

THE EUROPEAN UNION IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM

Spring 2007

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Course Times: Tuesday: 10:30 - 13:15

Course Description

Western Europe has undergone dramatic changes in the 40 years since European integration was first launched and particularly so since the end of the Cold War. The character of the European economy has been transformed by industrial integration and political change.

This course deals with the historical beginning of the European Economic Community and how it developed via European Economic Community to the European Union. It will also cover its different institutions, its economic performance, the Single European Act, the Maastricht Treaty, European Monetary Union, social and economic aspects of integration, foreign and defence policy cooperation, the issue of deepening versus widening as well as enlargement.

The European Union is at a major crossroads in its development and decisions made in the late 1990s will dictate what sort of united Europe will emerge. Will it be a 'Fortress Europe' devoted to economic and political self-interest and impervious to the needs of the rest of the world? Will a Europe fit only for capitalists emerge? Should we fear the development of an interventionist bureaucracy? Will the Euro be successful? While some are anxious about loss of national sovereignty in key areas of decision-making, others extol the virtues of the pooling of sovereignty. A few visionaries foresee the creation of a federal state of Europe with federal institutions such as a common currency, a central bank, a European police force and eventually a common European defence and foreign policy.

This course will also tackle the question of European enlargement after 1 May 2004, examine the separate histories of Western and Eastern Europe in the twentieth century and assess how this past may influence the Union's future development.

Class sessions will include lectures and discussions and students are required to actively participate and contribute to these discussions. The required weekly reading will be presented by students in a seminar fashion. There will be two 'mini-exams' throughout the semester. Exams are in essay format and questions will draw on the required readings and the lectures. Students are also required to submit two research papers, one about 800 words and the second about 1500-2000 words, with footnotes/endnotes (or MLA referencing) and bibliography.

Learning Outcomes:

This course will cover the following elements and students should know about the following issues at the end of the course:

- History and Background of the European Union: Tracing the origins of the European Communities from the post-war period, the Treaty of Rome, formation of EFTA, growth and enlargement of the Community, Britain's eventually entry, the Single European Act, the Treaty on European Union (Maastricht), the 1996 Inter-Governmental Conference
- The European Union Today: Issues of expansion and enlargement. Moves toward closer political and economic union; widening versus deepening; a multi-speed Europe? European citizenship. The concepts of variable geometry or concentric circles, democratic accountability, subsidiarity. A single currency, economic and monetary union. Admission of new members. Common defence policies, justice and home affairs. An eventual European Federation?
- The Governance of the European Union: Study of the European institutions – the Commission, European Parliament, Economic & Social Committee, Committee of the Regions, Council of Ministers, the European Council. Progress of European legislation from proposal to directive or regulation. The consultative process. Lobbying by governments, business, consumers, interest groups.
- Britain and Europe: Historical, cultural and institutional characteristics distinguishing Britain from other European nations; are these differences still valid as we enter the 21st century? Fear of Federalism – a party political gimmick? Europhobes and Europhiles – Thatcher's legacy? Attitudes to Europe in different segments of UK public opinion (regions, young and old, social class etc.) and other socio-political considerations.
- Budgets and Spending: Introduction to the finances of the Union, income and expenditure, budgetary processes. The annual budget, checks and balances. Fraud. The Court of Auditors, the Court of Justice. Background to the main spending policies, European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund, Common Agricultural Policy, the Cohesion Fund.
- The Single Market: Europe prior to 1992, the Cecchini Report. Concept of the Single Market – free movement of people, goods, services and capital. Some important concepts – European standardisation, mutual acceptance, harmonisation, consumer protection, approximation of taxes and duties, creating a level playing field, competition and monopolies. Implications for business.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation will be provided to students with documented disabilities on a case by case basis. Students must register with the Office of Academic Support Services and provide appropriate documentation to the college before any academic adjustment will be provided.

