as a principle of EU security policy; governance of EU security missions; EU & the securitisation of refugees; EU – Russia relations; Islamic terror & EU counter-terrorism; NATO.

Aims
- The aim of the course is to provide students with a thorough empirical knowledge of EU security policy so as to make them experts in one of the most dynamic areas of European integration;
- equip them with the conceptual tools to examine EU security policy;
- equip them with the cognitive skills to critically engage with the policy domain;
- enable them to develop their own standpoint with regard to the pros and cons of the institutionalisation of collective European security policy and the challenges and opportunities faced by the EU as it evolves its international security role.

Learning Outcomes
- By the end of the course students will have the factual knowledge to understand and discuss the key actors, institutions, decision-making processes, policies and achievements/failures of European security policy;
- distinguish between facts and opinions concerning Europe’s quest for its own international security role;
- compare, contrast and evaluate different accounts of the driving forces behind the EU security policy and the determinants of its policy processes;
- critically reflect upon and evaluate EU interventions abroad.

Teaching method
This course combines short lectures by the course convenor with student-driven seminar discussions and other activities. Seminar discussions are structured around a short presentation (15-20 minutes) of the assigned texts, in which the presenters summarise and critically evaluate the readings. This is followed by class discussions of the various points raised by the readings. For the quality of these discussions, it is crucial that all come to class having done the required readings and being fully prepared to take part in a dialogue. Given the subject matter of the class, there is not necessarily always a right answer. Besides getting the facts right it is therefore important to focus and critically reflect on what the authors think and how they argue.

Method of Assessment
The final grade is made up of the following components:
1. Seminar attendance (mandatory) and participation: 20%
2. Two oral presentation of assigned texts: 25% each
3. Final quiz: 30%

Schedule of Seminars & Readings
Seminar 1: Course Intro; 14 January

Seminar 2: no class – preparatory reading

PART I: Theories

Seminar 3: EU Security Policy – A Brief History;
- no readings!

Seminar 4: EU Security Policy – A Constructivist Cut

Further Readings:
Houndmills: Palgrave, 2010, chapter by Bickerton

Seminar 5: EU Security Policy - A Realist Cut

Further Readings:
Andrej Kreutz (2016): Russia's Place in the World
Seminar 6: EU Security Policy – A Liberal Cut
- Bickerton; tba

Further Readings:

Seminar 7: EU Security Policy - A Marxist Cut

PART II: Policy

Seminar 8: The European External Action Service

Further Readings:

Seminar 9: Big States in EU
- Tba

Further Readings:


Seminar 10: Small States in EU

Further Readings:


Seminar 11: EU Strategy
- Sven Biscop (2016) All or nothing? The EU Global Strategy and defence policy after the Brexit, Contemporary Security Policy, 37:3, 431-445

Seminar 12: Resilience
- Ana E. Juncos (2016): Resilience as the new EU foreign policy paradigm: a pragmatist turn?, European Security

Further Readings:
Wolfgang Wagner & Rosanne Anholt (2016) Resilience as the EU Global Strategy’s new leitmotif: pragmatic, problematic or promising?, Contemporary Security Policy, 37:3, 414-430
Seminar 13: Administrative Governance of EU Security Missions

Further Readings:

Seminar 14: EU & Refugees
- Tba

Seminar 15: NATO 1
- TBA

Further Readings:

Seminar 16: NATO 2
Seminar 17: EU & Russia
- Cristian Nitoiu (2016) Russia and the EU’s quest for status: the path to conflict in the post-Soviet space, Global Affairs, 2:2, 143-153

Seminar 18: Ukraine & European Security; 27 March
- Elias Götz (2016) Russia, the West, and the Ukraine crisis: three contending perspectives, Contemporary Politics, 22:3, 249-266

Further Reading:

Seminar 19: Islamic Terror & EU Counter-Terrorism 1

Seminar 20: Counter-Terrorism 2
Guest Lecture

Seminar 21: Final Quiz: