



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Package 2 BA - European Studies

- **Area Studies(EUS2003)**
- **Research Methods; Introduction to Qualitative Methods(EUS2509)**

Area Studies –EUS2003

Period 4 – 6 February 2017 – 7 April 2017

- - Workload for applicants: 3 tutor groups. Tutorials once a week on Thursdays

ECTS credits:

4.5

Instruction language:

English

Coordinator:

- Aline Sierp

Course description

This course aims to provide an introduction into the study of a contemporary “area”, i.e. country, of the students’ own choice.

First the tutors, in cooperation with the course coordinator, select their own country of expertise. Based on the list of available countries, the students then select which country they are most interested in.

The course focuses upon both domestic and international aspects relative to a country’s political, social and cultural life and/or its involvement with other countries or international actors such as the European Union. It does so by means of self-directed research carried out by students in close cooperation with a tutor who guides his or her students through the complete research process. Students will engage with past or on-going aspects of their chosen country's social, cultural or political life by means of movies, documentaries, newspaper articles, music etc.

Course objectives

At the end of this course, the students have: • Acquired a good knowledge of the “area”, i.e. country, of their choice; • Improved their research skills (define and delineate research topic; formulate research questions; carry out the actual research; reflect upon the data in the light of theoretical perspectives; etc.) and their presentation abilities

Teaching methods:

Lecture(s), Assignment(s), Presentation(s)

Assessment methods:

Presentation, Final paper

Keywords:

domestic society and politics, International Relations, Europeanisation, Comparative analysis, cultural studies, History

Research Methods: Introduction to Qualitative Methods –EUS 2509

Period 4 – 6 February 2017 – 7 April 2017

- –Workload for applicants: 2 tutor groups. Tutorials once a week on Tuesdays

ECTS credits:

3.5

Instruction language:

English

Coordinator:

- Assem Dandashly

Course description

This course concentrates on introducing you to gaining your first insight into doing qualitative research. Advantages of qualitative research are that it allows you to identify new phenomena, provide a deeper understanding of certain issues, give anecdotal information about certain cases. The downsides are that results are more difficult to generalize compared to using quantitative methods, and it is more difficult to assess relations between different variables (i.e. to say something about causality). The core focus on this course is on ‘case studies’ and ‘process tracing’ as these are research methods often used in qualitative research in the field of European Studies.

Course objectives

At the end of this course, students have learned: • a basic understanding of qualitative research; • to appreciate how qualitative research is undertaken; • to consider the appropriateness of a qualitative approach to their chosen field of investigation; • to collection, analysis and present data; • to select cases in academic research; • to apply a process tracing approach.

Teaching methods:

PBL, Assignment(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Keywords:

Qualitative methods, case study research design