

**UNIVERSITY OF MALTA**  
**EUROPEAN DOCUMENTATION AND RESEARCH CENTRE**  
**BACHELORS IN EUROPEAN STUDIES**  
**ACADEMIC YEAR 2005-2006      SEMESTER ONE**  
**EST 3100 FEDERALISM IN EUROPE (4 ECTS)**

**COURSE OUTLINE AND SHORT BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- The course is taught in the first semester. Each lecture is of a two hour duration.
- The assessment for this study-unit consists of a 2 hour test held during test week
- The recommended texts listed below and others which will be announced from time to time during the lectures are assumed as having been read by the students for the purpose of the assessment.
- University regulations specify that attendance for lectures is obligatory and students who absent themselves from lectures without proper justification will be considered to have abandoned the course.

Recommended Basic Texts (these are the bare minimum students are expected to familiarise themselves with):

1. Ronald L. Watts, *COMPARING FEDERAL SYSTEMS*, Queen's University, Ontario, Canada – ISBN 0-88911-835-3 (find latest edition)
2. Daniel Elazar, *EXPLORING FEDERALISM*, The University of Alabama Press, 1987, - ISBN 0-8173-0575-0
3. Michael Burgess, *FEDERALISM AND EUROPEAN UNION: THE BUILDING OF EUROPE, 1950-2000*, Routledge, ISBN 0-415-22647-3

Course Outline:

Students are introduced to the concepts of federalism and federation as distinguished from other political systems such as confederation or the so called 'unitary' or centrally governed state. After tackling the various aspects of federation, the focus is shifted to Europe, some European federations and the European Union. The basic question in this regard is: to what extent does the EU approximate to a federation? The influence of federal thinking on the EU is also discussed.

Topics to be tackled:

1. Federation, federalism and confederation
2. History of federalism
3. Principles of federations and the distribution of powers
4. Other elements of federation
5. centralising and decentralising tendencies
6. Comparing federations in Europe and beyond
7. The influence of federalism on the process of European integration
8. The EU: the federal and confederal elements