

# POL 207Y Politics in Europe

Carolina de Miguel Moyer  
University of Toronto Department of Political Science  
2015-2016

**Lecture Location and Meeting Time:** AH 100, Mondays 12:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**Instructor:** Carolina de Miguel Moyer (carol.demiguel@utoronto.ca)

**Instructor office hours:** Mondays 3:00 - 4:00 pm (SS 3035)

**TAs:** Nicholas Conserva (nicolas.conserva@mail.utoronto.ca) & Alexis Zimberg (alexis.zimberg@mail.utoronto.ca)

## Description

This course introduces students to key questions, theories and methods in comparative politics through an exploration of European politics. We will cover theories of transitions to democracy, formation and development of the nation-state, political institutions and their effects, parties and party systems and elections and electoral behaviour. We will also analyze the major developments and challenges in Europe today such as the formation of the European Union, the eurozone crisis, the challenge to the European social model, the rise of extreme political parties and the recent migrant crisis. The goal is for students to become familiar with the politics and governments of contemporary Europe through the lens of current and classic themes in comparative politics.

## Readings

The required readings for this course are based on a series of textbooks and a collection of book chapters, articles and other resources that are listed below. The textbooks are available for purchase at the University of Toronto Bookstore or through Amazon. **Make sure you get the right edition.** They are also on reserve at Robarts Library. All other required readings are available as a live link from your course reserve model: <http://go.utlib.ca/coursereserves>.

- Clark, William Roberts and Matt Golder and Sona Nadenichek Golder. 2013. *Principles of Comparative Politics*. **Second Edition**. CQPress, Sage. [From here on Clark et al.]
- Desmond Dinan. 2010. *Ever Closer Union: An Introduction to European Integration*. Fourth Edition. Boulder: Lynne Reiner Publishers.

We will regularly refer to European and EU current events so you are expected to devote time to reading European and EU news. Here are a few suggestions of good news sources to follow: The Guardian: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world>, New York Times: <http://www.nytimes.com/pages/world/index.html>, The Financial Times, The Economist: [www.economist.com](http://www.economist.com), Der Spiegel (English version): <http://www.spiegel.de/international/>, The European Voice: <http://www.european-voice.com>, The EU observer: <http://euobserver.com>. Other respected sources of analysis in languages you might be familiar with (El Pais, Le Monde... ).

## Course Evaluation and Requirements

	Due Date	Submission Guidelines
<b>Tutorials</b>	10%	
<b>Map Quiz</b>	2% Sept 28th	In lecture class
<b>First Midterm Test</b>	20% Dec 7th	In lecture class (closed book and notes)
<b>Fall Assignments</b>		
Assignment I Country Report	8% Nov 2nd	Turnitin – Before lecture class starts AND Hard copy: Beginning of tutorial class
Assignment II Electoral Reform Paper	15% Nov 23rd	Turnitin – Before lecture class starts AND Hard copy: Beginning of tutorial class
<b>Spring Assignment</b>		
Assignment III Long Paper – Proposal	5% Feb 8th	Turnitin – Before lecture class starts AND Hard copy: Beginning of tutorial class
Assignment IV Long Paper – Final Paper	20% March 21st	Turnitin – Before lecture class starts AND Hard copy: Beginning of tutorial class
<b>Second Midterm Test</b>	20% April 4th	In lecture class (closed book and notes)

- The course meets for two hours of lecture per week. Students are expected to attend lectures and to complete the assigned weekly readings. Although this is a large class I will encourage in-class participation. I expect participation to be thoughtful and respectful at all times. I expect you to turn off and put your cell phones away when class starts.
- You will have tutorials approximately once every two weeks. Tutorials serve the purpose of delving deeper into topics covered during lecture and in the readings, as well as provide guidance on your writing assignments. Tutorials will be graded based on attendance and, more importantly, informed in-class participation. Attending fewer than 60% of the tutorials, in either semester, could lead to a final tutorial grade of 0%.

Fall Semester: Sept-Nov		Spring Semester: Jan-March	
Tutorial # 1	September 28th Week	Tutorial # 7	January 18th Week
Tutorial # 2	October 5th Week	Tutorial # 8	February 1st Week
Tutorial # 3	October 19th Week	Tutorial # 9	February 8th Week
Tutorial # 4	November 2nd Week	Tutorial # 10	March 7th Week
Tutorial # 5	November 23rd Week	Tutorial # 11	March 21st Week
Tutorial # 6	November 30th Week	Tutorial # 12	March 28th Week

- There is a midterm test at the end of each semester that is closed book and closed notes. Students are responsible for all materials covered in the readings, the lectures and the tutorials. My lectures will not always cover everything in the readings but those readings could still appear in the midterm tests. The first midterm test will cover everything up to the date of the test. The second mid-term test will mostly cover the material taught in the second half of the course (winter term), but will have some limited cumulative dimension.
- There are two written assignments in the fall semester (a country report and a short paper) and a longer paper in the spring semester (divided into proposal and final paper). Guidelines for both assignments will be distributed in class.

