

Objectives:

This course aims at developing the participants' debating and presentation skills in English and at examining controversial issues emerging in the EU. In order to prepare for the debates, we will look into the background of the topics through individual and set readings as well as through the participants' presentations. This will help gather and analyse information and gain a better understanding of the issues. We will integrate content and form by also focusing on language development.

Requirements:

- regular attendance and participation
- thorough preparation for classes, all assignments have to be completed
- completion of an expository essay of 500-600 words and a regular journal of the readings
- giving at least one major oral presentation and several oral reports on readings

Rules:

- Assignments have to be completed/handed in on time. Absence from class is no excuse for not writing an assignment or not preparing for class.
- If you know you'll be absent from class when your presentation is due or when you are scheduled for a debate, send a message to hollo.dorottya@btk.elte.hu as soon as you know, so that the necessary arrangements can be made. Also, if possible please try and swap tasks with a group mate. If you have to cancel on the day of the presentation, ring 460 4407 (our department office).
- Late work will automatically be given a grade a full mark lower.
- If you miss more than three classes you will be dropped from the class list and will not be given a mark for the term's work.

Assignments:

- **Presentation:** The presentation (10-15 minutes) should be the summary of a controversial issue related to the EU. It should outline the background of the issue and arguments for its various facets. The presentation should not be a theoretical discussion of the issue, but concrete cases must be used to illustrate it. Apart from covering the content, the presenter is requested to draw attention to important language connected to the topic. The presentation must be accompanied by a handout covering both the topic and the relevant language, e.g. vocabulary. Please indicate useful sources on the handout, too. Please bring a handout for everyone in the group.

- **Essay:** A 500-600-word-long expository paper discussing a controversial issue that has been treated in class. The topic may not be the same as that of the presentation.

Deadline: 24 April. (no extension is given) The purpose of the expository paper is to present a controversial issue from as many angles as possible/relevant objectively, without taking sides or wanting to influence the readers. However, it must provide the readers with enough information in order for them to take a stand. The topic may not be the same as that of the presentation.

- **Reading journal:** A very short summary of the readings for every topic discussed in class accompanied by personal reflections on the texts and the topics as well as a list of important/interesting language learnt from the texts. The journal should also indicate the exact references of the texts. (300-400 words/topic) **Deadline:** the first class dealing with each topic, i.e. the class when we have the presentations. The presenters of a topic do not have to submit a journal, since they must make a handout.

The written assignments must be printed and must follow the APA style. For details, see: <http://delp.elte.hu>

Assessment:

Assessment will be based on the quality of the assignments (content and language) and participation

Intended schedule:

Week 1	Feb 13	Introduction; HW: Reading: debate info, Watch a debate: identify arguments and support, put them into the grid provided for this purpose. http://fora.tv/2009/08/04/Debate_The_Media_Can_Not_Be_Trusted_to_Tell_the_Truth Write motions for possible debates
Week 2	20	Discussion of the HW, performing a mock debate – cultural stereotypes
Week 3	27	Topic : The Euro 3 presenters: Motion for next time:
Week 4	Mar 6	Debate & discussion 6 debaters:
Week 5	13	Topic: Education and youth 3 presenters: Motion for next time:
Week 6	20	Debate & discussion 6 debaters:
Week 7	27	Topic: Language 4 presenters: Motion for next time:
Week 8	Apr 3	Debate & discussion 6 debaters:
Week 9	10	Topic: Political issues and enlargement 4 presenters: Motion for next time:
	17	Spring break
Week 10	24	Deadline for the major assignment Debate & discussion 6 debaters:
	May 1	No class
Week 11	8	Topic: Immigration 4 presenters: Motion for next time:
Week 12	15	Debate & discussion 6 debaters: Closing the term

Optional alternative topics:

- Enlargement / size of population
- Climate, environmental protection, etc.

