

The University of Michigan's European Union Center of Excellence
(www.i.umich.edu/ces-euc)

invites you to an afternoon seminar on
the European economy and the EURO Challenge competition for high school students.

Thursday, November 12, 2009 4-8 pm
International Institute, 1080 South University, Ann Arbor

Registration required.

To register go to <http://www.i.umich.edu/ces-euc/resources/kthru14/eusem>

For more information contact Sylvia Meloche at meloches@umich.edu

This is the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) approved program for .3 SB-CEU's.

MDE website info at http://www.solutionwhere.com/mi_sbceu/showcourse.asp?48401

The University of Michigan's [European Union Center of Excellence](#) is a sponsor of [THE EURO CHALLENGE](#) competition for high school students in Michigan.

The competition aims to:

- Support local learning standards related to global studies and economics
- Foster economic and financial literacy and understanding of economic policy issues
- Increase students' knowledge and understanding of the European Union and the euro
- Develop communication, critical thinking, and cooperative skills

You may be asking yourself, "Why in the world should my students learn about the European economy?" For starters, Michigan depends on European companies for investment and jobs. Europe is the number one foreign investor in Michigan, and European investment supports over 140,000 jobs in the state, nearly 40% of which are in manufacturing. Europe is also the third-largest export market for goods exported from Michigan, after Canada and Mexico. So learning about the European Union is learning about an essential economic partner. In addition, through the Euro Challenge program, students in Michigan can increase their knowledge and understanding of the economic problems in their own state by looking at what's happening in Europe. For example, several European countries are suffering from high unemployment, and Michigan students can benefit greatly from examining how Europe is dealing with such challenges, and also from working to propose possible solutions to a challenge as part of the competition. The Euro Challenge provides a real life global educational experience – which is vital to preparing young people to participate fruitfully in today's global economy, and hence to help Michigan's economy compete and create jobs.

The competition

Euro Challenge 2010 – is an exciting educational opportunity for high school students (grades 9 & 10) to learn about the European Union (EU) – the largest trading partner of the US – and its single currency, the euro. Now in its fifth year, the Euro Challenge is designed to appeal to students with a background in global studies, economics, world history/geography or European studies.

Each team must make a 15-minute presentation describing the current economic situation in the euro area and analyzing a specific economic challenge in a country of their choice. Teams then answer questions from a distinguished panel of judges. Preliminary rounds are held in each of the participating regions, and the regional winners advance to the semifinal and final rounds held at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Cash prizes for the top teams are generously provided by The Moody's Foundation.

Learning resources and support

- Orientation Seminars in each region give teachers a chance to learn about the competition.
- Check out www.euro-challenge.org for training videos, research materials, and web resources.
- *The Euro Challenge on-line forum* allows teachers and students from across the country to communicate with each other and the competition organizers.
- *The Euro Challenge Guide* provides information about the competition (rules, schedule, contact information for each region).



Important dates:

- Michigan Teacher's Orientation/ Seminar on European Economy: November 12, 2009 4 pm-7 pm, Univ. of Michigan, 1636 International Institute**
- Registration deadline: December 11, 2009 (please see attached registration packet)**
- Regional round for Michigan: late March or early April, 2010**
- Semifinal and final rounds of the competition in New York City: April 27, 2010**

CES-EUC

Center for European Studies
European Union Center



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Seminar on the European Economy and the Euro Challenge 2010 Competition
Thursday, November 12, 2009
Room 1636, International Institute
1080 S. University, Ann Arbor

This seminar aims to provide greater understanding of economic and financial policy issues of the European Union and the euro. It will also provide tools for teachers to understand the Euro Challenge competition.

A European Commission sponsored project.

Agenda

- 3:30-4:00 pm Registration
- 4:00-4:05 pm Welcome
- 4:05-4:15 pm Overview of the seminar
- 4:15-5:00 pm Presentation and Q and A: The European Union. Jennifer Miller
- 5:00-5:15 pm Break
- 5:15-6:00 pm Presentation and Q and A: The European Economy. Amy Medearis
- 6:00-6:15 pm Break
- 6:15-7:00 pm Presentation and Q and A: The Euro Challenge Competition. Amy Medearis
- 7:00-7:30 pm The Euro Challenge competition - Good practices: Steve Eschrich, (accompanied by student)
- 7:30-7:45 pm Final thoughts. Amy Medearis and Steve Eschrich
- 7:45-8:00 pm Evaluations

Seminar on the European Economy

Thursday, November 12, 2009

Presenters

Steve Eschrich holds a BA in Economics and Political Science from the Northern Michigan University, and a MA (C) in Education from the University of Michigan. He was involved in creation of the *Michigan Test for Teacher Certification in Economics*, and guest lectured at Oakland University's International Education Program for secondary school teachers. In 2009, he was named Michigan's Economics Educator of the Year. In the past 10 years, his economics students have won the State Championship six times in the Fed Challenge competition; once the Euro Challenge 2009 regional competition, placing 4th in the national competition; twice (in three years) in the Money Smart Ambassador competition; sixteen times (two separate divisions) in the Economics Challenge, four times placing 2nd in the region, once winning the National Championship.

Amy Medearis joined the Delegation of the European Commission in August 2003 as Senior Economist in the Economic, Financial and Development Affairs section. She monitors macroeconomic and economic policy developments in the United States and Europe, and helps foster US-European cooperation on economic, financial and employment issues. Prior to joining the Commission, she served as Vice President and Europe Analyst for the G7 Group, Inc., a consulting firm providing economic policy analysis to financial services companies. From 1994 to 95, she worked at the Ministry of Economics of the State of Brandenburg and in the Economic Research department of Dresdner Bank as a Robert Bosch Fellow in Germany. In 1990-91, she participated in the European Commission's trainee program as one of a small handful of Americans offered the opportunity to get an inside look at the workings of the European Union. She was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship in 1989-90. Ms. Medearis holds an MA in International Economics from the Johns Hopkins University Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) and a BA in Comparative Area Studies from Duke University.

Jennifer Miller-Gonzales is a PhD candidate in the Department of Political Science at the University of Michigan. Her research focuses on European center-right party strategies toward visible minorities, and more specifically, the effect of such strategies on national identity. Jennifer received the European Union Center's 2008-09 Jean Monnet fellowship for her research project "*Redefining the Nation: Center-Right party Outreach towards Visible Minorities in Europe.*"