TalTech School of Business and Governance

MOL5003 Digital Social Systems and Convergence in Europe

Extended syllabus
Spring 2025

Course aims/objectives:	The aim of the course is to provide knowledge about the Digital Social Systems.
Learning outcomes:	After completing this course, the student: - explains the challenges faced by the European Union to keep the European values and the Social System; - explains the process of digitalization; - is able to identify threats and provide creative solutions for a complex process determining the European way of life in the close future.
Brief description of the course and topics to be covered:	This course presents the social system as a necessity emanating from a common market where there is free movement of workers. Hence, a similar level of protection should be included at the European level (market level). The possibilities given by the new technologies, such as Data Management, Artificial Intelligence, and many others, open the debate of how rational and effective the creation of a new social system in the European Union as a common minimum standard for the Member States will be.
Language of the course:	English
ECTS credits:	6 ECTS
Coverage of SDGs and ERS (sustainable development goals, ethics, responsibility and sustainability):	4 and 7 are thoroughly covered, SDG 10 in a more superficial form and ethical dilemmas are discussed in the context of the solution to the conflicts presented to the students. Therefore, the presentations address, from a hypothetical approach, the implementation of SDGs and ERS.
Students:	This is a free elective course for students studying the Social Sciences.
Special needs:	Persons with disabilities can participate in this course. Please inform the professor(s) in the beginning of the course of any special instruction, or assessments of this course that may be necessary to enable you to fully participate in this course.
Registration:	Students who would like to take the course should declare the course in the ÕIS (Student Information System) by deadlines set in the academic calendar.
Prerequisite courses and/or knowledge:	-
Prerequisite resources:	MS Office programmes. For free student download see the instructions https://confluence.ttu.ee/it-info/it-arvuti-ja-oppetoeoekoht/tarkvara/microsoft-office-kodukasutus
Professor(s):	David Ramiro Troitino david.troitino@taltech.ee.
Contacting Professor(s):	Preferred means of contact via e-mail, responses provided within 3 workdays.
Schedule for classes:	01-05 weeks
Study process description	The course is organized in a hybrid way, with online and lectures at the university. Nevertheless, all the sessions will be recorded and available for the participants. It is required to attend a minimum of 75% of the lessons to qualify for the presentation. The course is divided in two parts, theoretical and practical sections.

Course's e-support:	Course materials can be accessed via the e-learning environment Moodle under the course title MOL5003 Digital Social Systems and Convergence in Europe https://moodle.taltech.ee/course/view.php?id=32747#section-0 Students can enrol to the course themselves using the **password: No password is needed**
Study literature:	Mendhurwar, S., & Mishra, R. (2021). Integration of social and IoT technologies: architectural framework for digital transformation and cyber security challenges. Enterprise Information Systems, 15(4), 565-584. Hamburg, I., & Bucksch, S. (2017). Inclusive education and digital social innovation. Advances in social sciences research journal, 4(5). Rodrigo, L., & Palacios, M. (2021). What antecedent attitudes motivate actors to commit to the ecosystem of digital social innovation?. Technological Forecasting and Social Change, 162, 120394.
ASSESSMENT	Pass/fail

Assessment methods	Assessment criteria
Presentation	Pass/fail The participants will pass if they make a rational presentation achieving the minimum requirements in relation to the topic chosen. If the students do not make the presentation, or it is not enough to pass, they can have the possibility to have an exam.
Exam (evaluates learning outcomes from the course and the materials in Moodle)	Pass/Fail There will be two questions on the exam in relation to the theoretical materials included in the course. All the materials are available in Moodle. Th student must register to the exam, at least one week before, and answer correctly at least one of the two questions to pass the exam and the course.

Eligibility for assessment:	To be eligible for the exam, the student has to register at least one week before and attend to 75% of the lectures
Final grade formation:	Pass/Fail Pass more than 50 points fail less than 51 points
Academic integrity:	As a student at TalTech School of Business and Governance, you have an obligation to conduct your academic work with honesty and integrity according to University standards. It is expected that all work that you submit will be your own, and that you have actually done the work that you are submitting. Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. Should you be found to be guilty of such activities, it will be followed with grade "0" for the assignment or the whole course and a notice will be filed to the School's Committee for Handling Violations of Academic Practice and Contemptible Behaviour. Depending on the Committee's proposal, it may lead to Dean issuing a letter of reprimand or in case of repeated or very severe misconduct, exmatriculation from the University.

Detailed schedule and topics

The semester plan is preliminary and might be changed in case of cancellations, changes in available reading material, etc.

Week 1
Introduction to the course and to the European Union
European Social systems.

5ᵗʰ February Wednesday at 10:00 – 12:15
Before-class: read material provided in Moodle
In class – Lecture/discussion
After-class: Think

OR
In Moodle: watch the lecture video in Moodle

7ᵗʰ February Friday at 10:00 – 12:15 (online)
Before-class: read material provided in Moodle
In class – Lecture/discussion
After-class: Think

OR
In Moodle: watch the lecture video in Moodle

Week 2
Digital Social Europe I, challenges
Digital Social Europe II, future

12ᵗʰ February Wednesday at 10:00 – 12:15
Before-class: read material provided in Moodle
In class – Lecture/discussion
After-class: Think

OR
In Moodle: watch the lecture video in Moodle

14th February Friday at 10:00 – 12:15 (online)
Before-class: read material provided in Moodle
In class – Lecture/discussion
After-class: Think

OR
In Moodle: watch the lecture video in Moodle

Week 3
Digital initiatives to increase the Digital Social Systems in the European Union
Presentations

19ᵗʰ February Wednesday at 10:00 – 12:15
Before-class: read material provided in Moodle
In class – Lecture/discussion
After-class: Think

OR

In Moodle: watch the lecture video in Moodle

21st February Friday at 10:00 – 12:15 (online)
Before-class: read material provided in Moodle
In class – Lecture/discussion
After-class: Think

OR
In Moodle: watch the lecture video in Moodle

Week 4
Debate about the future of Digital Social Europe

26th February Wednesday at 10:00 – 12:15
Before-class: read material provided in Moodle
In class – Lecture/discussion
After-class: Think

OR
In Moodle: watch the lecture video in Moodle

Debate about the future of Digital Social Europe (online)
28th February Friday at 10:00 – 12:15
Before-class: read material provided in Moodle
In class – Lecture/discussion
After-class: Enjoy

OR
In Moodle: watch the lecture video in Moodle

Week 5
Exam

5th March Wednesday at 10:00 – 12:15
Before-class: read material provided in Moodle
In class – exam
After-class: Think

7th March Friday at 10:00 – 12:15 (online)
Before-class: read material provided in Moodle
In class – exam
After-class: Think