## Course Policies

- **Due Dates, Submission Procedures and Late Penalties:** Please refer to the table above for deadlines and different submission formats for each assignment. Note that for the papers (and paper proposal) you will need to submit an electronic copy through Turnitin (in addition to a hard copy in lecture class). *“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.*

All work must be submitted on time. **Late assignments will receive a 5% penalty for each late day or fraction of a day (weekends and holidays 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.<sup>1</sup> **Emailed or faxed copies of on-time or late assignments will not be accepted.**

- **Extensions for Assignments and Make-Up Tests:** Extensions for assignments and make-up tests will only be granted in extenuating circumstances and with appropriate supporting documentation. According to the Faculty of Arts & Science Academic Handbook you can submit a written request for special consideration within one week of the missed test, attaching appropriate documentation, such as a medical certificate [...] or a College Registrar's note." If your extenuating circumstance is medical you must submit the original copy of a University of Toronto student medical certificate (<http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca>). Extensions and make-up tests are at my discretion and assignments in other courses are not grounds for an extension.
- **Grade Appeal Policy:** The final grade in the course cannot be appealed. You can appeal the grade for an individual assignment and/or test. Students have up to one month from the date of return of the item of term work to query the marking. The appeal must be made in writing to the TA that graded the work explaining the reasons of your dissatisfaction, making explicit references to the grading criteria and to the course and lecture materials. Such re-marking may involve the entire piece of work, and may raise or lower the mark. If the student is not satisfied with this re-evaluation, he or she may appeal to the instructor in charge of the course. According to the Faculty of Arts & Science Academic Handbook "any appeal of a mark beyond the instructor in the course may only be made for an item worth at least 20% of the course mark."
- **Contacting the Instructor:** Please feel free to stop by my office (SS 3035) during office hours (Mondays 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm). I expect all lengthy and substantial conversations to happen during office hours rather than by email. For non-substantive questions you can e-mail me at [carol.demiguel@utoronto.ca](mailto:carol.demiguel@utoronto.ca) including "POL 207Y" in the subject line. I will respond within 2 working days during weekdays. The TAs for this course – Nicolas Conserva and Alexis Zimberg– will also hold office hours (TBD) and I encourage you to attend them if you need extra assistance on writing assignments or clarifications on course material.
- **Blackboard, Announcements and Lecture Outlines:** I will use 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 address 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. I will post my lecture outlines after class. The outlines point out the structure of the lecture, and the topics and central concepts it covers. As such, they can assist 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.
- **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:** Academic integrity is fundamental to learning and scholarship at the University of Toronto. While I don't expect to encounter instances of cheating in this class, you should be aware that I take academic integrity very seriously, and that there are significant consequences if you are caught cheating or engaging in academic misconduct. You are expected to know what constitutes Academic Integrity and familiarize yourself with the University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>). Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

<sup>1</sup>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.

- In papers and assignments: Using someone else’s ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement. Copying material word-for-word from a source (including lecture and study group notes) and not placing the words within quotation marks. Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor. Making up sources or facts. Including references to sources that you did not use. Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.
  - On tests and exams: Using or possessing unauthorized aids. Looking at someone else’s answers during an exam or test. Misrepresenting your identity. Submitting an altered test for re-grading.
  - In academic work: Falsifying institutional documents or grades. Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor’s notes.
- **Academic Integrity Checklist:** To remind you of these expectations, and help you avoid accidental offences, **you must include a printed and signed Academic Integrity Checklist with all assignments** (the academic integrity check list is posted on Blackboard). **If you do not include the Academic Integrity Checklist with your assignments, your work will not be graded.** If you have questions about appropriate research and citation methods, seek out additional information from me, or from other available campus resources like the U of T Writing Website <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources>. Students are strongly advised to keep rough and draft work and hard copies of their research paper and other assignments.
  - **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 [disability.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:disability.services@utoronto.ca) or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>.
  - **Alteration of the Syllabus:** The course schedule and readings may be subject to revision over the course of the semester. 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 14th – Introduction

- Clark et al. “Chapter 2. What is Science?,” pp. 19-30; 43.
- Almond et al. “Chapter 1. The European Context,” pp. 1-21 in *European Politics Today* 4th edition, Pearson 2010.

