This module addresses politics and policy-making in the European Union, with applications to supranational and national government as well as to issues belonging to the specific policy domain of health care and public health. Specifically, it looks at the regulatory impact of EU integration on political institutions, on health systems governance and management, and on public health regulations at all levels of government.

By design, this course will approach the European Union as an empirical, a theoretical and a practical challenge. First of all, how does the European Union influence the general patterns of policy-making? Then, what are the theoretical frameworks that explain how these politics developed over time? And finally, what practical lessons can be drawn from the current European experience with regional and market integration?

The emphasis of the course is set on the understanding of the legal and political orders that apply within the European Union at the national and supranational levels. The course relies on concepts such as governance, judicialization and Europeanization, which are articulated in a general framework of understanding that can then apply to other political areas subject to regional integration and/or federal regulation.

No previous knowledge in any of these topics is required for taking the course, but some interest in comparative politics and public policy will naturally prove useful.
COURSE SUMMARY

1. European Politics
   - Integration
   - Institutions
2. Health Politics
   - Health systems
   - Public health
3. French Politics
   - Political system
   - Reform challenges

MAIN READINGS


Reading guide: these references expand far beyond the course itself, and are recommended readings for later study; session-specific readings will suffice to follow the course as such. Piattoni explores the vast issue of power fragmentation over several strata of government; Thatcher’s compendium offers a broad range of comparative case studies in political economy; and Wallace et al. offer an exhaustive introduction to policy-making in the European Union.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

The course has no other assignment that a discussion session organized in the fourth and last hours of each session. The aim of the discussion is to bring all participants to share their views on the European and Indian policy agendas.

COURSE WEBSITE

All course material is archived online at the following address:
http://f.briatte.org/teaching/epp/
SESSION 1    EUROPEAN POLITICS

Outline

1 · European Integration
2 · Political Decision-Making
3 · Judicial Decision-Making
4 · Discussion: EU and Global Finance Regulation

Readings


SESSION 2    HEALTH POLITICS

Outline

1 · Global Health Dynamics
2 · EU Health Systems Policy
3 · EU Public Health Policy
4 · Discussion: Health Systems in Transition Countries

Readings


SESSION 3    FRENCH POLITICS

Outline

1 · Fifth Republic Institutions
2 · French State Reform
3 · French Europeanisation
4 · Discussion: French Market Governance and Internationalization

Readings


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Thanks for attending, for your remarks during class and for your feedback on the course. You will find additional material on the course website, and I will answer emails sent to f.briatte@ed.ac.uk. Enjoy your time in Paris!