

POL 324Y

Politics of Europe and the European Union

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Office Hours: Tuesday 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Term: Fall 2012 - Winter 2013
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Description

This course applies concepts in comparative political science to the study of contemporary Europe. The course requires familiarity with basic concepts and methods in political science and knowledge of post-World War II European history. The course will be divided into two parts. The first part of the course will focus on European politics at the supranational level and examine the history, political institutions, and policies of the European Union. The second part of the course will explore major theories in comparative politics that can help understand variation in institutions, political behaviour and policies across European countries and in the EU. Throughout the course we will address some of the challenges facing Europe and the EU today and we will closely examine a series of key contemporary social and political debates.

Course Goals

- One of the main goals of this course is for you to develop a good understanding of major theories in comparative politics and in comparative methodology.
- You will also develop a good understanding of the political history, the institutional structure, and policies of the European Union, as well as the political, social and economic features of European countries.
- Finally, the course will emphasize reading, writing and speaking skills. Some of the readings in this course will be long and/or complex which will push you to develop effective reading and comprehension techniques. You should learn to extract the main argument or main points from each piece that you read. You are encouraged to participate in class and ask questions as an opportunity to practice articulating your thoughts and arguments in public.

Required Readings

The required readings for this course are based on three textbooks and a collection of book chapters, articles and other resources. Everything listed on the course schedule is required readings.

- You must buy the textbooks below (they are available at the University of Toronto Bookstore or on Amazon). **Make sure you get the right edition.** The books will also be on reserve at UofT Robarts Library.
 - William Roberts Clark, Matt Golder and Sona Nadenichek Golder. 2013. *Principles of Comparative Politics*. Second Edition. CQPress, Sage.
 - Desmond Dinan. 2010. *Ever Closer Union: An Introduction to European Integration*. Fourth Edition. Boulder: Lynne Reiner Publishers.
 - Simon Hix and Bjorn Hoyland. 2011. *The Political System of the European Union*. Third Edition. Palgrave Macmillan.
- The rest of required readings will be available through Blackboard under *Course Materials* or under *Library Resources* (on the left hand menu bar).
- We will regularly refer to European and EU current events so you are expected to devote time to reading European and EU news. Below are a few suggestions of good news sources to follow:
 - o The Guardian: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world>
 - o New York Times: <http://www.nytimes.com/pages/world/index.html>
 - o The Financial Times
 - o The Economist: www.economist.com
 - o Der Spiegel (English version): <http://www.spiegel.de/international/>
 - o The European Voice: <http://www.european-voice.com>
 - o The EU observer: <http://euobserver.com>
 - o Other respected sources of political-economic analysis in English or other language you might be familiar with (El Pais, Le Monde ...)

Course Requirements

Students are expected to attend lectures and to do the assigned weekly readings. Active in-class participation will be important. The course has the following components.

Course Requirements	Composition Final Grade
Participation & Map Quiz	10%
Assignment I – Two Components	20%
Midterm Test	20%
Assignment II – Four Components	25%
Final Text	25%
Final Grade	100%

There are two tests. The tests will take place during regular lecture time on the last meeting of each semester. Both tests will be closed book. The two tests will be comprehensive of what we have talked in class and what is in the readings. My lectures will not always cover everything in the readings so to be fully prepared for the tests you need a good knowledge of both the reading materials and the lectures. The second test will mostly cover the material in the second semester (winter semester), with some limited cumulative dimensions.

There are two assignments for this course: Assignment I in the Fall semester and Assignment II in the Winter semester. Assignment I has two components around a research paper on a current debate about the European Union. You will choose from a list of debate topics and positions. The first component consists of a draft of your research paper (2-3 pages). We will give you comments on the draft, which you will need to incorporate in your final version. The second part consists of the final version of your research paper (5-6

pages). I will provide detailed guidelines of this assignment by the second week of classes (September 17th). The following website contains wonderful advice on writing: <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice>.

Assignment II in the Winter semester has four different components all of which will focus on a single country which you will pick at the beginning of the semester. The first three components of this assignment consist of brief country reports on key institutional and political features of your country. You will also have to answer some brief analytic questions in each report. The fourth and final component of this assignment consists of a 5-6-page research paper on your country, which will build on the research you have done on your country reports. I will provide detailed guidelines on each component of this assignment the first week of the Winter semester (January 7th).

In addition there will be a map quiz the third week (September 24th) of the Fall semester. Guidelines about the quiz will be provided by the second week of classes. Participation throughout the two semesters will be a part of your final grade for the course. Although this is a large class I hope to make it as interactive as possible. I expect you to come to class on time, well read and ready to participate in the class discussions. I expect participation to be thoughtful and respectful at all times.

