

University of South Florida
Department of Government and International Affairs
Spring 2016

EUROPE

EUS 3000
Online

Instructor:

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The Class

This course examines European political development with a focus on the time period of 1945 to the present. World War II has destroyed most of Europe. National economies collapsed and more than 40 million people have been killed on this continent between 1939 and 1945, on average, 18,500 deaths a day for six years. But “Europe did not stay down for long [...] Europe the great continent that stretches from the Urals to the Irish Sea, from Norway’s Arctic fjords to Malta’s sun-baked beaches, has prospered beyond anyone’s wildest dreams,” as William Hitchcock so aptly put it.¹ Still, Europe faces many serious problems, including divisions along class, race, or cultural identity as well as questions concerning the future of Europe and the European Union. This course examines the rocky and perilous yet stunningly successful path that European political development has taken.

The course is focused around the political development of several European countries (UK, France, Germany, Italy, Russia and East-Central Europe) along key dimensions of comparative politics (e.g. state-making, political economy, governance, representation and contemporary challenges). In addition, we will discuss the development and future of the European Union as well as the various current crisis facing Europe throughout the semester.

Class Format

The format of the class will be based around very brief lectures I will post online with weekly discussion posts and quizzes, exams and a paper. The course is **very reading and**

¹ William I. Hitchcock, “The Struggle For Europe: The Turbulent History of a Divided Continent 1945 – 2002 (2002), p. 1.

writing intensive and you will not be able to pass this class without thoroughly reading the assigned materials.

Requirements

Students also have to be prepared to discuss on Canvas the material assigned for that week. As such, students are required to read the assigned readings before each week begins. In addition, students are expected to read one newspaper on a daily basis, keep informed about European current events and come to each week prepared to bring them into the week's discussion. Among other sources, good English-language sources for European news are BBC (news.bbc.co.uk), The Economist (www.economist.com), The New York Times (www.nytimes.com), or Deutsche Welle (www.dw-world.de).

Weekly Comments

Each student is required to post at least **350 words per week** to the Canvas-based online forum (go to the "Discussions" link in canvas) for that particular week's reading on the days readings are assigned:

- a. Write an **essay-posting** of at least 250 words **once a week** that critically analyzes the weekly readings. Some weeks, guiding questions to address will be provided. This can also include questions on the readings but should **not be a summary!** Weekly essays must be posted to Canvas by **Thursday before by 11:59 pm** on the week's assigned readings and topic. Be sure you are properly citing your work. Focus less on opinions and more on what you can demonstrate support with facts from reliable source material.
- b. Critically discuss/ Reply **once a week**, to **one posting of a fellow students** and engage in mutual discussions on Canvas (100 words). The response posting must be posted by **Sunday at 11:59 pm.**

Quizzes & Exams

In addition to weekly quizzes, there will be 2 in-class exams and **research paper**, (please see below for more information; more will be posted online during week 4 or so check announcements).

The paper is due at the end of week 10 by Sunday 11:59pm.

Final Course Grade Calculation

First Exam	20%
Second Exam	20%
quizzes	20%
Paper	20%
Qualified Weekly Online Participation	20%

Research Paper

Students interested in writing a research paper will have to meet with me during the first four weeks of the semester to discuss this possibility. Please keep checking announcements for more specific instruction. The final research paper should be a 10 page double-spaced paper on a topic related to the course. It is a research paper so it should be focused on engaging a research question. It is not a literature review, an analysis of a particular author or theme, or a restatement of what others have said about a particular question. Your research question should be something that interests you and that relates to this course. Please submit your paper electronically to Canvas via turnitin. It should be double-spaced and you can use whatever system of citation you prefer but please be consistent.

Grade Scale

Each graded item above will count for a number of points equal to its percentage of your final grade. Thus, the exams will be worth 205 points each, the book review 20 points and weekly postings as well as quizzes and contribution to in-class discussion 20 points. Letter grades correspond to percentages of the total possible points. I use the plus/minus system as follows:

A+	97-100	A	94-96	A-	90-93
B+	87-89	B	84-86	B-	80-83
C+	77-79	C	74-76	C-	70-73
D+	67-69	D	64-66	D-	60-63
F	Below 60				

Readings

The **required** textbook, which the USF Bookstore has ordered is:

- M. Donald Hancock, Christopher J. Carman, et al., Politics in Europe (Sixth Edition).
- Additional assigned readings are on Canvas under “announcements.”

Preliminaries:

Those without much background in European History and Politics might benefit from the following:

- Jose Magone, Contemporary European Politics: A Comparative Introduction (2011)
- Erik Jones et. al., The Oxford Handbook of the European Union (2012)
- Tony Judt, Postwar: A History of Europe Since 1945 (2006).
- John Merriman, History of Modern Europe (2004).
- Charles Tilly, Coercion, Capital, and European States, AD 990 – 1990 (1990).

Additional Background and General Suggestions:

For recent scholarly research and writing about European politics, a number of good (English language) social science journals exist, including:

- West European Politics

- European Journal of Political Research
- European Journal of Political Economy
- Scandinavian Political Studies
- Acta Sociologia European Economic Review
- Journal of Common Market Studies
- Journal of European Public Policy
- Comparative European Politics
- Journal of European Social Policy

The following political science journals, among others, also have a fair portion of articles on European Politics:

- British Journal of Political Science
- World Politics
- Political Studies
- Comparative Politics
- Comparative Political Studies
- Politics and Society
- Government and Opposition
- Electoral Studies
- International Organization
- Socio-Economic Review

Academic accommodations for a disability

Students in need of academic accommodations for a disability may consult with the office of Students with Disabilities Services to arrange appropriate accommodations. Students are required to give reasonable notice prior to requesting an accommodation. Contact SDS at 974-4309 or www.sds.usf.edu.