Course assessment:

- Short Essay: %20 Typed, 800-1000 words.
- Long Essay: %40 Typed, 1500-2000 words
- Two mini-exams: %10
- Final examination: %30
- **ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.**
- **Students will be dropped automatically from the class after two absences.**

Assignments:

1) Short essay, 800-1000 words: Title, “What is the European Union actually designed to do?” Minimum of three sources all of which must be books – no website materials allowed.

Due Date: **22 February 2007**

2) Long essay: chose from list at the end of this syllabus, 1500-2000 words Minimum of six sources four of which must be books – limited website materials allowed.

Due Date: **12 April 2007**

3) Mini-exams: Two short quizzes will be given during the term – one in the first half and one in the second. They will be twenty minutes long, require short answers to questions based on the reading and issues raised in class. An average will be taken of all four to calculate the final mark.

4) Final exam: A final formal examination one and half hours long with essay form answers and a selection of questions to choose from.

CORE TEXTBOOK:

Required:

Michelle Cini (ed.), European Union Politics, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2003

All students are required to buy a copy of this book by the second class of the semester. Further materials in the form of handouts will be provided by the instructor throughout the term.

Also useful:

Robert A Jones, The Politics and Economics of the European Union, Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1997.

R: Helen Wallace & William Wallace, Policy Making in the European Union, 4th Edition, Oxford University Press, 2000.

T. Bainbridge, The Penguin Companion to the European Union, Penguin, 1998.

Crampton, R.J., Eastern Europe in the Twentieth Century, Routledge, 1995.

Dinan, Desmond, Encyclopaedia of the European Union, Penguin, 1998

Dinan, Desmond, Ever Closer Union. An Introduction to European Integration, Palgrave, 1999.

Alexander Noble, From Rome to Maastricht: the essential guide to the European Union, Warner Books, 1996.

Neill Nugent, The Government and Politics of the European Union, Macmillan, 1995

Neill Nugent & Rory O'Donnell, eds., The European Business Environment, Macmillan, 1994.

Peterson, P and Shackleton, M, The Institutions of the European Union, Oxford University Press, 2002.

Dennis Swann, The Economics of the Common Market, Penguin, 1993.

Some Other Recommended Texts:

Bretherton, Charlotte and John Vogler. The European Union As a Global Actor. Routledge, 1999.

Callea, Stephen C. (Ed.). Regionalism in the Post-Cold War. Ashgate, 2000.

Diez, Thomas (Ed.). The European Union and the Cyprus Conflict, Modern Conflict, Postmodern Union. Manchester University Press, 2002.

Drew, Sue and Rosie Bingham. The Student Skills Guide, 2nd ed. Gower, 2001.

Fulbrook, Mary (Ed.) Europe Since 1945. Oxford, 2000.

Gamble, Andrew and Anthony Payne (Eds.). Regionalism and World Order. 1996.

Gardner, Hall and Radoslava Stefanova, (Eds.). The New Transatlantic Agenda. G8 and Global Governance Series, 2001.

Gartner, Heinz and Adrian Hyde-Price and Erich Reiter (Eds.). Europe's New Security Challenges. 2001.

Harding, Rebecca and William E. Patterson (Eds.). The Future of the German Economy, An End to a Miracle? Manchester University Press, 2000.

Haseler, Stephen and Jacques Reland (Eds.) Britain and Euroland. The Federal Trust & Kogan Page, 2000.

Hettne, Bjorn and Andras Inotai and Osvaldo Sunkel (Eds.). National Perspectives on the New Regionalism in the North. Palgrave/ Macmillan Press Ltd., 2000.

Hook, Joanne and Ian Kearns (Eds.). Subregionalism and World Order. 1999.

Hyde-Price, Adrian. Germany & European Order, Enlarging NATO and the EU. Manchester University Press, 2000.

Kerremans, Bart and Bob Switky (Eds.). The Political Importance of Regional Trading Blocs. Ashgate, 2000.

Mattli, Walter. The Logic of Regional Integration, Europe and Beyond. Columbia University, 1999.