Submissions, Due Dates and Late Penalties

Course Requirements	Due Date	Submission Guidelines
Map Quiz	September 24th – In class quiz	
Assignment I part A	October 22nd	Hard copy – Beginning of class
Assignment I part B	November 19th	Turnitin – Before class starts AND Hard copy – Beginning of class
Midterm Test	December 3rd – In class test	
Assignment II part A	January 21st	Hard copy – Beginning of class
Assignment II part B	February 4th	Hard copy – Beginning of class
Assignment II part C	February 11th	Hard copy – Beginning of class
Assignment II part D	March 18th	Turnitin – Before class starts AND Hard copy – Beginning of class
Final Test	April 1st – In class test	

All assignments are due at the beginning of class. Assignments turned in at the end of class or after class on the due date are considered late. Only hard copies are acceptable both for on-time and for late assignments (no e-mailed or faxed copies will be accepted). The due dates for tests and assignments are firm and non-negotiable. Assignments will receive a 5 percent penalty for the first day they are late and 2 percent per day thereafter (weekends included). Late assignments should be submitted to the main office of the Political Science Department (3rd floor of Sidney Smith Hall), and should obtain a time stamp at the main office. Please note that the Political Science main office is not open on weekends and closes at 5:00 pm during weekdays. If the office is closed, there is a dropbox and your assignments will be considered as turned in that day, but note that in the weekends your assignment will be considered as turned in the following Monday.

Extensions for assignments and tests will be exceptionally granted on medical or compassionate grounds when they are requested **before** the assignment is due or **before** the test takes place. No extensions will be granted after the due date. In medical cases, you must submit the original copy of a University of Toronto student medical certificate: <http://www.healthservice.utoronto.ca/pdfs/medcert.htm>.

“Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University’s use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.

More specifically, Assignment I part B and Assignment II part D – which correspond to the research papers – should be submitted through Turnitin before the start of the class on the due date indicated **AND** should also be turned in as a hard copy at the beginning of class on the due date indicated. In these cases, a paper will be considered late if it does not satisfy one or both of these conditions. I will post instructions on Blackboard about creating an account on Turnitin for this course. Other component parts for Assignment I and II should **ONLY** be turned in as hard copies at the beginning of class on the due date indicated for each assignment.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism and cheating are violations of academic integrity and thus violations of the University of Toronto Student Conduct Code. Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and will be dealt with accordingly. I am under the obligation to report any suspected plagiarism. I strongly encourage you to carefully read the University of Toronto's policy on plagiarism and advice on how-not-to-plagiarize at

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>. When in doubt, please ask me or Sebastian Baglioni for any clarification on what consists plagiarism. Students are strongly advised to keep rough and draft work and hard copies of their research paper and other assignments.

Other Course Policies

- *Grade Appeal Policy:* The final grade in the course cannot be appealed. You can appeal the grade for individual assignments. All appeals of grades received on a test or written assignment need to be submitted in writing no later than five working days after the test or assignment is returned to the class. The written statement should explain the reasons of your dissatisfaction, making explicit references to the grading criteria and to the course and lecture materials. The appeal will be first reviewed by whoever graded the assignment (Grader or Instructor). If you are still dissatisfied after the Grader has reviewed your case, you can appeal to the Instructor of the course for a final review. Note that on appeal the Grader and Instructor can choose to lower your grade as well as raise it.
- *Blackboard, Announcements and Lecture Outlines:* I will be using Blackboard to manage this course and to communicate with you outside of class time. It is your responsibility to have an active U of T e-mail address¹ and to access Blackboard regularly. I will post announcements through Blackboard as well as any new resource or reading material that I consider important for the course. In addition, I will also post my lecture outlines. When possible, the outlines will be posted prior to the lecture. The outlines point out the structure of the lecture, and the topics and central concepts it covers. As such, it can assist in note taking during the class and in reviewing the lecture material afterwards. Note, however, that the outlines are bare-bone and cannot be used as a substitute for attendance and detailed lecture notes.
- *E-mail and Office Hours:* For all general course matters direct e-mail correspondence to me at carol.demiguel@utoronto.ca. I will try to respond within 24h during weekdays but I expect all lengthy and substantial conversations to happen during office hours rather than by email. Please include “POL 324” in the subject line of all your email correspondence to me. I will hold regular office hours every week. Office hours are a great time to discuss any questions or concerns you may have about the readings, assignments, lectures, etc. Sebastian Baglioni – the grader for this course– will hold office hours before paper drafts and final papers are due, and he will be the go-to person to ask questions and get guidance/feedback about papers. The location and time of these office hours will be posted on Blackboard.
- *Accessibility Needs:* The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please let me know and contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible at accessibility.services@utoronto.ca or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>.

¹If you have not already established a university e-mail account you can find information on how to do so at Robarts Library

- The course schedule and readings may be subject to revision over the course of the two semesters. However any change in the grading scheme (which I do not expect will happen) will have to be approved by the students of this course in accordance to University regulations.

Course Schedule

September 10th - **Introduction**

September 17th - **Conceptual Tools & Origins of European Integration (1945-1957)**

- Clark et al. Chapter 4, pp. 87-91 (not entire chapter).
- McCormick, John. 2005. *Understanding the European Union: A Concise Introduction*. "Chapter 1: What is the European Union," p. 1-12 (not entire chapter).
- Hix. Chapter 1. Introduction: Explaining the EU Political System, pp. 12-18 (not entire chapter).
- Dinan. Chapter 1: Introduction, pp. 9-27.
- Winston S. Churchill. 1946. "The Tragedy of Europe".