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Please remember the anti-discrimination policy of the Department of English Language Pedagogy:

DELDP staff are fully committed both to promoting the freedom of expression and to respecting the rights and dignity of all people, whatever their ethnic or cultural background, religion, beliefs and sexual orientation. We expect the same commitment from our students in their everyday and professional discourse and behaviour.

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A very ad hoc list of resources to serve as a starter:

General:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/infocentre/index_en.cfm
<http://debatewise.org/search?for=EU>
<http://www.euractiv.com/>

http://ec.europa.eu/index_en.htm
http://europa.eu/index_en.htm
http://www.se2009.eu/en/meetings_news/2009/12/1/webcast_public_debate_on_justice
http://europa.eu/abc/euslides/index_en.htm
<http://www.youtube.com/user/eutube>

By topic:

Benefits and drawbacks of the EU:

What has Europe ever done for us? –

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFyywfHbj3M&feature=related> 1:20

Generation Europe - <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1968463,00.html>

The quiet miracle - <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1599358,00.html>

<http://www.bis.gov.uk/policies/europe/benefits-of-eu-embership>

<http://www.economicshelp.org/europe/disadvantages-eu.html>

A challenge: Why does the EU have the right to influence the internal legislation of its members? (e.g. police taking DNA samples...)

Consumer protection:

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/trade/pirate-traders-exploit-internet-sales-model-news-496598>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SciFEKMEU3M&NR=1> 2:51

http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/video/video_prod_en.cfm?type=detail&prodid=5331&src=1

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u7OmQBq5NmM> 3:36

http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/video/video_prod_en.cfm?type=detail&prodid=898

Human rights:

<http://debatewise.org/debates/1850-is-eu-roma-strategy-a-compulsory-tool-for-roma-inclusion>

http://www.fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/your_rights/your_rights_en.htm

<http://www.fra.europa.eu>

Discrimination: http://www.fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/your_rights/stories/stories_en.htm

<http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/european-union/100507/maternity-leave-policy> - Parental leave already generous by US standards, could grow even more. But at what cost?

<http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/eiro/2006/06/articles/fr0606019i.htm> - anonymous cv-s

<http://www.management-issues.com/2006/5/25/blog/chirac-backs-anonymous-job-applications.asp>

Diversity in Europe:

http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/video/video_prod_en.cfm?type=detail&prodid=4082&src=1

<http://eudiversity.com>

Minorities: <http://www.eurominority.eu/version/eng/>

http://www.salto-youth.net/downloads/4-17-973/SALTO%20booklet_new.pdf

<http://www.european-diversity.com/>

http://www2.erzwiss.uni-hamburg.de/personal/Gogolin/a10_Gogolin_EERJ_1_1.pdf

Climate, environmental protection:

<http://parliamentarydebate.blogspot.com/>

http://ec.europa.eu/research/infocentre/article_en.cfm?id=/research/research-eu/63/article_6310_en.html&item=Infocentre&artid=16994

http://ec.europa.eu/climateaction/index_en.htm

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/priorities/eastern-europe-struggling-meet-eu-climate-targets-news-496400>

A challenge: Climate change: Emission of greenhouse gases must come down

Enlargement:

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/enlargement>

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/social/europe/immigration-pushes-eu-population-above-500-million-news-496717>

At The Gates Of The Union - <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,708954,00.html>

http://upsidedownworld.org/turkey_EU.htm

A challenge: Demography: Europeans live longer, have fewer children

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Transport

http://ec.europa.eu/research/infocentre/article_en.cfm?id=/research/transport/news/article_10366_en.html&item=Infocentre&artid=17056

<http://www.europeantransportforum.eu/>

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Media:

<http://socialmedia.blogactiv.eu/2011/03/18/debate-part-two/>

<http://socialmedia.blogactiv.eu/2011/03/18/eu-citizens-media-debate-part-three-supporting-the-press-without-controlling-it/>

http://ec.europa.eu/avpolicy/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/avpolicy/reg/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/avpolicy/reg/tvwf/index_en.htm