

Department of Political Science
College of Charleston
Spring 2014

POLI352 Geographies and Politics of the European Union

Instructor: Mark Long

Lectures: M/W/F 11.00-11.50am (Mybk. 307)

Office Hours: MW 12-2 Room 102, 26 Coming St.

Other times by appointment – E-mail: longm@cofc.edu; Tel.: 953-1883

Required reading:

1. O Toole, Fintan. 2010. *Ship of Fools*. New York: Public Affairs.
2. Pinder, John and Simon Usherwood. 2013. *European Union: A Very Short Introduction*. (3rd edition) New York: Oxford University Press.
3. Zielonka, Jan. 2007. *Europe as empire*. New York: Oxford University Press.
4. OAKS readings

Recommended reading:

1. Reading a quality daily newspaper (every day), US or international, will greatly enhance this and other classes. It's a great idea to get into the habit of being informed as early as possible in your third level education (and it's never too late to start!). Moreover, many such newspapers are available free online.
2. Further, for the purposes of this class, the following website contains useful resources: <http://www.europa.eu.int/>

Course Description: Taking a regional geographic perspective, this course is a comprehensive introduction to the European Union. We begin by considering the idea itself of Europe, before investigating the changing geographies of the European space through a chronology of developments in Europe from the Second World War onwards. In this sense, the course will chart the emergence of the initial European Communities and follow changes as these Communities evolve into today's European Union. Significantly, our account of the emergence of the Union will be process based, and so strategies to construct a European space anchored by politics, economics, and law (among others) will be examined and investigated. Close attention will be paid to the Union's successive remappings, and to the institutions and workings of the Union. So too to tensions at the heart of today's Union, both to increase understanding and as a platform for informed speculation with respect to future developments in this novel experiment in international relations.

The objectives of the course are as follows: to understand Europe's historical geography; to acquaint students with the European Union and analyze it through political and economic lenses; to study the geographies of the Union, and of its current and future member states; and to increase understanding of the nature of the international state system.

Exams and Grading: Grades will be determined out of a total of 500 points. The grading scale is as follows: A: 93-100%, A-: 90-92, B+: 88-89, B: 83-87, B-: 80-82, C+: 78-79, C: 73-77, C-: 70-72, D+: 68-69, D: 63-67, D-: 60-62. 59 percent or less will constitute a failing grade. There are 4 components to your grade. Please be advised that poor performance in any of these components will most likely cost you *at least* half a letter grade.

Be advised that this course is reading-intensive. It will be important to allocate time every day/week for course readings and to stay on schedule over the semester. Failing to systematically engage the course materials will greatly lower your score for the semester.

1. There will be **3 exams** in this course.
 - I. Exams will be administered in class (you will have to bring a blue book) and each exam will count for 100 points. Exams will not be cumulative.
 - II. A cumulative make-up exam will be offered on the assigned exam day during finals week. *Taking the make-up will be contingent on an “official” excuse with requisite paperwork.* (Be advised that an absence memo does not constitute an official excuse.)
2. Students are required to submit a **research paper**, which will run 12-15 pages, including notes, graphics, and bibliography (100 points).
 - As we will read in Fintan o Toole’s account of the demise of the Celtic Tiger, things are tough in Europe as we bumble around in the Great Recession. Beyond Ireland, your paper will investigate the experience of another EU country over recent years from political, economic, sociological perspectives etcetera. You can choose whichever one of the EU’s other 27 states you are interested in here, but *I encourage you to begin deciding which states may interest you ASAP.*
 - One key dimension to doing well in this paper entails gaining some mastery over what’s been happening in the country of your choice over the last 5 or 6 years.
 - Likewise, you will need to know *why* the situation as it is; i.e. what are the factors and processes that created that situation. In particular, your paper should consider what roles the relationship with the EU, for better or ill, and with other states (members or nay) may play here. As you conduct your research ask yourself what scholars tell you about the European dimensions to the situation in your chosen country over the Great Recession.
 - Your paper will be informed by 30 sources, at least half of which will be peer reviewed scholarly articles. Books and other periodicals are also welcome here, but they cannot account for more than 15 sources.
 - You will submit your country choice for your paper on the day specified in the schedule below (20 points). Along with your choice you will submit 4 annotations for scholarly articles, for a total 2-3 pages. Strong annotations discuss the contents of the book/article/chapter in question. They will summarize the author’s/authors’ main contentions and conclusions. Importantly, they will also evaluate the usefulness of the article, and this will include identifying connections to other literature and any limitations the articles may have; so too any questions you may have from your reading.
3. There will be 12 **reading tests** over the duration of the course. These tests will be administered with no prior notification on random days throughout the semester. They are designed to do precisely what the name suggests – test your comprehension of the assigned

