

Pols/Flen 307: INSTITUTIONS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Fall 2019

Instructor: Florian Justwan, Ph.D.

Class: Tuesday, Thursday; 12:30pm - 1:45pm (TLC 041)

Office Hours: Wednesday 12:00pm - 2:00pm (Administration 323)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

The main goal of this course is to provide students with a general understanding of the institutions of the European Union. The course is divided into three sections. In the first, we will discuss the history of European integration and a number of theoretical approaches developed to explain this process. In the second section, course participants will be familiarized with the institutional architecture of the EU. In this context, we will study the composition and functions of all major EU bodies (the European Council, the Council of the European Union, the European Parliament, and the European Court of Justice). Finally, in the last part of the course, we will focus on a wide variety of important policies and issues. At the end of the course, participants should be familiar with the history of European integration, the responsibilities of the EU's major political institutions, and EU policies in a number of different issue areas.

COURSE MATERIALS

You will need to buy the following material for this class:

- **Textbook:** Olsen, Jonathan, and John McCormick (2017). *The European Union. Politics and Policies. Sixth Edition.* Boulder, CO: Westview Press.
- **Movie:** *Brexit Behind Closed Doors* (BBC Documentary).

Do **NOT** buy earlier editions of the textbook. The EU is a quickly developing organization and previous editions of this book will be **entirely out-of-date**. Most of our weekly readings will come from the textbook. All other readings will be provided to you online. It is absolutely essential that you carefully read all of the required material prior to each class session. I expect that you take your responsibilities seriously. Failing to do so will both significantly impact your grade and the quality of our in-class conversation.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADES

- 15% Attendance & Participation
- 15% 7 unannounced reading quizzes
- 20% Two short papers
- 20% Midterm Exam (October 15)
- 30% Final Exam (December 16)

Attendance

Each unexcused absence will lower your final participation grade (calculated on a scale from 0 – 100) by 5 percent. I will take attendance every day. Therefore, it is essential that you show up on time. If you do come in late, it is your responsibility to approach me *directly after class* (as long as I am still in the classroom) and make sure that I checked your name on the class roll.

Participation (15 percent)

Your participation grade will be based on the quality and quantity of your oral contributions during class. As stated above, I expect you to read and think about the assigned material prior to our meetings. In class, you should be able to discuss the main arguments and demonstrate that you are able to connect the readings with the larger context. Please note that your participation grade is only affected by *active* participation. **If you don't talk, your final participation grade will be a 60** (minus 5 x *number of unexcused absences*). If you have any concerns about your participation grade, contact me as soon as possible.

Reading Quizzes (15 percent)

There will be 7 unannounced readings quizzes over the course of the term. The quizzes will be composed of multiple choice and/or short answers that cover the assigned readings for each day. Reading quizzes will NOT be made-up if you are absent. However, only six of those seven quizzes will be used to calculate your grade. In other words, I will drop your lowest score at the end of the semester.

Exams (50 percent)

There are 2 exams in this class – 1 midterm (20 percent) and 1 final exam (30 percent). Exam material will be drawn from the following: lecture notes, assigned required readings, class discussion, movies shown in class, and any other supplementary materials. **All exams are cumulative.** One piece of advice: Do the required readings, attend class, and participate and you will be very well prepared for both exams.

Papers (20 percent)

You will be required to write two short (4-5 page) papers for this course. The requirements for these assignments will be announced later in the semester.

GRADE SCALE

Note: final grades will NOT be rounded

- A = 90.00-100.00
- B = 80.00-89.99
- C = 70.00-79.99
- D = 60.00-69.99
- F = 0.00-59.99

COURSE POLICIES

Absences & Make-Up Exams

As stated above, attendance is absolutely essential if you want to succeed in this class. You are permitted TWO unexcused absences. Every other absence will lower your participation grade by 5 percent, unless you have a valid excuse (medical, academic, etc.) AND proper documentation. Make-up exams are ONLY offered for documented absences. If you know in advance that you have a conflict preventing you from taking one of the exams at the scheduled date, please contact me as soon as possible.

Academic Honesty

It is the policy of our department to refer instances of suspected academic dishonesty to the Student Judicial Council. For the Dean of Students' Academic Integrity site which includes UI Policies and Student Academic Dishonesty Resources, see <https://www.uidaho.edu/student-affairs/dean-of-students/student-conduct/academic-integrity>.

Disabilities

Reasonable accommodations are available for students who have documented temporary or permanent disabilities. All accommodations must be approved through the Center for Disability Access and Resources located in the Bruce M. Pitman Center, Suite 127 in order to notify your instructor(s) as soon as possible regarding accommodation(s) needed for the course.

- Phone: 208-885-6307
- Email: cdar@uidaho.edu
- Website: www.uidaho.edu/current-students/cdar

Tutoring and College Success (TCS)

TCS offers three distinct services dedicated to student success: tutoring, SI-PASS, and Academic Coaching. Vandal Tutoring provides drop-in style tutoring in person at the Library or online through uidaho.edu/tutoringonline at no cost to undergraduates. SI-PASS provides peer assisted study sessions for difficult courses. You can find the schedule of currently supported courses at uidaho.edu/si. Academic Coaching offers students an opportunity to work with a coach, one on one, to improve their academic skills such as: effective studying, test taking, time management, and note taking. Visit uidaho.edu/academic-coaching to schedule an appointment.

