

**EURO 3170 European Economic and Business (3,3,0) (G)**  
**Life: Wirtschaft in Wandel/Deutsch-chinesische Wirtschaftsbeziehungen**

Prerequisite: EURO 3120 Contemporary European Societies II: Struktur und Zukunft der Sozialen Marktwirtschaft and GERM 3111 European Language III (German)

Since the late 1990s, Germany, Austria and Switzerland have adapted to global economic forces by a restructuring of industries, both on a macro- and a microeconomic level. New management and production methods have changed the workplace and pose, above all, challenges to the education and training systems. The course will first discuss recent changes in the industry and their implications for the labour market. It will then investigate their effects on human resources development and present case studies of the new job market.

A key element of the new “knowledge economy” is the utilization of information technologies. The course will attempt to show how these are applied in industry and trade and how they affect commercial relation between Hong Kong and Europe (including language use). Emphasis will be given to business sectors most likely to employ students after graduation (e.g. marketing, merchandizing, human resources and information services). Guest speakers from the German, Austrian and Swiss Chambers of Commerce are invited to provide up-to-date briefings, whenever feasible. The course may involve project work. This course is open to European Studies majors only.

**EURO 3205 Comparative Politics of (3,2,1)**  
**Post-Communist Central Europe**

This is a course which examines new European Union Members States in Central Europe (in particular, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia) from both historical and comparative perspectives. It begins with a discussion of the nature and weaknesses of the Communist regimes of Eastern Europe and the causes and processes leading to the 1989 upheavals in the region. It then considers the paradoxes and obstacles in the course of post-Communist transitions to democracy, the market economy and the civil society. The key issues of democratic consolidation and pro-market transformation will be addressed.

**EURO 3591-2 Honours Project (European Studies) (3,\*,\*)**

The Honours Project is carefully selected and designed in collaboration between teachers, students, and possibly, external agencies. These projects, though rigorous in their essence, are less intended as pure exercises in academic research than as reports presented on topics directed towards real-life problems and situations encountered in Europe. Although usually written in English, the Honours Project will show bibliographical and citational familiarity with French or German language publications and sources. This course is open to European Studies majors only.

**EURO 4005 Current Issues of European Integration (3,2,1)**

This course aims at offering students a clear overview of the economic, political, social and diplomatic issues raised by recent institutional developments of the European Union. On the one hand, it consolidates knowledge of institutional structures and key policy-making processes in the recent years. On the other, it raises critical awareness of the deeper theoretical and practical questions these developments pose. One of the main components of the course is the growing importance of globalization and the opening of Europe to other regions of the world, in particular China and East-Asia. The course integrates theoretical perspectives and case studies.

**EURO 4006 European Economic and Business (3,3,0) (F)**  
**Life: travailler en contexte international**

Prerequisite: FREN 4008 European Language in Context III (French) and EURO 4015 Contemporary European Societies II: questions d'actualité or equivalent

This is mainly a project-based course in which students will use Web resources to set up a simulated professional situation involving representatives from the French-speaking European

countries and their international partners (from Hong Kong and/or the People's Republic of China).

Students are expected to develop their knowledge about the business world and its environment and to acquire a “know-how” tool set in an occupational context. The course will also enhance the students' communication and interpersonal skills in an international professional setting, with a special focus on the French-language work environment. These multi-faceted competencies will build a *savoir d'action* (“how to act”) transferable for successful transitions to work, and ultimately, careers within global companies/organizations.

**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 (3,2,1) (F)**  
**Societies II: questions d'actualité**

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 (3,3,0) (G)**  
**II: Struktur und Zukunft der Sozialen Marktwirtschaft**

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.

#### **EURO 7050 Methodology for Political Research (0,2,0)**

The course aims at teaching students to formalize their independent study project. It introduces to the different techniques available for field-work in political science, to the different approaches in comparative politics and international relations, and to think critically about the relation between fact-finding and theory building, between data collection and interpretation. Students are expected to present a written proposal for their Dissertation or Project at the end of the class.

#### **EURO 7060 Politics and Public Policy in China/ Hong Kong (3,3,0)**

Throughout the course we will be focusing on questions such as: In what ways have post-Mao reforms reshaped political rhetoric and rules of game in China? What can we learn about policy making and policy implementation by studying China as a case? In what ways globalization may affect governance in China? What are the consequences of Hong Kong's unique political situation? To what extent is policy in the SAR determined by (1) the weight of the past and (2) factors at the national level? Where does the real power in Hong Kong lie?

#### **EURO 7070 Politics of Industrial Relations and Welfare Systems in Europe and China (3,3,0)**

Industrial relations are a central part of political economy in both Europe and China. Europe is the birthplace of the industrial revolution, modern labour movements, and the welfare state, while China is undergoing a fundamental socioeconomic transformation that restructures its industrial relations and welfare regime. This course examines how politics, ideology, and institutions shape industrial relations and welfare systems in both Europe and China and explores theoretical and conceptual issues such as state-labour relations, class formation, citizenship, social rights, interest representation and intermediation, etc., in two different social and political contexts.

#### **EURO 7080 East-Central Europe and EU Enlargement (3,3,0)**

With the accession of ten new member states in mid-2004, the European Union embraces 25 countries, and its area of competence has widened to include monetary policy, security, as well as justice and home affairs. For the EU and the member states, enlargement provides significant opportunities and challenges. The course examines the historical and theoretical aspects of the enlargement debate. It considers the costs and benefits of enlargement and then looks analytically at the EU's capacity for institutional change and policy reform. It intends to explain how enlargement affects the future of the regional order in Europe.

#### **EURO 7090 European and Chinese Identities: Comparative Perspectives (3,3,0)**

The course will investigate the genesis of contemporary “European identity” as opposed to earlier concepts of “nationality” and “nation-building”, and the tensions which exist between the political unification project of European transnational elites and lasting notions of narrowly defined national identities. Comparative references to the ongoing debate about Chinese perceptions of national identity will be drawn throughout.