September 24th - **Crisis, Recovery and Birth of the EU (1958-1992)**

- Dinan. Chapter 2, pp. 29-52.
- Dinan. Chapter 3, pp. 53-72 (skim).
- Dinan. Chapter 4, 73-102.

Political Map of Europe Quiz – In class

October 1st - **Theorizing European Integration**

- Clark et al. Chapter 4, pp. 100-119.
- Pollack. 2005. "Theorizing the European Union: International Organization, Domestic Polity, or Experiment in New Governance?" in *Annual Review of Political Science*, pp. 357-398.

October 8th - **NO CLASS: Thanksgiving**

October 15th - **Towards an Ever Wider Union? The Politics of Enlargement**

- Dinan. Chapter 6, pp. 133-143.
- Dinan. Chapter 16, pp. 484-493.

October 22nd - **Towards an Ever Closer Union? The Constitutional Debate**

- Joshka Fischer. "Humboldt Speech", 2000.
- Dinan. Chapter 6, pp. 143-156.
- Habermas, J. 2001. "Why Europe needs a Constitution" *New Left Review*. n. 11, September-October.
- Andrew Moravcsick. "A Too Perfect Union? Why Europe Said 'No'". November 2005.
- Clive Church and David Phinnemore. "Chapter 4. From the Constitutional Treaty to the Treaty of Lisbon" in Michelle Cini et al. *European Union Politics*, pp. 54-66.

Due Beginning of Class: Assignment I Part A: DRAFT OF THE PAPER

October 29th - **Executive & Legislative Politics in the EU**

- Hix. “Chapter 2: Executive Politics”, pp. 23-48.
- Hix. “Chapter 3: Legislative Politics”, pp. 49-74.

November 5th - **Judicial Politics & the ECJ**

- Hix. “Chapter 4: Judicial Politics”, pp. 75-104.

November 12th - **NO CLASS: November pause**

November 19th - **EMU and The Current Economic Crisis**

- Hix, Simon. “Chapter 10: Economic and Monetary Union”, pp. 245-272.
- Dinan. Chapter 6, pp. 156-165.
- Paul Krugman. “Can Europe be Saved?” *New York Times*, January 12th, 2011.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/16/magazine/16Europe-t.html?pagewanted=all>
- “Continental Drift” in *New Yorker*, March 30, 2009.
- “Debtor States” in *New Yorker*, April 12, 2010.

Due Beginning of Class: Assignment I Part B: FINAL VERSION OF THE PAPER

November 26th - **Public Opinion and Participation in the EU**

- Hix. “Chapter 5: Public Opinion,” pp. 105-129.
- Hix. “Chapter 6: Democracy, Parties and Elections in the EU,” pp. 132-137.
- Citrin, Jack and John Sides. 2004. “Can Europe Exist Without Europeans? Problems of Identity in a Multinational Community.” *Advances in Political Psychology*.

December 3rd - **Midterm Test – In class**

January 7th - **What is Science? What is Politics?**

- Clark et al. Chapters 2 and 3.

January 14th - **Transitions to Democracy in Europe**

- Clark et al. Chapter 8.

January 21st - **Executive Type: Making and Breaking Governments in Europe**

- Clark et al. Chapter 12.

Due Beginning of Class: Assignment II Part A

January 28th - **Elections and Electoral Systems**

- Clark et al. Chapter 13.

February 4th - **Social Cleavages and Party Systems**

- Clark et al. Chapter 14.

Due Beginning of Class: Assignment II Part B

February 11th - **Institutional Veto Players**

- Clark et al. Chapter 15.

Due Beginning of Class: Assignment II Part C

February 18th - **FAMILY DAY**

February 25th - **Consequences of Democratic Institutions in Europe I**

- Clark et al. Chapter 16.

March 4th - **Consequences of Democratic Institutions in Europe II**

- Clark et al. Chapter 16.

March 11th - **Current Topics I: Varieties of Capitalism**

- Esping-Andersen, Gosta. 1990. *The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton UP, pp. 9-34.
- Alesina, Alberto, Edward Glaeser, and Bruce Sacerdote. 2001. "Why doesn't the United States Have a European-Style Welfare State?" *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, No. 2, pp. 187-254.

March 18th - **Current Topics II: Identity, Citizenship and Immigration**

- "Another Project in Trouble." *The Economist*, April 28th, 2011: <http://www.economist.com/node/18618525>
- TBA

Due Beginning of Class: Assignment II Part D: PAPER

March 25th - **Current Topics III: The Future of Europe & Review**

- Giddens, Anthony. 2007. "Chapter 7. Eight Theses on the Future of Europe," pp. 199-230 in *Europe in the Global Age*
- Andrew Moravcsik "In Defense of Europe" *Newsweek*.
- Chris Patten "What is Europe to do?" *New York Review of Books*.

April 1st - **Final Test – In class**