### September 21st – Origins of the modern state

- Clark et al. Chapter 4, pp. 87-91; 100-119 (skip “A Brief History of a Failed State”)
- Tilly, Charles. 1985. “War Making as Organized Crime.” in P. Evans, D. Rueschemeyer and T. Skocpol (eds), *Bringing the State Back*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

### September 28th – Nations and nationalism in Europe – In class: Map Quiz

Questions: What explains the recent rise in minority nationalisms in Europe?

- Crepaz, Markus & Jurg Steiner. “Chapter 12. Nationalism and Ethnicity,” pp. 248-265 in *European Democracies*, 2013.
- Jason Sorens. 2005. “The Cross-Sectional Determinants of Secessionism in Advanced Democracies”. *Comparative Political Studies*, Vol. 38, No. 3, 304-326.
- Watch: Simon Hix on the results of the Scottish independence referendum, September 2014: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tQaRfJ7sx0g>

- New York Times, August 4th, 2015, *Catalonia Calls Election in New bid for Secession from Spain*: [http://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/05/world/europe/catalonia-calls-election-in-new-bid-for-secession-from-spain.html?mwrsm=Facebook\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/05/world/europe/catalonia-calls-election-in-new-bid-for-secession-from-spain.html?mwrsm=Facebook_r=0)

### October 5th – Democratic transitions

- Clark et al. “Chapter 8. Democratic Transitions”
- Darden, Keith and Anna Maria Grzymala-Busse. 2006. “The Great Divide: Literacy, Nationalism, and the Communist Collapse,” *World Politics*, Volume 59, Number 1: 83-115.

### October 12th – THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS

### October 19th – Making and breaking governments in parliamentary democracies

- Clark et al. “Chapter 12. Parliamentary, Presidential, and Semi-Presidential Democracies,” pp. 457-499; 506-512.
- Meny, Yves. “Chapter 4 France: The Institutionalization of Leadership” in Colomer, Josep (ed) *Comparative European Politics*, third edition, 2008, Routledge.

### October 26th – Veto players: federalism, bicameralism, constitutionalism

- Clark et al. “Chapter 15. Institutional Veto Players”
- Bull, Martin & Gianfranco Pasquino. “A long quest in vain: Institutional reforms in Italy”. *West European Politics*, 30:4, 2007, pp. 670-691.

### November 2nd – Elections and electoral systems

Question: What are the major trade-offs between different electoral systems?

- Clark et al. “Chapter 13. Elections and Electoral systems,” pp. 526-546; 564-574; 583-597.
- Crepaz, Markus & Jurg Steiner. “Chapter 3. The Most Specific Manipulative Instrument of Politics,” pp. 80-88 in *European Democracies*, 2013.
- “Nick Clegg says PR is essential to preserve smaller partners in coalitions,” *The Guardian*, Sunday July 12th  
<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2015/jul/12/nick-clegg-gives-first-tv-interview-since-lib-dems-disastrous-general-election>

### November 9th – FALL BREAK – NO CLASS

### November 16th – Political parties, party systems, social cleavages

Questions: What are political parties? Where do they come from? How do we explain the number of parties?

- Golder et al. “Chapter 14. Social Cleavages and Party Systems”
- Inglehart, Ronald. F. “Changing Values Among Western Publics:1970-2006.” *West European Politics*, 31:1-2, 2008, pp. 130-146.

### November 23rd – The rise of extreme parties

Question: What factors have contributed to the rise of the extreme right? Are they the same factors that explain the rise of the extreme left? Are all extremist parties the same? Why? Why not?

- Crepaz, Markus & Jurg Steiner, pp. 33-40 in *European Democracies*, 2013.
- “The Guardian view of Europe’s populists: left or right, they are united by a worrying xenophobia,” *Guardian*, February 1st, 2015: <http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/feb/01/guardian-view-europe-populists-left-right-united-worrying-xenophobia>

- “How the Nordic far-right has stolen the left’s ground on welfare,” *The Guardian*, July 26th, 2015: <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jul/26/scandinavia-far-right-stolen-left-ground-welfare>
- “The winds are changing: a new left populism for Europe”, *LSE*, February 16th, 2015: <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/eurocrisispress/2015/02/16/the-winds-are-changing-a-new-left-populism-for-europe/>

### November 30th – Democratic consolidation and change

- Kaldor, Mary. “Momentous Times for Democracy In Europe”, LSE, <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/internationaldevelopment/2015/07/15/momentous-times-for-democracy-in-europe-mary-kaldor/>
- Golder et al. pp. 143-151 (beginning of Chapter 5)
- Almond et al. “Chapter 2. Democratic Political Culture and Political Action” in *European Politics Today* 4th edition, Pearson, 2010.
- Birch, Sarah. “Electoral Systems and Party Systems in Europe East and West,” *Perspectives on European Politics and Society*, 2:3, 2001, pp. 355-377.

