

Descriptif d'enseignement / *Course descriptions*

Etudiants internationaux uniquement / Only international students
Semestre 2

Titre du cours - *Course title*

Decision-making in the EU : a practical insight

Type de cours : Séminaire d'ouverture

Langue du cours/Language of instruction : English

Enseignant(s) – *Professor(s)*

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Résumé du cours – **Objectifs** - *Course description – Targets*

Main objectives :

- Provide a theoretical and practical understanding of the functioning of the EU political system.
- Experience how European institutions work in practice through simulations, become familiar with the different stages of the legislative cycle.

The European Union (EU) is currently facing several major challenges, at the top of which are a rising Euroscepticism and the exit of one of its Member States. In this critical context, this course will give students a comprehensive understanding of how the EU actually works through a theoretical approach, practical examples and simulations.

The course will provide an introduction to the complexity of European decision-making and EU policies.

Evaluation - *Assessment*

- Participation in simulation exercises (30%).
- Oral participation and presentation (30%).
- Final report (40%): explaining how the student understood the issue and built her/his negotiation strategy, based on research done to prepare the simulations cases.

Plan – **Séances** - *Course outline*

Students will learn how the European institutions work in practice (Commission, Parliament and Council), what other non-institutional players exist, and how legislation is negotiated at European level.

During the simulation exercises, students will take on different roles (Minister, Member of the European Parliament, etc.) and simulate meetings in the European Parliament and in the Council. They will learn to lead negotiations in a complex environment and will understand the impacts of bargaining and compromise building on the policy-making process.

The course will be based on the active participation of students. This will be done through oral presentation, press reviews, simulations of negotiations of EU legislation, and by discovering and analysing relevant documents and multimedia sources.

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- Warner, R. (2010), *Ecological Modernisation Theory: Towards a Critical Ecopolitics of Change*, *Environmental Politics*, Vo.19, N°4, 538-556
- Directorate-General for Internal Policies of the Union, Directorate for Legislative Coordination and Conciliations Conciliations and Codecision Unit, 'Codecision and Conciliation-A Guide to how the Parliament co-legislates under the Treaty of Lisbon', 51 pages.
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