

NAME OF THE COURSE	Regional economics and policy in EU					
Course professor	Blanka Šimundić Vinko Muštra	Credits (ECTS)	6			
Associates		Method of teaching (number of hours)	Guided process of teaching			
			L	S	E	F
			20		20	
			Independent student activities			
Status of the course /educational activity		E-learning percentage of application	30%			
COURSE DESCRIPTION						
Course/educational activity objectives	The course addresses key aspects of regional development, drawing on theoretical and practical perspectives relevant to the European Union (EU). Through a thorough analysis of economic processes and regional policies, the course aims to provide students with a deep understanding of the dynamics of regional economies, equipping them to critically assess and shape sustainable and inclusive development strategies.					
Course/educational activity enrolment requirements and entry competences required	A basic understanding of economic principles usually covered in introductory economics.					
Learning outcomes expected at the level of course/ educational activity (4 to 10 outcomes)	<p>Overall learning outcome of the course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluation of various economic processes from the perspective of regional development and understanding of relevant regional policies. <p>Individual learning outcomes – students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify and understand the key elements of basic concepts of regional growth in the EU. - Analyze the advantages and disadvantages of the most relevant theories of interregional trade and regional migration. - Understand and compare the key factors of regional growth in the EU, with an emphasis on the innovation ecosystem and governance quality. - Critically assess regional policies and the trade-off between equity and efficiency, drawing on analyses within the EU. 					
Course/educational activity's syllabus broken down in detail by weekly class schedule		<i>Lectures</i>		<i>Exercises</i>		
	<i>No.*</i>	<i>Topics</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Topics</i>	<i>Hours</i>	
	1	Introduction: Understanding the phenomenon of regions and regional economies	2	Analysis of different types of regions with a special focus on the EU	2	
	2	Theories of regional growth – classical and neoclassical approaches to regional growth	2	Empirical evidence – classical and neoclassical approaches to regional growth	2	
	3	Theories of regional growth – Keynesian approach and growth poles theory	2	Empirical evidence – Keynesian approach and growth poles theory	2	
	4	Theories of regional growth – New Economic Geography and new approaches	2	Empirical evidence – New Economic Geography and new approaches	2	
	5	Interregional trade – different approaches	2	Empirical evidence – interregional trade in the EU	2	
	6	Regional labor markets – insights into different theoretical approaches	2	Workshop discussion – Regional labor markets in the EU	2	
	7	Regional innovation ecosystems – perspectives and new insights	2	Workshop discussion – Regional innovation ecosystems in the EU	2	
	8	Quality of governance at the subnational level – theoretical foundations	2	Workshop discussion – empirical evidence on the quality of governance at the subnational level in the EU	2	
	9	Regional development policies – historical overview and current status	2	Regional development policies in the EU	2	
10	New initiatives in regional development – Place-sensitive distributed development policy vs traditional approaches	2	Workshop with regional stakeholders – different regional policies for different contexts	2		
*One week of instruction includes 4 hours of lectures and 4 hours of exercises. The entire course takes place over 5 weeks.						

Format of instruction	x lectures x seminars x workshops <input type="checkbox"/> exercises <input type="checkbox"/> <i>on line</i> in entirety <input type="checkbox"/> partial e-learning x field work	x independent assignments <input type="checkbox"/> multimedia <input type="checkbox"/> laboratory <input type="checkbox"/> work with mentor <input type="checkbox"/> (other types, if there are any)				
Student responsibilities	Obligations include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular class attendance - Preparation of a seminar paper (group work completed as homework on an assigned topic) and presenting the processed topic in a workshop (students individually present their part of the task completed within the seminar group) - Taking a written exam. 					
Student <u>work-participation</u> (name the proportion of ECTS credits for each activity, so that the total number of ECTS credits matches the ECTS value of the course/educational activity)	Class attendance	1	Research		Practical work	
	Experimental work		Workshop	1,5	(Other, specify what)	
	Essay		Seminar paper	1,5	(Other)	
	Tests		Oral exam		(Other)	
	Written exam	2	Project		(Other)	
Grading and evaluating student work and accomplishments	Grades will be based on the following elements and their corresponding weights: workshop (20%), seminar paper (20%) and written exam (60%). Grading scale: <50 points = insufficient, 50-63 = sufficient, 64-77 = good, 78-89 = very good, and 90-100 = excellent.					
Required literature	Obligatory: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capello, R. 2015. Regional Economics. 2nd edn. Taylor and Francis. Available at: https://www.perlego.com/book/1559978/regional-economics-pdf (Accessed: 14 October 2022). • Capello, R., 2022. Advanced Introduction to Regional and Urban Economics. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing. • Bachtler, J. & Downes, R. 2023. Rethinking Regional Transformation: The State of Regional Policy in Europe, EoRPA Report 23/1. University of Strathclyde. Additional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mendez, C., & Bachtler, J. 2024. The quality of government and administrative performance: explaining Cohesion policy compliance, absorption and achievements across EU regions. Regional Studies, 58(4), 690-703. https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2022.2083593 • Rodríguez-Pose, A., & Muštra, V. 2022. The economic returns of decentralisation: Government quality and the role of space. Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space, 54(8), 1604-1622. https://doi.org/10.1177/0308518X221118913 • Škrabić Perić, B., Šimundić, B. Muštra, V. Vugdelija. M. 2021. The Role of UNESCO Cultural Heritage and Cultural Sector in Tourism Development: The Case of EU Countries, Sustainability 13, no. 10: 5473. https://doi.org/10.3390/su13105473 • <i>Notes from lectures and Exercise sessions</i> 					