

## Political Science 756

### POLITICS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Spring 2008 - Mondays 3:45-6:30

Prof. Christine Mahoney

E: [chmahone@maxwell.syr.edu](mailto:chmahone@maxwell.syr.edu)  
T: 315 443 5782

Office: 331 Eggers Hall  
Office Hours: M & T 1:00 PM to 2:30PM

---

#### Course Description

This course will offer an introduction to the history, institutions and politics of the European Union, with an emphasis on policymaking in the EU today. First, the class will review the process of European integration and enlargement since the Treaty of Paris in 1951, including a review of the major theories of European integration. Second, the structure and function of the EU institutions will be introduced, and recent research on the topics of the democratic deficit, the Treaty Reform debate, multilevel governance and EU civil society will be reviewed.

#### Course Requirements

There will be four major requirements for the course. **First**, each weekly seminar will follow a discussion and debate format. This means students are required to read all required readings prior to the course and engage in lively debate during every weekly seminar. To fully participate requires careful and thoughtful reading of the material before class, leaving time to assemble the information and make linkages between the pieces.

**Second**, students are required to write 5 weekly thought papers throughout the semester. Students will be placed in group A or B. Readings in the Syllabus are marked with an A or B indicating which weeks the group of students will write. Thought papers are due by email at 9:00 a.m. the Monday morning of class. Late papers will be marked down a letter grade for each day it is late. They should generally be one single-spaced page not to exceed two single spaced pages. (12 pt. font, 1" margins)

Thought papers should not simply describe the readings, rather they should critically analyze the readings, which means you may critique the works, agree or disagree with the main arguments (giving some argument to support your opinion), or interpret them in light of other works you have read in the course or current events.

**Third**, each student will be required to lead one seminar discussion during the semester. This will coincide with one of the weeks the individual will be writing a thought paper. The seminar discussion leader will make a short presentation at the beginning of class

discussing the topics of the readings; how they did (or did not) fit together; what the major research questions were; the methodology the authors used to investigate the research question etc. Then, the seminar discussion leader will lead the seminar debate that day – presenting the other seminar participants with questions in order to foster further debate and dialogue.

**Fourth**, there will be a final paper requirement. This will be an in-depth research paper (approx. 25 pages) on a policy area of the student’s choosing. Topics are due in class on 25 February. The research should consider the history, development and current state of politics surrounding the selected topic area. Further details will be discussed in class the first weeks of the semester. Final papers are due *in class in hard copy* on **April 28, 2008** and a short discussion of the research topic and findings will be presented to the class on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Late papers will be marked down a letter grade for each day it is late.

### **Grading**

Class Participation	15%
Weekly Thought Papers	30%
Leading Seminar Discussion	15%
Final Assignment	40%

### **Current Events & Speakers Series**

Class discussion will be more interesting if we are all up-to-date on EU current events. In addition to the coverage in national newspapers, you might also find [www.euractive.com](http://www.euractive.com) [www.europa.eu](http://www.europa.eu) and <http://euobserver.com/> helpful.

You may find it interesting to attend the Maxwell European Research Centers Speakers Series which will be held throughout the semester. This Spring we will be bringing in a number of top scholars to present their current work on the European Union. These will be announced in class.

### **Academic Integrity**

As graduate students you know all writing should be informed by the literature that came before you. Giving scholars the credit they are due enhances your argument by showing you have well-researched your topic. Instances of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will be dealt with according to the University’s Academic Integrity Policy [http://provost.syr.edu/academicintegrity\\_office.asp#integrity\\_policy](http://provost.syr.edu/academicintegrity_office.asp#integrity_policy).

### **Required Books (available in the SU bookstore)**

Dinan, Desmond. 2005. *Ever Closer Union? An Introduction to European Integration*. 3rd edition. Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Hix, Simon. 2005. *The Political System of the European Union: Second Edition*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Palgrave Macmillan.

## Course Schedule

### 14 January – Introductions

### 21 January – History of the EU – The Founding Treaties, Stagflation & Enlargement

#### *Required*

- Dinan 2005 – Chapters 1-4

### 28 January (A) – History of the EU – The Recent Past

#### *Required*

- Dinan 2005 – Chapter 5 and 6
- Hix 2005 – Chapter 1
- Dowding, Keith. 2000. “Institutionalist Research on the European Union: A Critical Review” *European Union Politics*. 1, 125-144

### 4 February (B) – Theories of Integration

#### *Required*

- Pollack, Mark A. 2001. “International relations theory and European integration,” *Journal of CommonMarket Studies* 39: 221-244.
- Tsebelis, George and Geoffrey Garrett. 2001. “The institutional foundations of intergovernmentalism and supranationalism in the European Union,” *International Organization*, 55: 357-390.
- Fligstein, Neil and Alec Stone Sweet. 2002. “Constructing Polities and markets: An Institutionalist Account of European Integration” *American Journal of Sociology*. 107:1206-1243
- Grossman, Emiliano. 2004. “Bringing politics back in: rethinking the role of economic interest groups in European integration”. *Journal of European Public Policy*. 11.4.

