

POLITEHNICA University of Bucharest (**UPB**)  
 Faculty of Engineering and Management of Technological Systems (**IMST**)  
 Study Programme: Industrial Engineering (**IE**)  
 Form of study: Licence (Bachelor)

## COURSE SPECIFICATION

<b>Course title:</b>	European Culture and Civilization	<b>Semester:</b>	2
<b>Course code:</b>	UPB.06.C.02.A.006	<b>Credits (ECTS):</b>	3

<b>Course structure</b>	Lecture	Seminar	Laboratory	Project	Total hours
<i>Number of hours per week</i>	2	2			4
<i>Number of hours per semester</i>	28	28			56

<b>Lecturer</b>	Lecture	Seminar / Laboratory / Project
<i>Name, academic degree</i>	Conf. univ. dr. Ovidiu Caraiani	Lect. univ. dr. Daniela Maricica Cotoarã
<i>Contact (email, location)</i>	<a href="mailto:o.caraiani@gmail.com">o.caraiani@gmail.com</a> R313	<a href="mailto:danacotoara12@yahoo.com">danacotoara12@yahoo.com</a> R313

### **Course description:**

The main objective of this course is to acquaint students with the basic issues of European philosophy and culture in order to get a picture of the idea of Europe. Secondly, to develop a proper way of freethinking based on analogies, debates and analytical comparisons focused on the main theoretical themes in European history and culture. The course is designated to introduce the undergraduate students to some major issues of European history and philosophy which may give an account of what does it mean to be an European. In the first term the stress will be on the following topics: I. Greek cosmos; II. Medieval divine cosmos; III. Modern secular thought; IV. Contract, rights, individualism. We will consider the texts both as contributions to the understanding of specific historical and cultural events, as well as attempt to analyze the relationship between different cultural assumptions. Is it possible to create a sort of “theoretical bridge” between conflicting values and cultural identities?

### **Seminar / Laboratory / Project description:**

The topics covered by the seminars will be split into three main objectives:

- a) historical case studies;
  - b) text analyze and interpretation.
  - c) presentation and exposure of the major masterpieces of European culture and philosophy.
- Students will finally have a full account of what ones may call “the European man”.

### **Intended learning outcomes:**

Students will develop abilities to operate with the major concepts and theoretical roots which have been crucial for developing a cultural European identity. They will also improve their skills for

critical thinking and appraisal of some controversial issues in European culture, politics, and society. Finally they would better deal with the various challenges raised by their professional integration in an Europe of continuous integration and des-integration.

<b>Assessment method:</b>	<b>% of the final grade</b>	<b>Minimal requirements for award of credits</b>
Oral presentation of final essay	20%	Presentation of the main thesis.
Report / project	40%	Submission according to methodological guidelines.
Homework	40%	Case study evaluation
Laboratory		
Other		

**References:**

Plato, *The Republic*, Penguin Classics, 2003 or <http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/republic.9.viii.html> book VIII-IX.

Karl Popper, *Open Society and its Enemies*, 2 vol. 1966. Ebook, chp. 5, 6 vol. I, chp. 25 vol. II.

Max Weber, *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*, chap. 1-3:  
<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/WEBER/cover.html>

Antony D. Smith, *Myths and Memories of the Nation*, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1999, pp. 29-96.

Anthony Pagden (ed.), *The Idea of Europe: From Antiquity to the European Union*, Oxford University Press, 2002.

<b>Prerequisites:</b>	<b>Co-requisites (courses to be taken in parallel as a condition for enrolment):</b>
Social sciences and philosophy from college curricula	Is not the case

**Additional relevant information:**

Students will receive a DVD containing books, movies and articles and will benefit from a guided visit to an art museum.

Date: 05.07.2016

Professional degree, Surname, Name: Conf. univ. dr. Ovidiu Caraiiani