class readings that you are required and expected to have read for the class in question. These tests will require you to answer a series of true/false questions, or to define a series of terms, or to give an account of some geographic process or processes, or some combination of the above. There will be 10 minutes of class time at the beginning of class to answer these tests. Each reading test is worth 5 points. *There will be no make-up reading tests*, and no excuses will be accepted concerning illness or forced absences for these quizzes. However, to compensate students who may have genuine reasons for absence on these days, I will automatically discount your 2 lowest scores in these quizzes, so that over the entire semester they will be worth a total of 50 points (10x5). The purpose of the quizzes is to encourage you both to read the material for class and to attend regularly.

4. **Participation** (30 points): Students are encouraged to participate in class. Feel free to interrupt lectures with pertinent questions, observations and comments, and to express agreement or disagreement with me or with your fellow students. *Decorum consonant with a scholarly setting is, however, expected at all times*. Note also that participation hinges on at least two things: being in class and keeping abreast of the readings.

*In the event that you do not have time to pose a question in class, please feel free to send me an e-mail to the address listed above. Please note, however, that such e-mail correspondence is not a substitute for engaging in scholarly exchange in class.

Students are required to take all exams, take the reading tests, complete a research paper as specified here, and participate in class.

SNAP students, please be advised that I expect you to contact me early in the semester, and certainly well in advance of our first exam, so that we can arrange a schedule that accommodates your needs.

Attendance: Students are required and expected to attend all lectures. Roll will be taken passively but you may be required to sign attendance on given days. There may also be pop-quizzes, which would constitute an extra credit by the end of the semester. **Significantly**, students with poor attendance records will not receive favorable consideration in assignment of final grades if they fall into a marginal category between grades on the basis of their overall performance.

Finally, you are expected to do your own work in this class. This will be especially important in your reading logs. Failure to meet this expectation will result in a score of zero for as many people as may be involved in plagiarism, **including** the person(s) who drafted the original work. Likewise, use of non-required texts, journal articles, and the Internet for research purposes is encouraged in this class, but *you will need to be scrupulous about citing your sources*. Unethical behavior will be reported to the Dean of Students. If in doubt, see me, or consult the College policy, available as a PDF at <http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php>. Further, and significantly, I reserve the right to assign a failing grade for this course for any instance of plagiarism.

The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus. In that case, you will be notified in class and/or via e-mail. **(You are expected to check your CofC e-mail regularly.** Please see <http://registrar.cofc.edu/pdf/STUDENTEMAILPOLICY.pdf>)

Key dates to remember

| Exams | | Research paper | |
|---------------------|------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 2/3 | Country decision | 2/27 (4 annotations due) |
| 2 | 3/12 | Paper due | 4/17 |
| 3 | 4/28 | | |
| Make-up (see above) | 4/28 | | |

PS: By all means bring mobile phones, boom boxes, and vacuum cleaners to class if you'd like to, but please ensure that they are **TURNED OFF at all times.**



