INTITULE DU COURS : Comparative Attitudes Towards The European Union

ENSEIGNANT(S) : Caroline Clair

FONCTION(S) : PRAG en Sciences Economiques et Sociales

PERIODE : 
- [] Semestre 1
- [x] Semestre 2

RESUME DU COURS / OBJECTIFS

Syllabus / targets

This course aims to analyze comparative attitudes towards the European Union since its creation, at the beginning of the 1950’s. Indeed, the European Union, this unique political organization, causes several reactions, expressed by citizens of the EU and also by political elites: political parties, Presidents, members of national parliaments, etc. Some of the European Union countries' political parties' speeches focus only on the European integration issue (for example, some of European extreme-right political parties); emphasizing damages and advantages of integration, politically, socially and economically. We intend, in this lecture, to analyze positive and negative attitudes expressed towards the European Union by citizens and also by political actors. Taking into account the difficult current context, the “crisis” of the European Union, due to the “Brexit” and the rise of extreme right and populist political parties, we will wonder what the future of the EU could be. International students will be encouraged to participate and to make an oral presentation regarding one aspect the EU organization and to speak about their home country.
**EVALUATION:**

20% of the overall grade: attendance and participation.
20% of the overall grade: oral presentation.
60% of the overall grade: research paper (4-5 pages).

**PLAN / SEANCES:**

*(9 lectures – 18 hours. 5 Chapters).*

**Introduction:**
- Presentation of the seminar targets, objectives, evaluation, course plan.
- The main steps of European Union integration.
- What does «political attitudes» mean, in the academic literature?
- What does *eurosceptism* mean?
- How can we measure/estimate attitudes towards the European Union (EU)?
- Presentation of Eurobarometers.

**Part 1: The “old” member states of the European Union.**
Chapter 1: The Franco-German couple: the founders of the European Union.
Chapter 2: The United Kingdom: a traditional “tricky” member.
Chapter 3: The rise of extreme right and populist political parties in Western Europe: what is the risk for the EU's future?

**Part 2: The “new” member states of the European Union.**
Chapter 4: The “big” enlargement in 2004: ten new members in the EU.
- What was mainly on stake?
Chapter 5: Comparative attitudes in some of Eastern European countries.

**Conclusion:** Evolution of the attitudes towards the European Union in a globalized world: more integration or protests? What are the main European political leaders’ decisions/acts in order to “protect” the European Union?
BIBLIOGRAPHIE :


*Academic reviews*: West European Politics; Electoral Studies; European Integration; European Journal of Political Research.