

NEOLAIa Focus Academy – European Citizenship Course Syllabus

Academic Year: 2025-2026

Title: European Citizenship

Instructors

Local Academic coordinators :

Jonatan CRUZ ANGELES – Universidad de Jaén

Katalin KELEMEN – Örebro Universitet

Colombine MADELAINE – Université de Tours

Daniela MARRANI – Università degli studi di Salerno

Franz MAYER – Universität Bielefeld

Raluca ONUFREICIUC – Universitatea Stefan cel Mare Suceava

Others instructors :

Marie BERENS - Universität Bielefeld

Cécile CHAPON – Université de Tours

Emmanuelle TERRONES – Université de Tours

Overview and general data

Provide a brief overview of the course, highlighting its relevance to the NEOLAIa Pillars and the collaborative nature of the course development process.

This course on European citizenship covers the three pillars of the alliance (i.e 1. *Digital transformation*, 2. *Diversity and Inclusion*, 3. *Enhanced mobility*).

By studying its historical and philosophical origins and evolution and its links with the development of democracy students will gain an understanding of its close link with respect for diversity and inclusion. An analysis of its current design, in its various legal forms at European level, will highlight its indispensable role in mobility. Finally, the course will open up a discussion on the positive and negative impacts of digitalisation on European citizenship and more broadly on democracy.

Initiated by lecturers at the University of Tours specialising in public law, literature and German studies, it will also involve other colleagues from the alliance in law, political science, history, philosophy and sociology.

Objectives

Clearly define the objective(s) of the course (at least five).

Knowledge acquisition:

1. Understand the legal and historical foundations of European citizenship.
2. Identify the rights and duties associated with European citizenship (*freedom of movement, right to vote in European and municipal elections, right to petition, etc.*).
3. Be familiar with the European institutions involved in the democratic life of the EU (*European Parliament, European Commission, etc.*).
4. Explain contemporary issues related to European citizenship (*mobility, European identity, inclusion, common values*).

Skills acquisition:

1. Analyse and argue orally and in writing on a question related to European citizenship.
2. **Ability to work in a team, participating in group exercises (*creating a podcast and taking part in a simulation of European institutions, students will play the role of members of the European Commission, the Council of the EU, the European Parliament, or lobby groups to adopt an EU act*).**
3. Use reliable sources to find out about European policies and current affairs.
4. Develop a sense of belonging to the European Union while respecting cultural and national diversity.
5. Demonstrate critical thinking in response to Eurosceptic or populist discourse.
6. Promote solidarity and cooperation between European citizens.

Number of students, profile, selection process, and registration

Specify the number of students to be enrolled in the course, along with their desired recommended profile and suggestions for the selection criteria (they have to be homogeneous to be applied by each institution sending students). Provide guidance on the registration process for students from participating universities.

This course will be open to all Alliance students, whatever their discipline or level. There will be a maximum of 30 students per course, i.e. around 3 students from each university.

Activities

➤ Online Part – January to February 2026

- **1h online learning – synchronous** on Moodle (Learning Management System hosted by Tours)

Week of 5 January 2026 - Introduction, presentation of the BIP programme

- **12h online learning – asynchronous**

Week of 12 January 2026 - History of citizenship (2 hours), C. CHAPON (Université de Tours)

Week of 19 January 2026 - Religion and citizenship (2 hours), C. MADELAINE (Université de Tours)

Week of 26 January 2026 - Women and citizenship (2 hours), C. MADELAINE (Université de Tours)

Week of 2 February 2026 - Refugees and citizenship (2 hours), E. TERRONES (Université de Tours)

Week of 9 February 2026 - Citizenship and European institutions, a legal approach (4 hours), C. MADELAINE (Université de Tours)

- **3h online discussion/workshop - synchronous**

Week of 12 January 2016 - How to make a podcast (1 hour), A. BOUHOURS, C. MADELAINE

Students will work in groups of three to write a podcast script under the supervision of a teacher. Topics will be proposed by the supervising teacher. Each group will meet with the supervising teacher for one hour in January 2026 and then for another hour at the beginning of March 2026 for feedback.

➤ **Physical Part – 23rd to 27th March 2026**

- **Welcome session and review of the online part – 2 hours**

Opening conference, European citizenship and digital transformation, round table open to wider society - filmed and broadcasted - 2 hours

- **6 hours of seminar**

Recording podcasts by students – 1 hour per group

- **A whole day will be devoted to a serious game**

Students will play the role of members of the European Commission, the Council of the EU, the European Parliament, or lobby groups to adopt an EU act.

Assessment

Each online module will end with an assessment that will serve to verify that students have understood and acquired the concepts covered in the course - **10% of the final mark**

The production of the podcasts will be graded with 50% based on the written component (script writing) and 50% on the final podcast – **50% of the final mark**

Participation in the serious game will be assessed to evaluate the student's involvement, their understanding of the concepts and the relevance of their oral contributions – **40% of the final mark**