McMahon, Robert J. The Cold War: A Very Short Introduction. Oxford, 2000.

Richardson, Jeremy (Ed.). European Union, Power and Policy-making. Routledge, 2001.

Peterson, John and Michael Shackleton (Eds.). The Institutions of the European Union. Oxford, 2002.

Pinder, John. The European Union: A Very Short Introduction. Oxford Press, 2001.

Polley, Martin. An A-Z of Modern Europe 1789 – 1999. Routledge, 2000.

Schmidt, Vivien A. The Futures of European Capitalism. Oxford, 2002.

Smith, Martin and Graham Timmins. Uncertain Europe, Building A New European Security Order. Routledge, 2001.

Telo, Mario. European Union and New Regionalism, Regional Factors and Global Governance in a Post-hegemonic Era. Ashgate, 2001.

The Eurosceptical Readers. Palgrave, 2001.

Thody, Philip. Europe Since 1945. Routledge, 2000.

Thomas, Kenneth P. and Mary Ann Tetreault (Eds.). Racing to Regionalize: Democracy, Capitalism And Regional Political Economy. 1999.

Warleigh, Alex. Understanding European Union Institutions. Routledge, 2001.

Course Outline

This *Outline* should be viewed as a guide to the weekly meetings, although some *changes* may occur through specific interests brought up by students.

Week One: *Introduction to the course, the basics about Europe and the European Union*

Reading: Handout

Week Two: *The historical background to the EEC. Europe after the war.*

Reading: Cini, chps, 2 & 4

Optional extra reading: Bromley chp 1; Jones chp 1.

Week Three: *The EU: its aim, size, organizational decision-making structure and institutions: Commission, Council of Ministers and Parliament.*

Reading: Cini, chps, 9, 10, 11

Optional extra reading: Bromley chps 4,5,6; Wallace & Wallace, chp 1, Jones chp 4;

Week Four: *Economic Performance. Common Agricultural Policy (CAP): too successful for its own good? The budget system.*

Reading: Cini, chp 16;

Optional extra reading: Bromley chp 8; Wallace & Wallace, chps 7&8; Jones chps 5&6;

Week Five: *The Single European Act: Fortress Europe? The Maastricht Treaty: Sovereignty undermined?*

Reading: Cini, chp 3;

Optional extra reading: Bromley chp 6; Thompson chps 1, 2; Wallace & Wallace, chp 4; Jones chp 9;

Week Six: *Britain and the EU: An Uneasy Relationship.*

Class discussion

Week Seven: *European Monetary Union.*

Reading: Cini, chp 20;

Optional extra reading: Thompson chps 4, 8; Wallace & Wallace, chp 6; Jones chp 10;

Week Eight: Mid-semester Break: No Classes (8 March 2007)

Week Nine: *The social integration of Europe*

Reading: Cini, chp 17;

Optional extra reading: Thompson chp 5; Wallace & Wallace, chp 10; Jones chp 8;

Week Ten: *Common Foreign and Security Policy of the EU: still economic giant, but a political dwarf?*

Reading: Cini, chp. 15

Optional extra reading: Thompson chp 10; Wallace & Wallace, chp 17; Jones, chp 17;

Week Eleven: *Common Defence Policy of the EU: The impact of Kosovo*

Video: Moral Combat

Optional extra reading: Thompson chp 10; Wallace & Wallace, chp 17; Jones, chp 18-19;

Week Twelve: *Marketing in the EU: Does a Euroconsumer exist? Competition Policy in the EU. Competition and industrial restructuring. MNCs and the Single European Act.*

Reading: Cini, chp 13

Optional extra reading: Thompson chp 3 Wallace & Wallace, chp 5; Jones chp 15;

Week Thirteen: *Deepening or Widening of the Union? European enlargement.*

Reading: Cini, chp 14

Optional extra reading: Bromley chp 9; Wallace & Wallace, chp 16; Jones chps 18,19;

