

**EUS 4210/POS 4931  
Politics and Institutions of the EU**

Course Day & Times:

- Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> periods (Turlington 2333)
- Thursdays 6<sup>th</sup> period (Turlington 2336)

Course objectives, description and goals:

This course is designed to be an introduction to the history, political institutions, decision-making and policies of the European Union. It is oriented toward upper division students who have already taken CPO 2001 (intro to comparative politics) or its equivalent. I assume some familiarity with the political institutions of Western Europe, though pertinent information will be reviewed where relevant.

The creation and development of the European Union is one of the most fascinating political events of the last century. It represents a unique opportunity to study the evolution of a political system without having to rely solely on historical documents. In the past half-century the EU has grown from a set of weak / poorly defined institutions with a limited policy domain and an emphasis on national sovereignty into a extensive political system with increasingly strong supranational actors influencing all aspects of political and economic life. What began in 1951 as an experiment in cooperation in the coal and steel sectors among six states has grown to be a formal political and economic union between 27 member states from Estonia to Ireland and Malta to Sweden (and it is still growing). The goal of this course will be to examine this transformation both theoretically and historically from a comparative politics perspective, keeping in mind the changing (and growing) global role of the EU.

Prerequisites

While no formal requirements are necessary to take this course, some background in political science is useful, especially CPO 2001. Basic knowledge regarding European history will also be useful. Awareness of current events (newspapers, new radio etc) will also aid students in gaining a more complete understanding of the European Union and its role in the world.

Attendance

Note that class attendance and active participation is required for this course and constitutes 10% of total grade. The professor will randomly circulate an attendance sheet, provide insider information for exams and otherwise incentivize regular attendance. Repeated absences will unquestionably affect your performance on exams since they will be based on class lectures as well as readings. Lecture notes and other related course materials discussed or distributed during class will NOT be posted online or otherwise distributed (except in the case of an *excused* absence). According to the Office of the University Registrar, "acceptable reasons for absence from class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, and professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic

competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused.”

*For further information about the University of Florida's attendance policy, please see the current Undergraduate Catalogue*

*(<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationattendance.html>).*

### Academic Honesty

Academic dishonesty, including cheating on exams and plagiarism, will not be tolerated. Any student engaging in such activities will be dealt with in accordance with University policy. It is your responsibility to know what constitutes plagiarism, and what the university policies are. If you have doubts, we would be happy to discuss with you. Please refer to the current Undergraduate Catalogue for more information on the Student Honor code

(<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html>). If you have questions about these policies, we would be happy to discuss them with you

### Students with Disabilities

If you have a disability that may affect your performance in this class, you should contact the Dean of Students Office so that special arrangements can be made to accommodate you. It is your responsibility to do so at the beginning of the semester and to communicate directly with the professor during the first week of classes (or as soon as the disability occurs).

### Grading & Assessment

Students are responsible for completing all readings for the topic in question prior to attending the class. The professor may hold pop-quizzes at will if it appears that students are not keeping up with assigned readings (these will be factored into participation and/or midterm grades).

- There will be two midterms (25% each = 50%)
- Policy presentations (15%)
- One 10 -12 page paper to be discussed further in class (25%)
- Attendance and regular class participation (10%)

### Policy Presentations

All students will be responsible for making a short presentation to the class on the specific policy area covered in class. The distribution of assignments and organization of the presentations will happen in class (once enrolment and student interests are determined).

### Grading Scale

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

***\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE THAT THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES TO THIS SYLLABUS AS NEEDED DURING THE COURSE OF THE SEMESTER. AS MUCH ADVANCE WARNING AS POSSIBLE WILL BE PROVIDED TO STUDENTS. CHANGES CAN BE MADE TO THE SCHEDULE, ASSIGNED READING OR OTHER ASPECTS AS DEEMED NECESSARY. NO CHANGES WILL BE MADE TO GRADING SCALE OR CORE UF POLICIES AS NOTED ABOVE.\*\*\****

## REQUIRED BOOK & MATERIALS

- Bache, George and Bulmer (BGB), Politics in the European Union, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK (ISBN 978-0-19-954481-3)
- All additional readings (as assigned below) are available online via UF's "E-Learning" website (under resources, required readings).

