

UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Module Title	European Economic Issues	
School	School of Social Sciences	
Department	Economics & European Research Institute	
Short Title	Econ 103	
Members of Staff	Professor Cillian Ryan, Jean Monnet Chair in European Economics	
Level	Certificate Level (First year)	
Credits	10	
Semester	1	
Delivery	9 x 2 hour lectures plus fortnightly classes	
Description	This module will involve the presentation and evaluation of economic data relevant to analysis of the European union, an overview of EU institutions and policy making and the rationale for supranational decision taking, an evaluation of current EU economic policies (agriculture, regional policy, economic and monetary union).	
Learning Outcomes	On completion of this module the student will have an understanding of the principal features of the economics of the European Community, economic policies that are implemented at the EC level, and the nature and functioning of the major economic institutions.	
Assessment	2 hr written examination 75%, open-book timed essay 25%	
Core Text	There is no core text for this module. The European examples are mainly drawn from the main Principles of Economics text (Sloman 2009 below) with supplementary material from Baldwin & Wyplosz (2009). Econ 101 Principles should purchase Sloman but for other students both texts are available in the library.	

Reading list (in order of priority)

Sloman, John (2009), Economics, 5th Edition, Prentice Hall/Financial Times

Baldwin R & C. Wyplosz (2009), The Economics of European Integration, McGraw Hill.

Swann D (2000), The Economics of the Europe, 9th Edition, Penguin Economics, London

Coursework: 1.5 hour timed essay in the last week of term. Day to be agreed (We assume you don't want it to be the Friday). One page of A4 notes allowed, notes must be submitted. Topic will be advised in Week 6

Classes: – Every fortnight. Economics and MOMD sign up on WebCT. Please prepare classwork in advance available on WebCT

European Economic Issues

Syllabus:

Lecture 1

- **Introduction to the EU: Some descriptive data and first impressions**

Baldwin R & C. Wyplosz (2009), Chapter 2

Swann Chapter 1

Slooman Chapter 23.4

Lectures 2-4

- **The origins of the EU:**
 - **Theory: Why Economists advocate Free Trade**
 - **Free Trade Areas, Customs Union, Common Market & Single European Market**
- **The Single Market as a economic entity and the theory of free trade**
 - **Trade Creation and Trade Diversion**
- **Europe & Globalisation**
 - **The Multi-fibre agreement**

Swann Ch. 4 & Chapter 10

Slooman Economics Chapter 23

Slooman Essentials Chapter 11,

Lecture 5

- **Common Agricultural Policy, Fisheries Policy and Transport**

Chapter 8, Swann

Chapter 3.4 Slooman Economics

Lecture 6&7

- **Optimal Currency Area**
- **European Business Cycle**
- **European Monetary Union**

Chapter 7, Swann

Slooman Ch 25, esp. 25.2, 25.3 & 25.4

Lecture 8

- **European Competition Policy**

Swann Chapter 5 esp. 145-148 & 311 & Swann Chapter 10 esp. p311.

Slooman Economics Ch12 esp. 342-351

Lecture 9

- **Regional Aid and Social Cohesion**

Swann Chapter 9