UGBA 117 – Economic Issues in the European Union  
Spring 2018 – 3 units

Course overview
As the European Union celebrates its 60th birthday, many commentators around the world wonder if it can weather its multiple challenges: a difficult and uneven recovery from the 2008 economic and financial crisis, the rise of Eurosceptic political parties, Brexit, the global refugee crisis.

Economic Issues in the European Union will provide a political and historical background of European integration, as well as an economic framework to understand these challenges and to assess future prospects for the European Union.
Key topics covered during the course include: EU trade integration, the Single Market and the four freedoms, EU labor markets and migration issues, EU energy and environmental policy, antitrust and state aid, EU economic and fiscal policy, the European monetary union, financial markets integration, the impact of the economic crisis and Brexit.

Teaching Method/Material:
The teaching method of this course comprises lectures and seminars. All students are expected to actively participate in the class discussions and in the simulation games that will be organised during the course.

Course format
This is a 3-unit course best suited for undergraduate students with a basic understanding of economic concepts. A keen interest in the current debate over the future of Europe is essential.

Assignments and evaluation
Grading will be based on classroom participation, a midterm role-playing game and a final written exam.

Instructor:
Viviana Padelli is Senior Policy Adviser in Confindustria Delegation to the European Union. Founded in 1910, Confindustria is the main organisation representing Italian manufacturing and services companies, with a voluntary membership of more than 150,000 companies of all sizes, employing over 5 million people.
In her role, Viviana advises Confindustria’s top management on EU economic and financial affairs, as well as on competition policy and State aid issues. Her activities also include: advocacy, lobbying EU institutions, ghost-writing op-eds and speeches, planning and coordinating Confindustria’s participation in business forums (including agenda setting and drafting final political declarations). Prior to joining Confindustria, Viviana served in the Directorate General for Competition at the European Commission (Brussels, Belgium) and in the Chief Economist Team of the Office of Fair Trading (London, UK). In addition, she was a freelance researcher for Istituto Eurispes (Rome, Italy). She has a BSc in Economics from Bocconi University (Milan, Italy) and a MSc in Economics at Tilburg University (Tilburg, The Netherlands). For questions, contact her at vpadelli@haas.berkeley.edu.