## COURSE SCHEDULE AND REQUIRED READINGS

WEEK 1 (August 22): Introduction to the Course and the European Union

WEEK 2 (August 27 & 29): Theoretical and Conceptual Framework I

- Theories of EU Integration
- Theories of EU Governance

*Readings:*

- BGB chapters 1-2
- Nelsen and Stubb, Part II, readings 13, 15, 16, 17

WEEK 3 (Sept 3 & 5): Theoretical and Conceptual Framework II

- Critical Perspectives
- Theorizing consequences

*Readings:*

- BGB chapters 3-4
- Nelsen and Stubb, Part III, readings 19, 21, 24

WEEK 4 (Sept 10 & 12): History I – The Origins and Early Years of the Integration Project

- Europe after the War
- The Schuman Plan and the ECSC
- The road to the Rome Treaties
- The ECSC and Euratom

*Readings:*

- BGB chapters 5-8
- Salmon and Nicoll Documents 4, 5, 10, 11, 15, 17, 19

WEEK 5 (Sept 17 & 19): History II – Euro-sclerosis and the Great Leap Forward

- The EEC 1958-1967
- After the Luxembourg Compromise
- The reinvigoration of the Integration Project
- The Single European Act (SEA)

*Readings:*

- BGB Chapters 8-12
- Salmon and Nicoll Documents 27, 28, 29, 32, 34, 37, 42, 43
- Nelson and Stubb, Part I, readings 5 and 6

WEEK 6 (Sept 24 & 26): History III – The Development of the Modern European Union

- The Maastricht Treaty (TEU)
- Amsterdam and the idea of "Flexibility"
- Nice and the Preparations for Eastern Enlargement
- After Nice – Reassessing Integration
- Lisbon and the road Forward

*Readings:*

- BGB Chapters 13-18
- Salmon and Nicoll Documents 49, 51, 52 (possible additional documents TBA)
- Nelson and Stubb, Part I, readings 8, 9, 10

WEEK 7 (Oct 1 & 3): Midterm I and Review

Midterm on Tuesday, review and preparation for next section of the course on Thursday (including Policy presentation assignments)

WEEK 8 (Oct 8 & 10): Institutions I: The General Framework and the Court of Justice

- The Institutional Architecture
- The European Court of Justice

*Readings:*

- BGB Chapters 19 and 23
- Kreppel, A. "The Political Implications of Institutional Reform: Executive-Legislative Relations in the European Union" *Rivista Italiana di Scienza Politica* Anno XXXIX, n. 3. Dicembre 2009 (pp. 383-416)(Author's translation)

WEEK 9 (Oct 17 & 19): Institutions II: Distinguishing between Executive and Legislative Branches

- European Council and Council of Ministers
- The European Parliament

*Readings:*

- BGB Chapters 21-22
- Watson, R. and R. Corbett, "How are policies Made?" Chapter 6 (pp. 123-138) in Bomberg E., J. Peterson and R. Corbett (Editors). The European Union: How does it Work? 3rd ed. Oxford University Press, Oxford UK, 2012.
- Pollack, Mark. "Delegation, Agency, and Agenda Setting in the European Community" *International Organizations*, Vol. 51, No. 1, 1997 (pp. 99-134).

WEEK 10 (Oct 22 & 24): Institutions III: The Most Misunderstood Institution

- The European Commission
- Organized Interests and Interest Representation

*Readings:*

- BGB Chapters 20 and 24
- Lindberg, B., Rasmussen, A. and Warntjen, A. "Party Politics as Usual? The Role of Political Parties in EU Decision-making" *Journal of European Public Policy*, Vol. 15, No. 8 2007 (pp.1107-1126).

WEEK 11 (Oct 29 & 31): Policies and Policy Making in the EU I-CAP, the Single Market and EMU

- Introduction to EU Policy making
- Common Agricultural Policy
- The Single Market
- Economic and Monetary Union and the Euro-crisis

*Readings:*

- BGB Chapters 25-28
- Makin, John. "How did Europe's Debt Crisis get so bad? *American Enterprise Institute: Economic Outlook* (December, 2011).
- Eichengreen, Barry. "European Monetary Integration with Benefit of Hindsight" *Journal of Common Market Studies*, Vol. 50, No. S1, 2012 (pp. 123-136).

WEEK 12 (Nov 5 & 7): Policies and Policy Making in the EU II – SCF, Environmental Policy & Trade

- Cohesion Policy
- Environmental Policy
- Trade and Development Aid

*Readings:*

- BGB Chapters 29-31
- Baccini, Leonardo. "Explaining the Formation and Design of EU Trade Agreements: The role of transparency and flexibility." *European Union Politics*, Vol. 11, No. 2, 2010 (pp. 195-217).
- Bryant, Chris. "25 Years of EU Environmental Law" *Natural Resources and Environment*, summer, 2010.

WEEK 13 (Nov 12 & 14): Policies and Policy Making in the EU III – Foreign and Security Policy

- Freedom and Security Policy
- CFSP
- Enlargement

*Readings:*

- BGB Chapters 32,-34
- Van Vooren, Bart. "A Legal Institutional Perspective on the European External Action Service" *Common Market Law Review*, Vol. 48, 2011 (pp. 475-502).
- Frattini, Franco. "The European External Action Service: a look into diplomat training" *European View*, Vol. 9, 2010 (pp. 219-227).

WEEK 14 (Nov 19): **Midterm II**

Second exam covering institutions and policies

WEEK 15 (Nov 26 & 28): Policy Presentations I

- Student Presentations

WEEK 16 (Dec 3): Policy Presentations II and final discussion

- Student Presentations (continued)
- Submission of final papers (in class and via Sakai)