### 11 February (A) – The Institutions – European Parliament

#### *Required*

- Dinan 2005 – Chapters 9 and 10
- “The European Parliament at fifty,” 2003. Special issue of *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 41, 2.
  - Fifty Years on: Research on the European Parliament, Simon Hix, Tapio Raunio, Roger Scully
  - The Creation and Empowerment of the European Parliament, Berthold Rittberger

- Public Support for the European Parliament, Matthew Gabel
- The Party System in the European Parliament: Collusive or Competitive?, Simon Hix, Amie Kreppel, Abdul Noury

### **18 February (B) – The Institutions – European Commission & Council**

#### ***Required***

- Dinan 2005 – Chapters 7 and 8
- Hix 2005 – Chapter 2
- Christiansen, Thomas. 1997. "Tensions of European Governance: politicized bureaucracy and multiple accountability in the European Commission" *Journal of European Public Policy*, vol 4, March 1997 73-90.
- Crum, Ben. 2003 "Legislative-executive relations in the EU," *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 41: 375-395.

### **25 February (A) – Economic Monetary Union**

[Final paper topics due]

#### ***Required***

- Dinan 2005 – Chapter 13 and 15
- Hix 2005 – Chapter 10
- Cameron, David. 1998. "Creating Supranational Authority in Monetary and Exchange-Rate Policy: The Sources and Effects of EMU" in Alec Stone Sweet and Wayne Sandholtz (eds. *European Integrations and Supranational Governance*, Oxford University Press.
- Verdier, Daniel and Breen, Richard 2001. "Europeanization and Globalization: Politics against Markets in the European Union" *Comparative Political Studies*. 34, 3, 227-262.
- McNamara, Kathleen R. 2006. "Economic Governance, Ideas and EMU: What Currency Does Policy Consensus Have Today?" *Journal of Common Market Studies*. Volume 44. Number 4. pp. 803–21

### **3 March – Guest Speaker**

- Wolfgang Wessels - Jean Monnet Chair
- Readings TBA

### **10 March– SPRING BREAK!**

## 17 March (B) – Democratic Deficit

### *Required*

- Weiler, Joseph H.H., Ulrich R. Haltern, and Franz C. Mayer. 1995. 'European Democracy and its Critique.' *West European Politics*, Vol. 18 No. 3, pp. 4-39.
- Moravcsik, Andreas. 2002. 'In Defense of the "Democratic Deficit": Reassessing the Legitimacy of the European Union'. *Journal of Common Market Studies*, Vol. 40, No. 4 pp.603-34.
- Follesdal, Andreas and Simon Hix. 2006. 'Why there is a Democratic Deficit in the EU: A Response to Majone and Moravcsik' *Journal of Common Market Studies*. Vol. 44, No. 3, pp. 533-62.

## 24 March (A) – Multilevel Governance & Europeanization

[Discussion of Paper Topics and Progress]

### *Required*

- Lisbet Hooghe, and Gary Marks. 2003. "Unraveling the Central State, But How? Types of Multi-Level Governance." *American Political Science Review*. Volume 97, No. 2. pp. 233-243.
- Tanja A. Börzel, "Pace-setting, foot-dragging, and fence-sitting; member state responses to Europeanization," *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 40 (2002): 193-214.
- Jeffrey J. Anderson, "Europeanization and the transformation of the democratic polity, 1945-2000," *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 40 (2002): 793-822.
- Johan P. Olsen, "The many faces of Europeanization," *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 40 (2002): 921-952.

## 31 March (B) – Enlargement

### *Required*

- Sjursen, Helene, 2002. "Why expand?: the question of legitimacy and justification of the EU's enlargement policy," *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 40 : 491-514.
- Kraus, Margit and Robert Schwager 2004. "EU enlargement and immigration," *Journal of Common Market Studies*, Volume 42 : 165-181.
- Fuchs, Dieter and Hans-Dieter Klingemann, 2002. "Eastward enlargement of the European Union and the identity of Europe," *West European Politics*, 25, 2: 19-54.
- Schimmelfennig, Frank, Stefan Engert, and Heiko Knobel. 2003. "Costs, Commitment and Compliance: The Impact of EU Democratic Conditionality on Latvia, Slovakia and Turkey" *Journal of Common Market Studies*. Volume 41. No. 3. pp. 495-518.

## **7 April (A) – The EU as an External Actor**

### ***Required***

- Dinan 2005 – Chapters 16, 17 and 18
- Hix 2005 – Chapter 12
- Rhinard Mark and Michael Kaeding. 2006. “The International Bargaining Power of the European Union in 'Mixed' Competence Negotiations: The Case of the 2000 Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety” *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 2006 Volume 44. Number 5, pp. 1023–50

## **14 April (B) – EU Civil Society**

### ***Required***

- Pollack, M. 1997. Representing Diffuse Interests in EC Policy-making. *Journal of European Public Policy*. 4, 4:572-90
- Beyers, Jan. 2004. Voice and Access: Political Practices of European Interest Associations. *European Union Politics*. 5:211-240
- Bouwen, Pieter. 2002. Corporate lobbying in the European Union: the logic of access. *Journal of European Public Policy*. Vol. 9 No. 3. pp365-390.
- Bouwen, Pieter. 2007. Lobbying versus Litigation: political and legal strategies of interest representation in the European Union. *Journal of European Public Policy*. Vol. 14 No. 3. Pp422-443

## **21 April – Social Policy in Europe**

### ***Required***

- Dinan 2005 – Chapter 14
- Hix 2005 – Chapter 8 and 9
- Scharpf, Fritz W. 2002. “The European Social Model: Coping with the Challenges of Diversity. *Journal of Common Market Studies*. Volume 40. No. 4, pp.645-70.

## **28 April – Research Paper Presentations**

[Hard copy of Papers due in class]