



<b>Course title</b>	The Constitution of the EU and EU External Relations Law
<b>Course Code</b>	LAW401.1
<b>Category (core/elective)</b>	Core
<b>Level</b>	LLM
<b>Duration (semesters)</b>	1
<b>Semester when taught (autumn/spring)</b>	Autumn
<b>ECTS</b>	7.5
<b>Prerequisites</b>	None
<b>Responsible</b>	Dr. Andreas Pottakis

### **Course objectives**

The course introduces students to the basic principles, notions and institutional arrangements that constitute the European Union experiment. It purports to equip students with the essential knowledge and a critical approach to the EU model that will enable them to fully comprehend the context in which further analysis on the EU are offered by the program.

### **Course Description**

The European Union, treated as a unique experiment of institution-building beyond the strictly formatted confines of traditional international law, underwent a series of dynamic and constructive transformations. European integration remains first and foremost a process, while its conclusion is constantly evolving. Currently faced with an identity crises, the EU is re-inventing itself once more.

The course offers an overview of the principal institutions and actors in the decision and policy making system of the EU, their role, nature and competences.

The normative basis, the constitutional foundation upon which the EU is constructed and functions, are the focal points of the course.

It reflects on the position of the EU as a supra-national institution in the international arena,

and assesses its interrelation with its constituent Member States. The role of the EU in international organizations and its initiatives in the fields of security, defense and foreign policy inform the analysis offered by the course.

### Course Outline

The course is outlined in the following 13 components:

1. The nature and identity of the EU
2. Fundamental principles of the EU
3. Detecting the common constitutional traditions of Member States
4. EU institutional design
5. Decision-making in the EU
6. Law-making in the EU
7. The scope of EU policy-making, competences and soft law
8. Application and enforcement of EU laws and policies
9. The pillar structure and policy-making mechanisms
10. CFSP (Common Foreign and Security Policy)
11. ESDP (European Security and Defense Policy)
12. External competences. International and mixed agreements. The EU and its member states in international organizations
13. Reflecting on the constitutional future of the EU

### Educational Outcomes

Students will familiarize themselves with the institutional setting and the law and decision-making mechanisms of the EU. They will be confronted with the fundamental principles underpinning the Union constitution, and its interplay with Member States' legal orders.

The course purports to constitute the foundation for a clear and comprehensive understanding of the EU system. It offers students the critical understanding of the EU that is considered essential for the analysis offered in the rest of the programs' courses.

<b>Basic Textbook(s)</b>	D. Chalmers, G. Davies, G. Monti, European Union Law. Cases and Materials (CUP, 3 <sup>rd</sup> edn, 2014). P. Craig & G. de Burca, EU Law. Texts, Cases and Materials (OUP, 5 <sup>th</sup> edn, 2011). P. Craig & G. de Burca, The Evolution of EU Law (OUP, 2 <sup>nd</sup> edn, 2011). P. J. Kuijper et al., The Law of EU External Relations (OUP, 2013).
	I. Ward, A Critical Introduction to European Law (CUP, 3 <sup>rd</sup> edn, 2009). T. C. Hartley, European Union Law in a Global Context (CUP, 2004). G. de Burca & J. H. H. Weiler, The Worlds of European

<p><b>Basic Bibliography</b></p>	<p>Constitutionalism (2011).</p> <p>J. Bast &amp; A. von Bogdandy (eds), Principles of European Constitutional Law (Hart, 2011).</p> <p>T. Tridimas, The General Principles of EU Law (OUP, 3<sup>rd</sup> edn, 2014).</p> <p>J. Habermas, The Crisis of the European Union. A Response (Polity, 2013).</p> <p>P. Craig, The Lisbon Treaty. Law, Politics and Treaty Reform (OUP, 2013)</p> <p>J. H. H. Weiler, The Constitution of the EU (CUP, 1999).</p> <p>K. Lenaerts, P. Van Nuffel &amp; R Bray, Constitutional Law of the European Union (Sweet &amp; Maxwell, 2<sup>nd</sup> edn, 2004).</p> <p>A Arnall &amp; D. Wincott, Accountability &amp; Legitimacy in the European Union (OUP, 2003).</p> <p>P. Eeckhout, External Relations of the EU (OUP, 2003).</p> <p>G. de Baere, Constitutional Principles of EU External Relations (OUP, 2008).</p>
<p><b>Additional Bibliography</b></p>	<p>J. Habermas, The Postnational Constellation (Polity, 2000).</p> <p>N. MacCormick, Questioning Sovereignty (OUP, 2002).</p> <p>C Harlow, Accountability in the European Union (OUP, 2002).</p> <p>J. H. H. Weiler &amp; M. Wind, European Constitutionalism Beyond the State (CUP, 2003).</p> <p>WG Hart Workshop, European Union Law for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (Hart, 2004).</p> <p>A. Pottakis, Representative Democracy in Europe. The Democratic Legitimacy of Decision-making Institutions of the EU (VDM Verlag, 2009).</p> <p>J. Dickson, P. Eleftheriadis, Philosophical Foundations of EU Law (OUP, 2012).</p>

	D. Chalmers, European Union Public Law (CUP, 2012). G. Majone, Rethinking the Union of Europe Post-Crisis. Has Integration Gone Too Far? (CUP, 2014).
<b>Teaching Methodology</b>	Lectures: 12 lectures x 2 hours = 24 hours Tutorials: 7 tutorials x 2 hours = 12 hours Total: = 36 hours
<b>Evaluation</b>	Final Exam 70 = % Course Participation 30 = % Total 100 = %
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Location</b>	Athens
<b>General note</b>	While the 'Course Objectives' and 'Educational Outcomes' above remain immutable, the 'Course Content' and 'Course Outline' may be altered in order to accommodate students' needs and individual professors' approaches. Bibliography and reading materials may vary accordingly.