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- Beyond the syllabus proper, and for your convenience, the study skills seminars schedule at the *Center for Student Learning* is available here: <http://csl.cofc.edu/study-skills/workshop-schedule/index.php>
 - *You should be proactive here:* if you have had problems taking notes in the past, for example, then consider attending that session.
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POLI352 – spring 2014 – CLASS SCHEDULE

| | | SUBJECT | READINGS * denotes OAKS |
|---------|--|---|--|
| Week 1 | Wed. Jan. 8 Fri. Jan. 10 | Course introduction Ideas of Europe | Pagden* |
| Week 2 | Mon. Jan. 13 | Ideas of Europe (contd.) | Pocock* Rifkin 4* |
| | Wed. Jan. 15 Fri. Jan. 17 | Ever Closer Union | Pinder 1 Dinan 1* |
| Week 3 | Mon. Jan. 20 Wed. Jan. 22 Fri. Jan. 24 | <i>MLK holiday – no class</i> Ever Closer Union (contd.) | Dinan 2* Dinan 3* |
| Week 4 | Mon. Jan. 27 Wed. Jan. 29 Fri. Jan. 31 | Ever Closer Union (contd.) | Dinan 4* Dinan 5* Dinan 6* |
| Week 5 | Mon. Feb. 3 Wed. Feb. 5 Fri. Feb. 7 | Exam #1 How the Union works | Pinder 3 Pinder 4 |
| Week 6 | Mon. Feb. 10 Wed. Feb. 12 Fri. Feb. 14 | How the Union works (contd.) Imperial Europe? | Pinder 5 Pinder 6, 7 Zielonka Intro. |
| Week 7 | Mon. Feb. 17 Wed. Feb. 19 Fri. Feb. 21 | Imperial Europe? (contd.) | Zielonka 1 Zielonka 2 Zielonka 3 |
| Week 8 | Mon. Feb. 24 Wed. Feb. 26 Thurs. Feb. 27 Fri. Feb. 28 | Imperial Europe? (contd.) Research paper country choice due | Zielonka 4 Zielonka 5 Zielonka 6 |
| Week 9 | Mon. Mar. 3 – Fri. Mar. 7 <i>No class: spring break</i> | | |
| Week 10 | Mon. Mar. 10 Wed. Mar. 12 Fri. Mar. 14 | Imperial Europe? (contd.) Exam#2 Making Europeans | Zielonka Conc. McNeill* (part 1) |
| Week 11 | Mon. Mar. 17 | Making Europeans (contd.) | McNeill* (part 2) |

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| | Wed. Mar. 19 Fri. Mar. 21 | Making Europeans invisible | Teichler* Goodman* Engbersen* |
| Week 12 | Mon. Mar. 24 Wed. Mar. 26 Fri. Mar. 28 | Unmaking Europe? Ireland and the EU | Rodriguez-Pose* Laffan part 1*, chap. 1 Laffan part 1*, chap. 2 |
| Week 13 | Mon. Mar. 31 Wed. Apr. 2 Fri. Apr. 4 | Ireland and the EU (contd.) <i>Moore Conference – no class</i> | Laffan part 3*, chap. 5 Laffan part 5*, chap. 10 |
| Week 14 | Mon. Apr. 7 Wed. Apr. 9 Fri. Apr. 11 | Ireland and the EU (contd.) Celtic Tiger woes | Laffan part 5*, chap. 11 O Toole prologue, 1 O Toole 2, 3 |
| Week 15 | Mon. Apr. 14 Wed. Apr. 16 Thurs. Apr. 17 Fri. Apr. 18 | Celtic Tiger woes (contd.) Research paper due | O Toole 4 O Toole 5 O Toole 6, 7 |
| Week 16 | Mon. Apr. 21 Wed. Apr. 23 | Celtic Tiger woes (contd.) | O Toole 8, 9 O Toole epilogue |
| Week 17 | Mon. Apr. 28 | Exam#3/Make-up Exam | 8-11am Mybk. 207 |