Electronic Device Policy

The use of cell phones, iPods, iPads, or any other electronic device will not be permitted during class meetings. I will permit you a laptop ONLY to take notes and review online readings. Please note that I reserve the right to reverse this policy at any time.

Assignment and Grade Record-Keeping

Students are responsible for saving all graded work until final grades are recorded with the registrar and checked by the student.

Classroom Learning Civility

In any environment in which people gather to learn, it is essential that all members feel as free and safe as possible in their participation. To this end, it is expected that everyone in this course will be treated with mutual respect and civility, with an understanding that all of us (students, instructors, professors, guests, and teaching assistants) will be respectful and civil to one another in discussion, in action, in teaching, and in learning. Should you feel our classroom interactions do not reflect an environment of civility and respect, you are encouraged to meet with your instructor during office hours to discuss your concern. Additional resources for expression of concern or requesting support include the Dean of Students office and staff (5-6757), the UI Counseling & Testing Center's confidential services (5-6716), or the UI Office of Human Rights, Access, & Inclusion (5-4285).

Grade Appeals

If you believe your exams or assignments have been graded unfairly, you can appeal your grade in written form. You have to hand in your appeal on the day after the assignment or exam was returned. Comparisons to other students' graded assignments will not be accepted for a complaint. Hand in the original copy of the graded assignment/exam together with the written appeal. I will reevaluate your grade in light of the argument that you made. However, the new grade may be the same, higher, or lower than the original grade and it will be final.

COURSE SCHEDULE (This is only a tentative schedule for this course. Content may change)

PART I: Introduction and History of European Integration		
Week 1		Introduction
	August 27 (T)	This syllabus.
	August 29 (R)	No class. Use Time to Study for Map Quiz.
Week 2		Overview and History of European Integration 1
	Sept. 3 (T)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official website of the European Union (Institutions): http://europa.eu/about-eu/institutions-bodies/index_en.htm • Map of Europe: http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-24367705 • Reading Quiz 1: Europe Map Quiz.
	Sept. 5 (R)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olsen and McCormick Chapter 1. • Olsen and McCormick Chapter 2.
Week 3		Overview and History of European Integration 2
	Sept. 10 (T)	Olsen and McCormick Chapter 3.
	Sept. 12 (R)	Olsen and McCormick Chapter 4.
Week 4		Theories of European Integration
	Sept. 17 (T)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Niemann, A. & Schmitter, P. (2009). "Neofunctionalism." In: Wiener, A. & Diez, T. (eds): European Integration Theory. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 45-66. • Moravcsik, A. & Schimmelfennig, F. (2009). "Liberal Intergovernmentalism." In: Wiener, A. & Diez, T. (eds): European Integration Theory. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 67-87
	Sept. 19 (R)	Risse, T. (2009). "Social Constructivism and European Integration." In: Wiener, A. & Diez, T. (eds): European Integration Theory. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 144-160.
PART II: Institutions of the European Union		
Week 5		The Institutional Architecture & The European Commission
	Sept. 24 (T)	Bache Chapter 12 (available only on bblearn).
	Sept. 26 (R)	Olsen and McCormick Chapter 5.

Week 6		The Council of Ministers and European Parliament
	Oct. 1 (T)	Olsen and McCormick Chapter 6.
	Oct. 3 (R)	Olsen and McCormick Chapter 7.
Week 7		Court of Justice and Other Institutions
	Oct. 8 (T)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olsen and McCormick Chapter 8. • Olsen and McCormick Chapter 9.
	Oct. 10 (R)	Current Events Reader I.
		PART III: Policies and Issues
Week 8		Policy-Making in the EU
	Oct. 15 (T)	MIDTERM EXAM
	Oct. 17 (R)	Bache Chapter 18 (available only on bblearn).
Week 9		The Single Market & Monetary Union
	Oct. 22 (T)	Olsen and McCormick Chapter 12.
	Oct. 24 (R)	Bache Chapter 21 (available only on bblearn). Optional Brexit Movie Night (“Brexit Behind Closed Doors”).
Week 10		Membership and Brexit
	Oct. 29 (T)	Hobolt, S. (2016). “The Brexit vote: a divided nation, a divided continent.” In: Journal of European Public Policy 23 (9), pp. 1259-1277.
	Oct. 31 (R)	Watch the BBC Documentary: “Brexit Behind Closed Doors.” Due Date Short Paper 1 (Brexit Negotiations).
Week 11		Immigration
	Nov. 5 (T)	Media Day.
	Nov. 7 (R)	Current Events Reader II.
Week 12		Various Internal Policies
	Nov. 12 (T)	Olsen and McCormick Chapter 13.
	Nov. 14 (R)	Olsen and McCormick Chapter 14.

Week 13		External Affairs
	Nov. 19 (T)	Olsen and McCormick Chapter 15.
	Nov. 21 (R)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olsen and McCormick Chapter 16. • Current Events Reader III.
Week 14		Thanksgiving Break
	Nov. 26 (T)	No class.
	Nov. 28 (R)	No class.
Week 15		In-Class Simulation
	Dec. 3 (T)	In-Class Simulation 1. Due Date Short Paper 2.
	Dec. 5 (R)	In-Class Simulation 2.
Week 16		Final Discussion
	Dec. 10 (T)	Catch-up and Review Day.
	Dec. 12 (R)	Final Discussion.
Week 17		Final Exam Week
	Dec. 16 (Mon)	Final Exam: 10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.