

Degree programme	Type	Course
European Union-China: Culture and Economy	OB	1

Contact lecturer

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Teaching staff (external to UAB)

Lluc López i Vidal

Federico Guerrero

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Group languages

You can consult this information at the [end](#) of the document.

Prerequisites

Having completed Module I and Spanish B2 and English B1.

Objectives

Through a gradual learning process that goes from the generic to the specific, this module pretends to introduce students in the diversity and complexity of the political, economic and business relations between the EU and China. Then, the contents of the module are divided in two parts: a first one that contextualizes the student with the political relations between EU and China, while the second focuses on the commercial legal relations between both actors.

The first part (formed by 3 different courses, although related to each other) provides the student with basic concepts and ideas from the field of International Relations (International System, actors, powers, etc.): these concepts are necessary not only to understand the insertion of China as well as the EU in the International System, but also to understand their mutual relations and their relations with other actors.

Afterwards, the student is introduced to the world of the EU with the aim of obtaining the basic concept and ideas to understand the institutional and political complexity of this sui generis international actor. The origins and evolution of the European project will be explained together with its main institutions, its functioning and its decision-making processes. From this point onwards, the student reaches the EU as an international power through the analysis of its external action. This approach lets the student to reach three goals: (1) analysis of EU-China relations through their security, economic and political agenda; (2) the cooperation and conflict areas between the EU and China at the time of establishing relations with different regions like Latin America, Central Asia and Southeast Asia; (3) the comparison of the positions and visions that EU, China and the United States

hold regarding the functioning of the International System at different topics of the international agenda (sovereignty, human rights, climate change, etc.)

The second part of the module (commercial legal relations) provides the student basic concepts related to the Chinese and Spanish legal systems (constitution, civil code, legal personality, etc.); afterwards, the student enters into the mercantile sector of both countries (focusing on the role of the company) and make a small comparative study, providing practical elements for the future professional development of students in the trade sector between both countries.

Learning outcomes

1. Use acquired knowledge as a basis for originality in the application of ideas, often in a research context.
2. Continue the learning process, to a large extent autonomously.
3. Carry out team work in interdisciplinary and multicultural environments.
4. Make creative and original contributions in distinct fields, demonstrating an attitude of respect towards the opinions, values, behaviour and practices of others.
5. Identify the languages of the political and social participants in the bilateral relations between the two regions.
6. Distinguish the differences among the political, institutional and legislative structures of the European Union and China.
7. Interpret and understand political and social evolution and development in the 21st century.
8. Recognise and apply theoretical models to specific cases in the field of institutional relations between the two regions.
9. Identify the main participants in those institutions relevant to relationships between the two regions.
10. Make innovative proposals to address the problems and intercultural conflicts in the institutional relations between the European Union and China.

Contents

The contents of this module are developed through 4 courses, grouped in two sections:

1) EU-China political relations

China as an international power: introduction to the basic concepts of the international system (Dra. Nora Sainz Gsell - 2 ECTS)

Introduction to the EU and its External Action (Federico Guerrero - 4 ECTS)

EU-China diplomatic relations (Dr. Lluç Vidal López - 2 ECTS)

2) EU-China commercial legal relations

Comparative research EU-China legal systems (José García Cano - 4 ECTS)

These are the contents of each course:

China as an international power: introduction to the basic concepts of the international system (Dra. Nora Sainz Gsell)

1. Introduction to the International System: basic concepts (actors, structures, dynamics and institutions)

- Basic analytical concepts of International Relations and main characteristics of the International Society
- Actors of International Society (Powers, hierarchy and intergovernmental organizations).

2. People's Republic of China in the International System

- Analysis of Chinese foreign policy: evolution of principles, discourse, policies, strategies and agenda of Chinese foreign policy

3. Chinese policy towards Latin America and Central Asia

- Political and economic strategies that EU and China follow separately towards Latin America and Central Asia. Possible complementarities and incompatibilities between these strategies

Introduction to the EU and its External Action (Federico Guerrero)

1. Introduction to the EU

- Historical process of its inception
- Institutional system and decision-making processes

- Competences and legal system

2. EU External Action

- Introduction to EU External Action (Common Foreign and Security Policy, Trade Policy, Development Aid Policy)
- Origins and historical evolution of EU Foreign Policy (CFSP/CSDP)
- Goals, tools and dimensions of CFSP, including EU's Global Strategy

3. The EU in a multipolar world

- Similarities and differences between the external action of China, the United States and EU

EU-China diplomatic relations (Dr. Lluç Vidal López)

