



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Regional and Urban Policy of the European Union - 54621

Last update 21-02-2021

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: European Studies

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Adi Weidenfeld

Coordinator Email: adi.weidenfeld@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: To be confirmed

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Adi Weidenfeld

Course/Module description:

The EU has adopted legally binding acts in regard to legislative/policy developments within aspects such as employment, transportation, the environment, and regional development. These fall under the 'umbrella' of European Spatial Planning (ESP), which has been going on for a long time along continuously intensified debates on its nature, budget, implication and competence. The key aspect of the European spatial-planning dimension has been the cohesion policy, its more recent reformed version and its budgetary streams including the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the Cohesion Fund (CF) and the European Social Fund (ESF). The 2008 global financial crisis and the most recent ones including Brexit and the COVID19 pandemic will play a significant role in shaping the EPS and implementing it in the future. In this module, the students will be introduced to the concept of urban and regional planning and the evolution of the ESP with a focus on the developments that have led to the current state of affairs with respect to spatial planning. It will address the abovementioned debates in light of contemporary major development in the of urban and regional features of the EU including diversity and complexity in addressing their challenges, which will be demonstrated in various case studies from across Europe. The module will include some several guest lectures from European academics in Germany and Italy.

Course/Module aims:

The aim of this module is to examine the logic, rationale and various concepts and debates surrounding the EU regional and urban policy. In particular the complexity and diversity of EU regions as well as the challenges, which shape current and emerging future European Spatial Policy will be explained.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

1. Understand the main features and concepts underlying EU urban and regional policy.
2. Critically explore the underlying rationale, concepts and logic behind the EU urban regional policy.
3. Engage in current debates on the future European spatial planning policy

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lectures and seminars

Course/Module Content:

Course/Module Content:

Part I: Introduction to the module and basic concepts

- 1. Aim, objectives and contents of the module*
- 2. Regions and regional development policy*
- 3. Features of the EU's regional and urban economic systems*
- 4. EU spatial planning policy*

Part II: The Logic, evolutions and principles of the Cohesion Policy

- 1. Evolution, governance and institutional challenges*
- 2. Operating principles*
- 3. Instruments and Eligibility*
- 4. Urban Policy*

5. Scale and impact (Guest lecturer)

Part III: A reformed EU cohesion Policy

- 1. Rationale behind rethinking the policy*
- 2. Place-based, governance, results, policy goals and conditionalities imperatives*
- 3. The programming period*

Part IV: Regional Innovation Policies and Smart Specialisation

- 1. Innovation and economic growth*
- 2. The case for innovation policy*
- 3. Smart Specialisation- rationale and logic*
- 4. Operationalising in Cohesion Policy*
- 5. Regional Development and Innovation Policies at EU level: matching Smart specialisation strategy and sustainable development goals*

Part V: Current changes and conclusions

- 1. The EU and its neighbors: tiered integration and regional development (Guest lecturer)*
- 2. Weaknesses and strengths of the cohesion policy*
- 3. Current debates and future implication of the Cohesion Policy*
- 4. Brexit and Covid19 impact on the New Cohesion Policy*

Required Reading:

Vanhove, N., 1999. Regional Policy: A European Approach. Routledge London and New York, chapters 1, 3, 7

McCann, P., 2015. The Regional and Urban Policy of the European Union: Cohesion, Result-orientation and Smart Specialisation. Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, UK

Additional Reading Material:

Vanhove, N., 1999. Regional Policy: A European Approach. Routledge London and New

York, chapters 1,3,7

McCann, P., 2015. The Regional and Urban Policy of the European Union: Cohesion, Result-orientation and Smart Specialisation. Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, UK

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 10 %

Participation in Tutorials 10 %

Project work 30 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 50 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information:

1. Overview presentation of one of the most recent trends in the EU's regional and urban economic systems

2. A brief formative presentation on an EU cohesion policy project and programme followed by a summative critical review

3. Written Policy report