

in Europe. Essential information about current social, political and economic affairs in the German, Austrian and Swiss societies will be presented. This course follows an inductive approach. It aims to explore the extent to which historical and political conditions have shaped individual lifestyles and the *Weltbild* of contemporary citizens. This course is open to European Studies majors only.

**EURO 2140 The Political Economy of the European Union (3,2,1)**

Prerequisite: POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science or EURO 1111-2 Europe: Unity and Diversity

The progressive integration of the countries of Europe since the end of the Second World War has been one of the most original and significant developments in modern history. At the start the process was limited to six core countries in Western Europe and was concerned most exclusively with strictly economic matters. With the end of the Cold War the European Union has enlarged, and its area of competence has widened to include defence and security, justice and home affairs. The course 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 explores the issues arising from eastwards enlargement in the post-Communist period. Theoretically, it provides focused examination of the political economy of European integration, highlighting to the dynamic relationship between economic and political integration and the respective roles of states, markets and EU institutions. This course is open to Year II and Year III majors in GIS and Year II majors in European Studies only.

**EURO 2610 Comparative Politics of Post-Communist Central Europe (3,2,1)**

Prerequisite: POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science or EURO 1111-2 Europe: Unity and Diversity

This course examines the Central European states of Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia in historical and comparative context. It begins with a discussion of the nature and weaknesses of the Communist regimes of Eastern Europe and the causes and processes of the 1989 upheavals in the region. It then considers the paradoxes and obstacles in the course of post-Communist transition to democracy and the market economy. The key issues of democratic consolidation and pro-market transformation will be addressed.

**EURO 3110 Contemporary European Societies II: (3,2,1) *questions d'actualité***

Prerequisite: Internship year in French-speaking Europe or equivalent; ability to use French for Academic Purposes in speech, reading and writing

This is the second part of a course which spans the internship year in Europe and builds on the themes examined in the first part (see EURO 2110) in the light of students' living and learning experience in Europe. A review of the latest and current events to be observed in the French-speaking countries of Europe in the social, political and economic fields forms the basis of this course. The students are expected to link their experience in Europe with this most updated knowledge in order to be fully prepared for their future career in a French-speaking context. The course outline varies from year to year, according to the latest events and news of Belgium, Switzerland, Luxembourg and France. The course ends with a special focus on the position and contribution of these countries in the European Union. This course is open to European Studies majors only.

**EURO 3120 Contemporary European Societies II: (3,3,0) *Struktur und Zukunft der Sozialen Marktwirtschaft***

Prerequisite: EURO 2120 Contemporary European Societies I: The German-Speaking Countries or course instructor's approval

Based on earlier traditions, the Federal Republic of Germany purposely developed a specific political and economic system—the

"Social Market Economy (SME)". It created an extensive welfare state, but also institutions, which emphasized non-confrontational, co-operative action of employers and employees within a free market. Austria and Switzerland pursued similar strategies. The resulting "model Germany" underpinned the "economic miracle" of the Bonn republic after 1949 and decisively shaped its culture. In recent years, however, SMEs have faced serious challenges. Social services expansion outpaced economic growth. The system became too costly and was further affected by enormous demographic changes and (in the nineties) the cost of reunification. Increasing automation in the industry, changing management structures and the globalization of trade and capital markets all contributed to structural unemployment. At the beginning of the new millennium, Germany (as well as other European nations) needs to reform the SME. In the process, new industrial, labour, fiscal and educational policies are pursued to transform the country into a post-industrial service economy, while trying to retain, as much as possible, the characteristics of the successful consensus model of the SME. This course is open to European Studies majors only.

**EURO 3140 Current Issues of European Integration (3,2,1)**

Prerequisite: POLS 1120 Introduction to Political Economy or POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science (for GIS majors); or EURO 2140 The Political Economy of the European Union (for European Studies majors)

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 and results in recent years. On the other hand, 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. This course is open to Year III majors in GIS and Year IV majors in European Studies only.

**EURO 3160 European Economic and Business Life: (3,3,0) *travailler en contexte international***

Prerequisite: EURO 3110 Contemporary European Societies II: *questions d'actualité* and FREN 3111 European Language III (French)

The course is mainly based on a project that the students have to carry through to a successful conclusion through the teacher's supervision and advice. It is presented in a seminar format.

The project has to involve representatives from the French-speaking world as well as from Hong Kong/China. It means that the professional environment, which is to be imagined in consultation between the teacher and the students, sets up relations/contacts between institutions/companies/public authorities from a French-speaking country and their counterparts and/or partners in Hong Kong/China.

The various relations and contacts to be established in oral and written French will be presented under different forms: letters, interviews/discussions, faxes, telephone calls, e-mails, minutes, etc.

In order to increase the authenticity of the project, all data and resources necessary to the students to carry the project through to a conclusion (i.e. information about various existing companies/institutions, public authorities in French-speaking Europe and Hong Kong/China) are to be found on the Web.

The objectives of this course are (1) to train the students to be able to achieve efficiently common oral and written tasks in various professional situations in a French-language environment; (2) to enhance the students' understanding of multicultural professional contexts, where are involved (French-speaking) European and Hong Kong/Chinese counterparts; and (3) to help the students grasp the logic of professional contacts/relationship and increase their sense of initiative and self-reliance in this field. This course is open to European Studies majors only.