

Basic information

Classification	Course in Major	Grade Level	First, second, third, fourth year major students; master students.
Timetable code		Lecture category	Fall semester
Course title	KUPES (Kobe University Programme for European Studies) Specialized Course	Day・Period	Please see below “Course outline and plan”
Main Instructor	Professor Noemi Lanna	Credit(s)	1

Detailed information

■ Course theme and objectives

Title: Regional integration in East Asia and Europe. A historical perspective.

Description: The aim of the course is to analyze the process of regional integration in East Asia and Europe in a historical perspective. As will be pointed out in the methodological introduction, a historically grounded analysis is particularly useful to understand the development of regionalization in Europe and in East Asia. In both regions, specific historical conditions acted as strategic constraints conducive to the forming of geopolitical units characterized by common institutions, shared norms and a consistent degree of economic interdependence. Yet despite these similarities, integration developed in distinctive ways in the two regional sub-systems. Presenting a comparative overview of the main stages in the history of European and Asian integration, the course will help students to identify and to critically assess the peculiar features of regionalization in Europe and East Asia.

Objectives:

- Acquire a basic knowledge of the main events and processes that have led to major changes or to continuity in the history of European and Asian regional integration.
- Gain an understanding of the historical factors and dynamics that shaped the regionalization process in the two regions.
- Learn to make sense of the origins and nature of contemporary issues in light of past events and develop a foundation for future understanding.

■ Course outline and plan

Day 1. Introduction: conceptualizing the region. An evolutionary approach to regional integration in East Asia and Europe: why history is crucial to explore the regionalization process. The historical roots of the European Union and of the East-Asian project of regional integration.

Day 2. Constructing the European Community/Union; envisaging an East Asian Community: the role of

competing interests, power asymmetries, shared norms and ideas.

Day 3. Case-study: East Asia and Europe facing the refugee crises.

Day 4. Recent trends and future perspectives for regional integration in East Asia.

■ Assessment and criteria

Attendance and participation in class: 20 per cent

Oral exercise: 30 per cent

Oral exam: 50 per cent

Students are expected to discuss a given issue by critically reviewing the material presented during the course.

■ Preparation, revision and other information

No prior knowledge is required.

■ Message to students

Dear students, if you are interested in looking at the history of the European integration from a different perspective, this course is for you. Bring your enthusiasm and your thirst for knowledge and don't be afraid to speak up in discussions.

■ Textbook

Power-point slides will be presented. Some documents will be proposed.

■ Reference book and other materials

■ Medium of instruction

Lessons with discussion and oral exercises

■ Key words: regional integration, European regionalism, Asian regionalism.

■ Reference URL