### December 7th – Mid-Term Test I: In Class

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#### January 11th – Origins of European integration

Questions: What explains the process of European Integration? How and why did European states decide to give up sovereignty to a supranational organization?

- Dinan, Desmond. *Ever Closer Union*, pp. 9-27; 29-52; 53-72 (skim);

#### January 18th – Towards an ever closer and wider union

Questions: Why did the EU decide to enlarge eastward? What were the consequences of that enlargement? What are the politics of enlargement today? What is the view on Turkey? What are the arguments in favour and against *Brexit*?

- Dinan, Desmond. *Ever Closer Union*, 73-102; 133-143; 484-494.
- Matthias, M. 2013. “David Cameron’s Dangerous Games: The Folly of Flirting With an EU Exit” in *Foreign Affairs*. September/October 2013, Vol. 91, Num. 5, p. 10-16. <http://myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/login?url=http://search.proquest.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/docview/14>

#### January 25th – The institutions of the EU

Questions: How does the EU compare to existing political systems? What type of regime does the EU have? How is policy made in the EU?

- McCormick, John. “Chapter 4. The Institutions of the EU” in *Understanding the European Union: A Concise Introduction*, third edition.

#### February 1st – Europe in crisis: democratic deficit in the EU

Questions: What does it mean to have a political union? Why did the Constitutional Treaty fail to be ratified? Does the EU have a democratic deficit? If so, does it matter?

- Dinan, Desmond. *Ever Closer Union*, 143-156.
- Moravcsik, Andrew. “A Too Perfect Union? Why Europe Said ‘No.’” *Current History*, November 2005

- Hix, Simon & Bjorn Hoyland. 2011. "Chapter 5. Public Opinion" & "Chapter 6. Democracy, Parties and Elections."
- "European Elections at a Glance" *BBC*: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-27575869>

### February 8th – Europe in crisis: Monetary union & the eurozone crisis

Questions: Is the current crisis in Europe a financial problem, a political problem or a moral problem? What is the best way forward?

- Hix, Simon & Bjorn Hoyland. 2011. "Chapter 10: Economic and Monetary Union", pp. 245-272 in *The Political System of the European Union*.
- 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>
- "Jurgen Habermas's verdict on the EU/Greece debt deal": [http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/jul/16/jurgen-habermas-eu-greece-debt-deal?CMP=share\\_btn\\_tw](http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/jul/16/jurgen-habermas-eu-greece-debt-deal?CMP=share_btn_tw)

### February 15th – FAMILY DAY – NO CLASS

### February 29th – Europe in crisis: The end of the European social model?

Questions: Is the welfare state in crisis? Why or why not?

- Caramani, Daniele eds. "Chapter 21: The Welfare State" in *Comparative Politics* (third edition).
- Kuttner, Robert. "The Copenhagen Consensus: Reading Adam Smith in Denmark," *Foreign Affairs*, 87, 2 (March/April 2008): <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/europe/2008-03-01/copenhagen-consensus>
- Pontusson, Jonas. *Inequality and Prosperity: Social Europe vs. Liberal American*, chapters 1-2.

### March 7th – Europe in crisis: The politics of immigration

- Bale, Tim. "Chapter 10. Not wanted but needed - migrants and minorities" in *European Politics*
- Dancygier, Rafaela & Michael Donnelly. "Attitudes toward Immigration in Good Times and Bad" in Nancy Bermeo and Larry Bartels, eds. *Mass Politics in Tough Times: Opinion, Votes and Protest in the Great Recession*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2014.
- Interview with Joe Carens: What gives us the right to deport people? <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2013/11/29/what-gives-us-a-right-to-deport-people-joseph-carens-on-the-ethics-of-immigration/>

### March 14th – Effect of political institutions: Representation and accountability

- Clark et al. "Chapter 16 Consequences of Democratic Institutions," pp. 743-765.
- Norris, Pippa. "The Impact of Electoral Reform on Women's Representation" in *Acta Politica*, July 2006, Volume 41, Number 2, pp. 197-213.

### March 21st – Effect of political institutions: Economic and social outcomes

- Clark et al. "Chapter 16 Consequences of Democratic Institutions," pp. 766-788.
- Pontusson, Jonas & David Rueda. 2010. "The Politics of Inequality: Voter Mobilization and Left Parties in Advanced Industrial States"

### March 28th – Explaining Quality of Governance

- Putnam, Robert. *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*, chapters 1 & 4.
- Charron, Nicholas & Victor Lapuente. "Why Do Some Regions in Europe Have a Higher Quality of Government?" *Journal of Politics*, July 2013, Vol. 75, No. 13, 567-582.

April 4th – Mid-Term Test II: In Class