

Module 1 European Studies through Digital European Languages Policies

Lecture Plan No. 2

Topic 2: The Role of Multilingualism in EU Integration

1. General Information

- **Duration:** 90 minutes
 - **Format:** Lecture + Interactive Discussion + Group Debate
 - **Target Audience:** Higher Education students, researchers, policy-makers, educators
 - **Required Materials:** Presentation slides, EU policy documents, case studies, multilingualism reports
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2. Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- Understand the importance of multilingualism in the European integration process.
 - Analyze the role of language policies in fostering a shared European identity.
 - Evaluate the impact of linguistic diversity on education, economy, and mobility in the EU.
 - Discuss challenges and future directions for multilingualism in EU governance.
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3. Lecture Structure

Part 1: Historical and Political Context (20 min)

- The linguistic landscape of Europe before EU integration
- The Treaty of Rome and the recognition of multilingualism
- The role of language policies in fostering EU cohesion
- The importance of linguistic diversity in shaping European identity

Part 2: Multilingualism as a Pillar of EU Policies (30 min)

- The EU's official languages and institutional multilingualism
- The role of the European Parliament, European Commission, and Council of Europe
- Educational and economic advantages of multilingualism
- The Erasmus+ programme and its impact on language learning

Part 3: Challenges and Future Perspectives (20 min)

- Linguistic inequalities and barriers to inclusion



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- The rise of English as a lingua franca: Benefits and drawbacks
- Digitalization and the preservation of lesser-used languages
- Policy recommendations for strengthening multilingualism in the EU

Part 4: Group Debate & Discussion (20 min)

- **Debate Topic:** "Should the EU adopt a single working language or maintain full multilingualism?"
 - Participants argue for and against different policy approaches.
 - Reflection on the implications of language choices in EU governance.
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4. Assessment & Follow-up Activities

- **Reflection Paper:** Students write a short essay on how multilingualism influences EU identity and integration.
 - **Policy Review:** Analysis of EU documents on language policy and integration.
 - **Recommended Reading & Resources:**
 - European Commission. (2020). Multilingualism: Policy and Practice.
 - Treaty on European Union (Article 3: Cultural and Linguistic Diversity).
 - Case studies on language policy implementation in different EU member states.
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5. Conclusion

This session will explore the indispensable role of multilingualism in European integration, fostering a deeper understanding of its socio-political, economic, and cultural impacts. Through interactive debates and discussions, students will critically evaluate the benefits and challenges of linguistic diversity in the EU.

