

# SUMMER COURSE CLASS DESCRIPTION

## Experience the Spirit of Europe

<b>Name of class:</b> Introduction to European Union (EU)	<b>Module leader:</b> Prof. Dr. Hans Mackenstein	<b>University:</b> Aachen University of Applied Sciences, Germany
<b>Contact hours: 1.5</b>		

### COURSE DESCRIPTION / AIMS

Students will

- have a basic understanding of the political system of the EU,
- have a basic knowledge of the EU's institutional structure and workings, including the main EU institutions and how they make policy,
- have a basic knowledge of EU policy fields,
- understand the relationship between the EU and its member states.

### PREREQUISITES

None.

### CONTENT

What is the European Union (EU)? How does it work? What are the main EU policy-making bodies? How do member states relate to the EU institutions? How do EU institutions interact and work with one another? In what fields does the EU produce public policy? The EU is a complex, unique organization that is neither a state, a federation nor an international organization like, for instance, the Council of Europe, the United Nations or NATO. This course is an introduction to the political system of the EU and provides an overview of the various institutions, their interactions and the way they make policy. It also offers a brief survey of key policies of the European Union, such as Economic and Monetary Union, Common Agricultural Policy, Common Foreign and Security Policy, etc. The course discusses the institutional set-up of the EU, EU policy making processes and policy areas.

### LEARNING METHODS

Lecture and interactive class discussion.

### ASSESSMENT

Compulsory attendance; continuous assessment based on the students' participation. Examination at the end of the Summer Course.