

**Georgia Institute of Technology
Sam Nunn School of International Affairs**

**INTA 3321: The Political Economy of European Integration
Fall 2010**

T & TH 13:35-14:55
Instructional Center Rm. 115

Instructor: Dr. Vicki Birchfield
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Course Objectives: The aim of this course is to provide an in-depth introduction and overview of the history and politics of the European Union from its inception to the new era of development under the recently ratified Lisbon Treaty. The course is organized into three parts. Part one traces the evolution of European integration with a special focus on the fundamental debates about the nature and scope of European unification and its character as both a political and economic project. Part two examines the EU's institutions, decision-making processes and the scope and content of EU law and policy. After gaining deeper knowledge of the historical background of the EU and the nuts and bolts of what the EU is and how it works, part three explores the extent to which the growing supranational nature of the EU challenges traditional concepts of politics (the meaning of citizenship and democracy) and international relations. The course concludes by comparing the European Union with the United States as a model of democracy and political economy as well as a global actor and a diplomatic force in world politics.

A key conceptual framework guiding our course of study is that of political economy which in the context of studying the EU means that we will be interested in examining both the political and economic processes of integration and focusing on one of the persistent dilemmas facing policymakers and citizens throughout the EU: whether the EU should be

conceived principally as an economic or political project (or both and in what proper relationship) and what the attendant consequences might be if one view prevails over the other.

To enhance the quality of classroom discussions it will be helpful to follow current events and the news related to developments in EU politics. The best sources for staying informed about current issues in the EU are *The Financial Times* and *The Economist* both of which offer discounts for student subscriptions.

Important websites:

For a vast array of information on the institutions, Member States and current policies of the EU, consult the EU's official website, Europa. The URL is: <http://europa.eu.int>

Useful information from the European Union's Delegation to the United States can be found at:

www.eurunion.org

Required Textbooks:

Desmond Dinan (2004) *Europe Recast: A History of European Union*

Steven Hill (2010) *Europe's Promise*

John McCormick (2008) *Understanding the European Union*

*Books area available at the Engineer's Bookstore on Marietta St.

Course Requirements and Grade Distribution:

Attendance and participation are essential to doing well in the course. Participation comprises 10% of the total grade for the course. Each unexcused absence beyond two allowable cuts will result in a letter grade deduction for the participation portion of the course grade. Readings should be completed prior to class meetings and you should be prepared for active and engaged discussion. All exams are essay and short answer format.

Additionally, for 10 % of the total grade, each student will prepare a PowerPoint presentation on a Member State of his or her choice (if possible or assignments will be made by the Professor) and provide a 5 minute oral overview profiling that country's accession and integration highlights, key

policy concerns, and overall attitudes and support for the EU. Another 10 % of the grade will be derived from participation in a simulation exercise for which a 3 to 5 page policy memo must be drafted either individually or in small groups. More details and a guideline for the simulation will be made available after the midterm exam.

First Exam	20%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%
Member State Projects	10%
Simulation Exercise	10%
Participation	10%

Academic Honesty:

All work must be entirely your own and must be produced in accordance with the Georgia Tech Honor code. Please read the Academic Honor Code carefully (<http://www.honor.gatech.edu/honorcode.html>) and familiarize yourself with your rights and responsibilities under Institute regulations. Any suspected cases of cheating on the exams or any other form of academic dishonesty will be turned over immediately to the Office of Student Integrity for investigation. If you have any further queries on this topic, please visit the website of the Dean of Students:
www.deanofstudents.gatech.edu/integrity.

Schedule of Classes and Reading Assignments

Part I. The Historical Evolution of the European Union

August 24	Introduction and Overview of Course
August 26	Something New under the Sun? The Transformation of Western Europe: Dinan, pp.1-44
August 31	From Conflict to Integration: Dinan, pp. 45-82
September 2	Catch-up & Discussion
September 7	Creating the European Community: Dinan, pp. 83-123

September 9	From the First Enlargement to ‘Eurosclerosis’: Dinan, pp.125-204
September 14	Catch up & Discussion
September 16	The Delors Era and Monetary Union: Dinan, pp. 205-264
September 21	An EU of 27: The impact of the Fifth Enlargement Dinan, pp. 265-326
September 23	Discussion and Review for Exam
September 28	Exam 1

Part II. Institutional Development and Policy-Making in the EU

September 30	The meaning and changing identity of Europe: McCormick, pp. 1-67 *Member State Presentations: The Founding Six (France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Belgium, The Netherlands,)
October 5	Video clip: Charlie Rose Interview with Tony Judt, *Member State Presentations: The first, second and third enlargement countries (The UK, Ireland, Denmark, Greece, Portugal and Spain)
October 7	The Community Method, Legal Foundations, and the Primacy of EU Law: Devuyst Reading uploaded on T-Square

October 12	The EU Institutions: McComick, pp. 69-93
October 14	Institutions Continued..... *Member State Presentations : The Fourth Enlargement (Austria, Sweden and Finland)
October 19	NO CLASS/Fall Recess
October 21	The EU Policy Process; McCormick, pp. 94-118 *Member State Presentations (Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania)
October 26	The Internal Market and Economic Policy; McCormick, pp. 142-164
October 28	Common Policies and Shared Competences; McCormick, pp. 165-211 *Member State Presentations: (Slovenia, Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Cyprus, Malta and Bulgaria)
November 2	Mid-Term Exam

Part III. The Future of the European Union, Implications for EU-US Relations and Prospects for Global Leadership

November 4	State of the Debate: Contending Theories of EU Integration; Meunier and McNamara Reading uploaded to T-Square; Hill pp. 1-32 (Time for any left over Member State Presentations)
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November 9	The European Social Model; Hill, pp. 33-135
November 11	The EU's approach to Sustainability and Globalization; Hill, pp. 157-214
November 16	Catch up and Discussion (45 minutes) The EU's Foreign Policy and the emergence of a European Diplomatic Corps (The European External Action Service); Hill, pp. 215-238 and supplemental reading on EU Website TBA
November 18	Rethinking Power in the 21 st Century: The EU as a model of democracy? Hill; pp. 239-300
November 23	Catch up and Discussion (45 minutes) Simulation Preparation/Group work
November 25	No Class. Thanksgiving Break. Catch up or get ahead on the Hill reading
November 30	Europe's political, social and economic challenges: population, immigration, competitiveness and equality; Hill, pp. 301-370.
December 2	Simulation
December 7	Simulation and De-briefing
December 9	Last day of Class/ Discussion of Take-home exam
December 14	Final Exam Due by 5 p.m.