1. EU-China relations: an introduction

- Introduction to post-Cold War regional order: a multipolar world?
- Main characteristics of EU-China relations
- Analysis of their relations in the security, economic and political sectors

2. Case study: the Responsibility To Protect principle: an European and a Chinese view

Comparative research EU-China legal systems (José García Cano)

1. Legal Systems

- Introduction to law and legal systems (*civil law, common law*)
- The Constitution (rights and duties of Chinese and Spanish people in China and Spain)
- Historical review of Chinese Law (Civil Code, Constitution and Laws)
- Natural and legal person
- Volunteer and legal representation

2. Commercial legal system

- Law of matrimonial property in Spain and China
- Law of succession in both countries and differences between them
- International trade and classification
- The company (classification, elements, constitutive requirements, operation, administration, accounting duties, dissolution and liquidation)

Learning activities and methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Individual essay	20	0.8	
Mandatory and complementary readings; self-study; preparing classnotes and other study material from the module	96	3.84	
Master classes	60	2.4	
Group assignment	60	2.4	

The dedication of students to this module is divided into several types of activities, each of them with a certain number of hours of workload. These diverse typologies of activities imply different work methodologies:

- Directed activities are activities completed in the classroom with the presence of the lecturer, basically formed by master classes, including practical exercises to analyze case studies, problems and examples regarding the contents of the module, oral presentation of assignments (being group or individual assignments) and individual exams

- Supervised activities are activities performed by the student out of the classroom according to a workplan designed and assessed by the lecturers. Here we will find the preparation of several group or individual assignments ordered by each of the 4 courses included in this module

- Autonomous activities are those activities that students perform on their own: these may include mandatory as well as recommended readings, the study of classnotes and any other activities that may complement the training achieved with the course. These activities represent most part of the time students devote to the whole

module

Annotation: within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continuous assessment activities

Title	Weight	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Group assignment oral presentation (one per subject)	40	4	0.16	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Class attendance	20	54	2.16	1, 4, 5, 7, 10
Individual essay (one per subject)	40	6	0.24	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

The 4 courses that are part of this Module will be assessed using the following system:

China as an international power: introduction to the basic concepts of the international system

1. Class attendance (20% of the grade of the course)
2. Group assignment regarding the preparation of a short report about topics of current international affairs that have been seen at the course (40% of the grade of the course).
3. Individual essay (40% of the grade of the course)

Introduction to the EU and its External Action

1. Class attendance (20% of the grade of the course)
2. Group assignment regarding the preparation of a report about the external action of the EU, China and the United States (40% of the grade of the course).
3. Individual essay (40% of the grade of the course)

EU-China diplomatic relations

1. Class attendance (20% of the grade of the course)
2. Group assignment at the classroom about the contents seen at the course (40% of the grade of the course)
3. Individual essay (40% of the grade of the course)

Comparative research EU-China legal systems

1. Class attendance (20% of the grade of the course)
2. Class participation (20% of the grade of the course)
3. Individual assignment about the contents seen at the course (35% of the grade of the course)
4. Final individual exam (25% of the grade of the course)

- Single assessment:

El peso de la evaluación única de este módulo es: 100% i están divididos por:

- 1) responder preguntas de un texto de marketing. 40%

2) responder preguntas de un texto de negociación o de las relaciones entre China y América latina y el Caribe 40%

3). Entregar la respuesta de un cuestionario relacionado con el marketing con la estrategia de negociación de UE-China. 20%

Se aplicará el mismo sistema de recuperación para la evaluación continuada.

-Plagiarism and use of AI:

The commission of any irregularity in an assessment act (academic fraud, plagiarism or improper use of AI, unless this use is expressly authorized in the teaching guide), which may lead to a significant variation in the grade, means that this act will be graded with a 0. In the event that the teaching guide provides that in order to pass the subject it is an essential requirement to have obtained a minimum grade in this assessment act or that several irregularities occur in the assessment acts of the same subject, the final grade for this subject is 0. Apart from this, a disciplinary process may be initiated against the student who incurs any of these irregularities.

Bibliography

The mandatory bibliography to correctly follow the 4 courses within this module is the following:

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Software

No need of any special software beyond the use of Moodle

Course groups and languages

The information provided is provisional until November 30. After this date, you will be able to consult the language of each group through this [link](#). To access the information, you will need to enter the course CODE

Type of teaching	Group	Language	Semester	Shift
(TEm) Theory (master)	1	Spanish	first semester	afternoon
(TEm) Theory (master)	2	Spanish	first semester	afternoon