Week Fourteen: *Distant friends: The US assessment of the European Union.*

Reading: W. Wallace & J. Zielonka, the Atlantic Lament, in Prospect pp 30-4;

Week Fifteen: Summary and Conclusion

LONG ESSAY QUESTIONS (1500-2000 words)

1. 'An outdated institution, battling against obsolescence'. Does this description fit the current European Union?
2. "The rationale for integration between the original six members of the EEC has now disappeared and this is the reason why the European Union is facing difficulties in the new millennium". Discuss.
3. "The UK should now join a single European currency, because the economic arguments support this policy." Do you agree?
4. Account for the controversies surrounding the adoption of a Common Defence Policy.
5. Account for the creation of the European Council, and why this was a constructive phase in the development of the European Community?
6. Analyse the effect of the Second World War on the development of the European Union.
7. Assess the repercussions of the 1989 revolution in Eastern Europe in reference to the recent widening of the European Union.
8. Discuss the development of the attempts of Britain to enter the EEC: 1957-1967
9. Evaluate the future capacity of the European Union to play a leading role in international affairs.

10. Has the balance of power between Brussels and the member states shifted significantly between 1958 and 2001? What of the sharing of responsibilities between Commission and Council?
11. How federal is the EU?
12. USA-EU relations: Political partnership or rivalry?

Basic structures for written work

Remember the 5 Ps **Proper preparation prevents poor performance.**

Always state the essay title clearly, do not paraphrase or change it.

Part One:

First paragraph: introduce the subject you are addressing – NOT the general topic – and how you understand it, give an overview of the different aspects that you are going to address ("First, this paper will look at..., second this paper will highlight the..., third it discusses..., and then finally..."). Explain in one sentence or two the reasons why you chose those aspects in order to answer the question. At the end of the first paragraph, you might want to state your answer to the essay question (After looking at all the different aspects, this paper concludes that...[answer to the essay question]) The purpose of the first paragraph is:

- **To help explain how you understand the question or issue (including key terms, varying debates and approaches)**
- **To help the reader understand the structure of your written work**
- **To have a clear grasp of what aspects you are looking at and why**
- **To define key terms**
- **KEEP TEXT IN THE THIRD PERSON, keep to the past tense if appropriate**
- **avoid 'I think' or 'I feel' and spurious abbreviations - 'etc', 'govt.' or 'b/t'**
- **On the first use of all names or abbreviations spell them out in full – European Union (EU), John F. Kennedy.**
- **Use 1980s and NOT 1980's.**

Part Two:

Body of the Text: Discuss the different aspects you selected to address. Separate each aspect by using a new paragraph. Try to keep your paragraphs even and relatively short, avoid paragraphs that take up a whole page. Try to aim for two or three paragraphs per page. At the end of the discussion of each aspect, make an explicit link back to the essay question.

- **Make sure you separate your opinions from those of authors but always try to illustrate the various approaches of a variety of authors to that particular topic.**
- **Make sure you are answering the question through the use of analysis not just description. Although description is often necessary and useful only analytical approaches will gain the highest grades.**
- **Use an academic style of citation and stick to it. Never mix styles! Stick to the referencing system that's used in your field – MLA, Chicago or APA – and make sure you use it consistently.**
- **Keep your writing clear and simple at all times.**
- **Guide the reader through your text let them know where you are going and where they are in your argument. You are NOT writing a murder mystery story.**

Part Three:

Last Paragraph: Weigh up the results of each paragraph or aspect at the end of your essay here you should make YOUR answer to the question crystal clear. The conclusion should include:

- **A summary of all the issues and aspects covered in the main text.**
- **Never introduce any new material**
- **An explanation of YOUR answer to the question – NOT the topic – this has to coincide with the preliminary answer given in the introduction.**
- **Make sure you have produced a rounded well argued piece that covers a variety of angles and contains analytical arguments of the matter in hand.**
- **It's structure and analysis that will get you the grade you want.**