Additional Class Policies²³

This Syllabus is subject to change by the instructor.

There will be **no study guide**. The lectures, in class discussion and quizzes are the study guide.

Students are expected to be familiar with university policies on academic honesty, and conduct themselves accordingly. **Any form of academic dishonesty (e.g. plagiarism) will result in an FF grade for the class, and/or other sanctions.**

² I would like to acknowledge and thank Professor Cheryl Hall for her help and contribution as well as her permission to draw on her syllabus for crafting this syllabus.

³ I would also like to thank Peter Funke for allowing me to use his syllabus as a template for this course.

There is **no extra credit** in this class. Put your “extra” effort into the regular assignments. Your opportunity to earn a grade in this class ends when the semester ends. If you wish to dispute your grade for the class, you must contact me within two weeks following the official posting of final grades. After two weeks, I will dispose of student materials from the class.

If you will need to reschedule an exam due to a religious observance, please let me know in writing by the second week of the semester.

Please do not communicate with me as if you are sending a text message, and please use punctuation. Sign your email with your full name so I do not have to guess who the email is from.

In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for USF to suspend normal operations. During this time, USF may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to: Canvas, Elluminate, Skype, and email messaging and/or an alternate schedule. It is your responsibility to monitor the Canvas site for each of your classes for course specific communication, and the main USF, College, and department websites, emails, and MoBull messages for important general information.

Please feel free to discuss any questions/issues about the course with me via email or during office hours.

SCHEDULE OF THE CLASS⁴

Week 1: Introduction and set-up of the Seminar; Introduction to European Political Development

- Introduction to one another.
- Preface, Chronology of the Eurozone Crisis, and Introduction. Skip ‘about the authors.’ pp. xxiii-xxv.

United Kingdom part 1.1- 1.2.

- 1.1 The Context of British Politics.
- 1.2 Where is the Power?
- Discussion: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- Quiz: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.

⁴ *(Subject to change based on student interest, time, world events, etc.)*

Week 2: United Kingdom part 1.3- 1.5.

- 1.3 Who has the Power?
- 1.4 How is Power Used?
- 1.5 What is the Future of British Politics?
- Discussion: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- Quiz: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.

Week 3: France 2.1-2.3

- 2.1 The Context of French Politics
- 2.2 Where is the Power?
- 2.3 Who has the Power?
- Discussion: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- Quiz: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.

Week 4: France 2.4-2.5

- 2.4 How is Power Used?
- 2.5 What is the Future of French Politics?
- Discussion: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- Quiz: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.

Week 5: Germany 3.1- 3.2

- 3.1 The Context of German Politics
- 3.2 Where is the Power?
- Discussion: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- Quiz: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.

Week 6: Germany 3.2-3.5 and Midterm

- 3.3 Who has the Power?
- 3.4 How is Power Used?
- 3.5 What is the Future of German Politics?
- Discussion: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- Quiz: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.

Week 7: Italy Part 4.1-4.3

- 4.1 The Context of Italian Politics
- 4.2 Where is the Power?
- 4.3 Who has the Power?
- Discussion: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- Quiz: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.

Week 8: Italy 4.4 - 4.5

- 4.4 How is Power Used?
- 4.5 What is the Future of Italian Politics?

- Midterm opens Thursday closes Sunday. No discussion or quiz this week..

Week 9: Sweden 5.1-5.3

- 5.1 The Context of Swedish Politics
- 5.2 Where is the Power?
- 5.3 Who has the Power?
- Discussion: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- Quiz: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.

Week 10: Sweden 5.4-5.5

- 5.4 How is Power Used?
- 5.5 What is the Future of Swedish Politics?
- Discussion: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- Quiz: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.

Week 11: Russia 6.1-6.3

- 6.1 The Context of Russian Politics
- 6.2 Where is the Power?
- 6.3 Who has the Power?
- Discussion: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- Quiz: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- *****PAPER DUE SUNDAY 11:59 pm

Week 12: Russia 6.4-6.5

- 6.4 How is Power Used?
- 6.5 What is the Future of Russian Politics?
- Discussion: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- Quiz: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.

Week 13: Poland 7.1-7.3

- 7.1 The Context of Polish Politics
- 7.2 Where is the Power?
- 7.3 Who has the Power?
- Discussion: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- Quiz: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.

Week 14: Poland 7.4-7.5

- 7.4 How is Power Used?
- 7.5 What is the Future of Polish Politics?
- Discussion: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- Quiz: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.

Week 15: EU 8.1-8.3

- 8.1 The Context of EU Politics
- 8.2 Where is the Power?
- 8.3 Who has the Power?
- Discussion: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- Quiz: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
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Week 16: EU 8.4-8.5

- 8.4 How is Power Used?
- 8.5 What is the Future of Polish Politics?
- Discussion: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.
- Quiz: opens Thursday, closes Sunday.

Week 17: Final Exam.

- Study days: Monday - Wednesday.
- FINAL: opens Thursday closes Sunday 11:59 pm

