

**EURO 4007 European Economic and Business (3,3,0) (G)**  
**Life: Wirtschaft im Wandel/Deutsch-chinesische Wirtschaftsbeziehungen**

Prerequisite: GERM 4008 European Language in Context III (German) and EURO 4016 Contemporary European Societies II: Struktur und Zukunft der Sozialen Marktwirtschaft or equivalent

This course discusses recent developmental trends in the economies of German-speaking Europe and, in particular, economic relations between China/Hong Kong and the German-speaking countries. It will look at specific business processes and current issues affecting enterprises in Europe and China/Hong Kong. Its objective is to familiarize students with actual business challenges arising from general political and economic changes, thereby providing insights into potential career fields for graduates.

The course may include guest speakers from the business sector and visits to enterprises and business-related institutions in Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta.

The course is held entirely in German.

**EURO 4015 Contemporary European Societies II: questions d'actualité (3,2,1) (F)**

Prerequisite: EURO 2005 Contemporary European Societies I: The French-Speaking Countries and Internship year in French-speaking Europe or equivalent or Ability to use French for Academic Purposes in speech, writing and reading

This is the second part of a course which spans the year in Europe and builds on the themes examined in the first part (EURO 2110) in the light of students' living and learning experience in a European French-speaking country. The course outline varies from year to year, since it consists of a review of the current events and trends to be observed in Belgium, France, Luxembourg and Switzerland in the social, political and economic field. Support materials mainly comprise the latest press articles and various official and non-governmental institutions' data available online in French.

**EURO 4016 Contemporary European Societies II: Struktur und Zukunft der Sozialen Marktwirtschaft (3,3,0) (G)**

Prerequisite: EURO 2006 Contemporary European Societies I: The German-Speaking Countries and Internship year in German-speaking Europe or equivalent or Ability to use German for Academic Purposes in speech, reading and writing

This course examines the economies of the German-speaking area of Europe from 1945 to the present, with an emphasis on the German "Social Market Economy". Where appropriate, it takes students' working experience in Year III internships into account. Based on earlier traditions, the Federal Republic of Germany purposely developed a specific political and economic system, the "Social Market Economy". It created an extensive welfare state, but also institutions, which emphasized non-confrontational, cooperative action of employers and employees within a free market. Austria and Switzerland pursued similar strategies. These neo-corporatist structures underpinned the post-war "economic miracles" and decisively shaped contemporary culture.

In recent years, however, SMEs face serious challenges. Social services expansion outpaced economic growth. The systems became too costly and are further affected by demographic trends, structural change in the industry and attendant unemployment, European integration and the globalization of trade and capital markets. Germany has also had to cope with the unforeseen cost of reunification. As a consequence, the SMEs are undergoing lengthy and painful reforms. New industrial, labour, fiscal and educational policies are pursued to sustain the development of globally competitive, "post-industrial" service economies, while at the same time trying to retain as much as possible the original consensus models.

This course is held entirely in German.

**EURO 4898-9 Honours Project (European Studies) (6,\*,\*)**

Prerequisite: Year IV Standing in the European Studies major  
The Honours Project is an independent academic research project about a topic chosen and produced individually by the student under the supervision of a member of staff. The topic should fall within the general area of social sciences, with an emphasis on Europe and/or the geographic areas covered in the European Studies programme.

**EURO 7010 European Integration and European Governance (3,3,0)**

The course covers both European comparative politics and European integration. It presents the main features of political institutions and political sociology of European countries. It examines the causes and historical evolution of European unification and then looks analytically at the institutions and the policies of the Union, assessing their effectiveness and investigating their implications for the rest of the world. It also provides a critical review of the main theoretical contributions to the debate on European integration, and explores the prospects for eastwards enlargement in the post-Communist period and the future directions that the EU may take.

**EURO 7020 Topics in Political Economy: Europe and China (3,3,0)**

This course focuses on the core approaches to comparative political economy and looks comparatively at the changing relations between (1) capital and labour, (2) states and markets, and (3) governments and the economy in Europe and China respectively. It introduces students to the relationship between the political and economic underpinnings of functioning markets, and to provide students with a general understanding of the institutions, states, and personalities that historically and currently have shaped the trajectories of European and Chinese economic reforms. This course also focuses on developments at both the regional and the global levels which are re-shaping the EU and China, and the related diversity in economic and social performance respectively.

**EURO 7030 Europe and China in the International System: Political and Economic Relations (3,3,0)**

This course covers the historical perspectives as well as the current state of relationship between Europe and China, including political, economic and social-cultural dimensions. It enables students to understand the Chinese perceptions of Europe and the European perceptions of China. Since World War II and until the end of Cold War, Sino-European relations have undergone several major changes which are functions of the changes in the strategic triangle between China, the United States and the Soviet Union. After the opening up of China and the end of the Cold War, Sino-European relations have become a strong pillar in Chinese foreign policy in an attempt to counterbalance the dominance of the superpower, the United States. This course examines the role of Europe in Chinese foreign policy, the significance of the European economy for the Chinese modernization, and the uniqueness of China in the foreign policies of the EU and European countries.

**EURO 7040 European and Chinese Legal Issues (3,3,0)**

One often hear that one of the most important obstacle when making business with China's "socialist market economy" is a widespread misconception of law to the benefit of informal relations (so called guanxi) including illegal practices, a disorder legal system and a general lack of the rule of law. Without mentioning that most of Chinese trade-related laws are still incompatible with WTO rules. Conversely, Chinese partners with Europe usually consider that laws and regulations are there too numerous, extremely binding, complicated (the key principle is that a national court or tribunal must interpret domestic law in accordance with European law) and remain protectionists.

Chinese and European legal institutions appear to be so disparate that comparing them may seem really innovative but actually, it is truly impossible to engage in Euro-China relations without having a grasp of fundamental and up-to-date knowledge of legal issues of both sides.