Course Syllabus

INTS 361: Borders, European Identity, and Integration

(WVU course title: European Identity and French-German Cooperation along the Rhine)

Instructor: Birte Wassenberg
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Course Introduction

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisite Courses: none

Class Meets: Regular class meets on Wednesdays from 9:00 am to 12:00pm

Course Introduction:
The course deals with Border Studies and their relevance for European Integration by taking on a comparative European-American perspective. It will start by assessing the multiple types and functions of borders in International Relations and by pointing at the different relevance of borders for economic, political and cultural identification within the EU and in the USA. I will then focus more in detail on the specific role of borders in the history of European Integration and cross-border cooperation by comparing it with other areas in the world, especial the American continent. Finally, it will apply the tools of Border Studies for the analysis of border crises, mainly with regard to migration, COVID-19 and to border conflicts in Europe.

General Education Area and Learning Outcome (if relevant):

European Studies/Border Studies

Instructional Materials

Required Instructional Materials:

Wassenberg, B., Reitel, B., *Territorial Cooperation in Europe. A historical perspective.,* Bruxelles, 2015. https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/publications/brochures/2015/territorial-cooperation-in-europe-a-historical-perspective

Wassenberg, B., Reitel, B., *Critical Dictionary on Borders, Cross-Border Cooperation and European Integration,* Peter Lang, 2020, (https://www.peterlang.com/document/1057026).

Optional Instructional Materials:

Course Learning Outcomes

Students will learn about the role of borders in globalization and European Integration. They will acquire fundamental knowledge about the EU's border regimes (internal market, Frontex, territorial cooperation). In comparison to the US, they will learn about the specific European border identities (European, national, regional) and the different types of multi-level-governance in European border regions. They will also learn how to analyze and manage crises and conflicts at borders in a European context in comparison to the US. The students will acquire professional competences by a practical application of their knowledge. For this purpose, there are specific sessions on intercultural learning to deal with the management of cultural borders and a symposium, which will deal with a border crisis/conflict.

Class Schedule and Sequence of Instruction*

Session	Content
1	Introduction Border Studies (1)
2	Borders and Identity in European Integration in comparison to the US: cultural, economic and political borders and the ideal of a "Europe without borders"(2)
3	Cross-border cooperation in Europe: origin, history and governance (3)
4	Cross-border cooperation in Europe: origin, history and governance (4)
5	Case study: The Upper Rhine Region (5)
6	Symposium
7	Border crises in Europe: migration (6) Border crisis in Europe: BREXIT (7)
8	Border crisis in Europe: COVID-19 (8) Student class presentations
9	Student class presentations Make up session (if necessary)

Class Excursions and Visits

Session	Content
1	The Euro Institute 2 instructional hours
2	The Euro-Info-Consommateur 2 instructional hours

Assessment

Short Descriptions of and Grading Criteria for Major Assignments/Assessments:

Weight/Distribution of Course Points:	Points (100%)
Group presentation Symposium	30
Individual paper: oral presentation	20
Individual paper: written	20
Career Seminar	10
Attendance & Participation	20

Mid-Semester/Session Grade:

Instructor/Course

- Attendance Policy: obligatory
- Participation Policy: bonus point for active participation
- Late Assignment and Missed Exam Policy: minus point