

Center for West European Studies/European Union Center Undergraduate Certificate in European Union Studies

The European Union (EU) has become an essential subject of study for Americans. Social science and business majors will particularly benefit from an understanding of the EU, its policies, and its impact on relations with the U.S. The Certificate in EU Studies provides a focus for students who wish to examine the EU from a multidisciplinary and cross-regional (east-west) perspective.

This certificate will equip its graduates with the skills and knowledge to pursue successful careers in both public and private organizations and to continue to study European integration at the graduate level. It offers an *official* credential that will assist students as they apply to competitive graduate programs in a number of disciplines and to corporations and organizations that interact with the European Union.

The University of Pittsburgh is an internationally recognized center for European Union studies. Selected in 1998, Pitt is one of 15 European Union (EU) Centers in the United States. As such, the Center brings distinguished European Union scholars and practitioners to campus, holds frequent lectures, supports the development of courses on the European Union, funds EU-related research, and sponsors an annual Model EU conference.

Academic Requirements

To complete the certificate, a student must complete 18 credits of EU Studies courses, up to 16 credits in an approved foreign language, and two “co-curricular” activities.

1. European Union Studies (Content) Courses

To complete the certificate, a student must complete six EU studies courses *from at least three different departments*. These courses will include:

- One course on the historical foundation of the EU (see approved course list)
- PS 1317 Politics of the EU
- Three courses on the EU or with significant EU content (see approved course list)
- PS 1330 European Union Studies Capstone Seminar

Ideally, students will take PS 1330, **European Union Studies Capstone Seminar**, during the fall semester of their senior year, after they have taken several EU studies courses, including PS 1317. For students completing an honors thesis on the European Union, this course requirement may be waived.

A booklet listing the approved courses for the upcoming semester or term is available in CWES/EUC a week to ten days prior to the start of registration.

2. Language Courses

Students must complete the *fourth semester* of an official European Union language (excluding English). Acceptable languages that are currently available at Pitt through the fourth semester include: Spanish, German, French, Italian, Swedish, (Modern) Greek, Portuguese, Hungarian, Polish (3 years), and Slovak (3 years). Students may request placement tests through the language departments.

3. Co-curricular Activities Requirement

In addition to the course requirements, students also must meet the following requirements:

- Students must be enrolled in the certificate program for a minimum of two semesters and attend at least two EUC lectures or roundtables per semester, for a total of four lectures prior to graduation. Attendance is taken at each lecture/roundtable.
- Every EU Studies certificate student must participate in at least one approved European Union activity prior to graduation. This may include Pitt's annual Model EU (see below), a relevant internship, presenting a research paper on the EU at the annual Undergraduate Research Symposium (see below), or participation in an EU-themed study abroad program. Students may discuss these and other options with the Assistant Director.

European Union Lecture Series

The European Union Center sponsors frequent lectures on the EU presented by diplomats and EU practitioners, visiting scholars, or Pitt faculty and graduate students with expertise in the EU. These events are announced by e-mail each week and in our newsletter.

Model European Union

Each spring, CWES/EUC sponsors the Model EU, a simulation of a European Council Meeting. To participate, students should indicate their interest to the Assistant Director.

Study Abroad Opportunities

EU Studies Certificate students are encouraged to participate in a study (or internship) abroad program with an EU theme. The Assistant Director collects information on such programs. Additional information may be obtained at the Study Abroad Office, 802 WPU.

CWES/EUC offers the **Kessler Fellowship** for study abroad in Germany. Applications are typically available in February and due in March. A \$1000 award is awarded every other year.

Europe: East and West Undergraduate Research Symposium

Participants present their research on Europe or Russia in this competition for cash prizes, held each spring. Go to www.ucis.pitt.edu/URSymposium for more information.

Assistance with EU Research

The EU Library Research Advisor is available to assist undergrads with EU-related research. Go to www.ucis.pitt.edu/cwes/advisor.html for advice, resources, and to make an appointment.

Certificate Advising

In order to obtain maximum benefit from the program, students are encouraged to enroll as freshmen. The application is available at CWES/EUC or online (see below).

Students should meet with the Assistant Director regularly to ensure all certificate requirements are met. In addition, he advises students on opportunities to complement classroom learning, such as internships and research fellowships. Go to www.ucis.pitt.edu/cwes/opportunities for a comprehensive list of these opportunities.

For more information, please contact:

Stephen Lund, Assistant Director, CWES/EUC
4216 Wesley W. Posvar Hall
(412) 648-7422
slund@ucis.pitt.edu
<http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/cwes>

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

Resources for EU Research

All students at Pitt may take advantage of the vast resources on the EU at Hillman Library. In addition, students may consult the EU Library Research Advisor (kok2@ucis.pitt.edu) for assistance with EU-related research, and may search the “virtual library” on Western Europe and the EU at www.library.pitt.edu/subject_guides/westeuropean/wwwes/.

Europe: East and West Undergraduate Research Symposium

This annual event is cosponsored by CWES and the Center for Russian and East European Studies (REES). Participants present their research on Europe or Russia in this competition for cash prizes. Go to www.ucis.pitt.edu/URSymposium for more information.

FOR TRIFOLD

Study Abroad Opportunities

EU Studies Certificate students are encouraged to participate in a study (or internship) abroad program with an EU theme. For example, Pitt’s undergraduate exchange with the Institute of Political Science of Paris (Sciences Po) offers *Business and European Integration*, a one-term program of study with instruction in English, ideal for business and economics majors. DIS and IES offer semester programs with EU courses and field trips. EPA offers internships with Members of European Parliament in Brussels, as well as courses. The Assistant Director has information on these and other programs that specialize in European Union studies. The Study Abroad Office (802 WPU) can also help students find EU-themed programs.

Recommended EU-themed study abroad programs:

Business and European Integration, Sciences Po (Paris)	http://bei.sciences-po.fr
Politics of the European Union, DIS (Copenhagen)	www.disp.dk
IES Freiburg: European Union (Germany)	www.iesabroad.org/eu/eu.html
Educational Programmes Abroad: Brussels	www.epa-internships.org/brussels

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