



Tübingen International & European Studies (T-IES) Summer School August

TRACK A

The EU in Permanent Crises? Perspectives, Challenges, Solutions

August 1 – 30, 2024

Course title:	The EU in Constant Crisis? A Story of Identities and Rights
Date / Room:	August 7–15, 2024 / Room: Tba.
Language of instruction:	English
Lecturer:	Jan Battke
Contact hours:	16 + study trip + final exam

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces the summer school's main topics and offers an input on the importance of basic human rights as a core value and as a basic element for the construction of a common (European?) identity of democratic societies in Europe today. Furthermore, this first of three T-IES summer school courses focuses on the political and societal dynamics of European Integration and how these processes of regional integration are linked to and shape some of the most urgent challenges Europe and the EU face today: Euroscepticism, populism, political fragmentation and radicalization.

COURSE SCHEDULE

	Date	Topic	Reading (required)
1 (= 90 minutes)	Wednesday, August 7 (I): 10:30 – 12:00	Europe in Crisis? <i>Challenges that threaten the Community</i>	<i>Hix & Hoyland 2022:</i> Ch. 13
2	Wednesday, August 7 (II): 13:30 – 15:00	Europe: A Story of Rights and Identities <i>Where is Europe? And who are the Europeans?</i>	McCormick 2020: Ch. 3
3	Thursday, August 8 (I): 10:30 – 12:00	Public Opinion: Identifying with Europe <i>The Possibility of a European Identity?</i>	<i>Hix & Hoyland 2022:</i> Ch. 5

4	Thursday, August 8 (II): 13:30 – 15:00	Group work on “European Identities”: <i>Preparations for Street Survey in Tübingen</i>	-
5	Monday, August 12 (I): 10:30 – 12:00	Group work on “European Identities”: <i>Street Survey in Tübingen</i>	-
6	Monday, August 12 (II): 13:30 – 15:00	Collecting the Results <i>Where do we go from here?</i>	-
	Tuesday, August 13: All Day	Study Trip	
7	Wednesday, August 14 (I): 10:30 – 12:00	Summary	-
8	Wednesday, August 14 (II): 13:30 – 15:00	Discussion and Evaluation	-
	Thursday, August 15: 10:30 – 12:00	Final Written Exam	

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The aim of this course is to provide an informed and deep understanding of contemporary Europe and the challenges it faces regarding a multitude of recent developments in politics and society, such as populism, political fragmentation and radicalization, and Euroscepticism. At the end of the course, students will be familiar with theoretical and empirical approaches to understand these processes, including an informed understanding of the role of human rights and of questions of identity in contemporary European politics.

PREREQUISITES

The course is designed for undergraduate students from all academic disciplines and with a strong general interest in Europe and the EU. A very good command of English and the willingness to actively participate in the course are required.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADING

The course concludes with a written exam on the final day of the seminar (August 15). The grade of the course will be calculated by the result of the written exam and active participation during class sessions.

READING

Hix, Simon/Høyland, Bjørn (2022): *The Political System of the European Union*, 4th Edition, London: Bloomsbury Academic.

McCormick, John (2020): *European Union Politics*, Bloomsbury Publishing Plc. ProQuest Ebook Central.

INFORMATION ON THE LECTURER

Jan Battke is the academic coordinator of the Tübingen International and European Studies (T-IES) program at Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen. He studied political science and sociology in Tübingen and at the University of Washington in Seattle, USA. He earned his MA from the University of Tübingen, worked as a post-graduate researcher at the Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences (BGSS) at Humboldt University, Berlin, and was a visiting scholar at Duke University, USA, and at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, USA. His main area of interest is the European Union and its decision-making process, with a focus on interest group politics, patterns of political participation and the role of the regions. His most recent publication is *Abels, Gabriele and Jan Battke (eds.) (2019): Regional Governance in the EU. Regions and the Future of Europe, Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.*