



Political Science 343

Politics of Western Europe

Syracuse University
2010 Fall Term
Monday and Wednesday 2:15 PM-3:35 PM
SOM 004

Professor: Seth Jolly

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Office Hours

Monday 1-2pm,

Wednesday 4-5pm,

or by appointment

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Course Overview

The purpose of this course is to familiarize you with the politics of Western Europe, not on a country by country basis, but in a truly comparative way. We will study various aspects of European politics including domestic political and political economic institutions and the process of European integration. For each topic we will compare a range of European countries, but, following the textbook, we will focus on seven countries: France, Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

Course Expectations and Responsibilities

1. Attendance is required, and absences will adversely affect the participation grade. If you miss more than 4 classes without proper University documentation, your **overall** course grade will be lowered by 1/2 letter grade per absence. But attendance is only one component of successful participation. The course follows a seminar/lecture format, and much of the course will be spent discussing the readings and relevant current events. Your primary responsibilities will be to come to class on time and be prepared to engage in discussion and ask questions about the material.
2. Reading the required assignments, about 50 pages per session. Your written work for the course needs to demonstrate familiarity with and understanding of the literature by making references to the readings. In addition to the academic literature, you should follow current events in the *Economist*, which is available at the library and, on the SU network, via their website <<http://www.economist.com/printedition/>>. I will also post PDF versions in blackboard. Pay particular attention to the Europe and Britain sections.
3. During the semester there will be five short, unannounced quizzes. The lowest grade will be dropped. The quizzes will cover reading assignments indicated on the day of the quiz and any significant current events in Western Europe from that week's *Economist*. An unexcused absence on a quiz day means you get a zero on that quiz.

4. You will complete two out of the three possible writing assignments. Each section of the class-- political institutions, political economy, and European integration---will have a paper assignment available. More detailed instructions for each assignment will be distributed during class, at least one week prior to the due date. Written assignments are due, in hard copy form, at the beginning of the class session listed in the syllabus. Late assignments will be penalized 1/2 letter grade for each 24 hour delay.
5. There will be an in-class final exam on Monday, December 13, 12:45-2:45pm. You will receive a set of study questions covering the course material during the final class session. The exam essay questions will be drawn from this list and there will be several short answer questions as well.

Evaluation

Quizzes (4)	10%
2 Short Papers (4-5 pages, maximum)	30%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Final Exam (cumulative)	30%
Participation	10%

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. If I suspect academic dishonesty or plagiarism, I will submit formal reports to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. For reference, the University's clear statement on plagiarism and academic dishonesty is available at this link: http://supolicies.syr.edu/ethics/acad_integrity.htm. Also, <http://www.plagiarism.org/> is a useful website for tips on citations and other writing resources.

This class will be using Turnitin, a plagiarism prevention system. Via blackboard, each student will submit all papers that you write in this class to Turnitin, a service that identifies "matched text." Using Turnitin, you will be given the opportunity to view your Originality Report and check that all sources you have used are properly acknowledged and cited. Note that all submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers in the future.

Statement Regarding Disability-Related Accommodation

Students who are in need of disability-related academic accommodations must register with the Office of Disability Services (ODS), 804 University Avenue, Room 309, 315-443-4498. Students with authorized disability-related accommodations should provide a current Accommodation Authorization Letter from ODS to the instructor and review those accommodations with the instructor. Accommodations, such as exam administration, are not provided retroactively; therefore, planning for accommodations as early as possible is necessary. For further information, see the ODS website, Office of Disability Services <http://disabilityservices.syr.edu/>.

Required Books

Gallagher, Michael, Michael Laver, and Peter Mair. 2008. *Representative Government in Modern Europe*. 4th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill. ISBN: 007297706X (abbreviated GLM)
 McCormick, John. 2008. *Understanding the European Union. A Concise Introduction*. 4th ed. New York: Palgrave. ISBN: 0230201024 (abbreviated McC)

The remaining readings are available via blackboard, as designated in the syllabus.

Meeting and Assignment Schedule

1. Introduction and Overview (Monday 8/30)

2. Welcome to Europe (Wednesday 9/1)

GLM Ch. 1 (pages 1-22)

McC Ch. 2 "The Idea of Europe" (pp. 23-44)

No class 9/6 (Labor Day)

I. Domestic Political Institutions

3. Parliaments & Presidents (Wednesday 9/8)

GLM Ch. 2 (pp. 24-56)

4. Legislatures (Monday 9/13)

GLM Ch. 3 (pp. 57-85)

5. Electoral Systems (Wednesday 9/15)

GLM Ch. 11 (pp. 340-380)

Supplementary reading:

Cox, Gary. 1997. Ch. 3 "On Electoral Systems." *Making Votes Count*. New York, Cambridge UP, 37-68.

Blais, André and Louis Massicotte. 2002. "Electoral Systems." In *Comparing Democracies 2: New Challenges in the Study of Elections and Voting*, eds. Lawrence LeDuc, Richard Niemi, and Pippa Norris. Thousand Oaks, California: Sage, 40-69.

6. Discussion of West European Elections (Monday 9/20)

Electoral Studies' Notes on Elections [BLACKBOARD] (Choose 2 to review):

Austria 2008	Greece 2009	Spain 2008
Belgium 2007	Ireland 2007	Sweden 2006
Denmark 2005	Italy 2008	Switzerland 2007
Finland 2007	Netherlands 2006	United Kingdom 2005
France 2007	Norway 2005	
Germany 2009	Portugal 2009	

Supplementary reading:

GLM Ch. 7 (pp. 187-229)

7. Parties as Organizations (Wednesday 9/22)

GLM Ch. 10 (pp. 307-339)

Katz, Richard S. 1996. "Party Organizations and Finance." In *Comparing Democracies: Elections and Voting in Global Perspective*, eds. Lawrence LeDuc, Richard G. Niemi, and Pippa Norris. Thousand Oaks, California: Sage, 107-133. [BLACKBOARD]

8. European Party Systems and Political Cleavages (Monday 9/27)

GLM Ch. 8 (pp. 230-262) & parts of Ch. 9 (pp. 263-271)

Dalton, Russell J. 2005. Ch. 8 "The Social Bases of Party Support" *Citizen Politics*. 4th ed. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press, 148-176. [BLACKBOARD]

9. Party System Change (Wednesday 9/29)

GLM remainder of Ch. 9 (pp. 272-306)

Dalton Ch. 9 "Partisanship and Electoral Behavior" (pp. 177-200) [BLACKBOARD]

Mair, Peter. 1997. "Myths of Electoral Change and the Survival of the 'Old' Parties." In *Party System Change*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 76-91. [BLACKBOARD]

Institutions Paper Due 10/4

10. Governments and Coalitions (Monday 10/4)

GLM Ch. 12 (pp. 381-421)

11. Federalism & Bureaucracy (Wednesday 10/6)

GLM Ch. 6 (pp. 154-186)

12. Political and Economic Effects of Political Institutions (Monday 10/11)

GLM Ch. 13 (pp. 422-440)

Lijphart, Arend. 1999. Chs. 15 & 16. In *Patterns of Democracy. Government Forms and Performance in Thirty-Six Countries*. New Haven: Yale University Press, pp. 258-300. [BLACKBOARD]

II. Political Economy

13. Politics Inside and Outside Parliament (Wednesday 10/13)

GLM Ch. 14 (pp. 441-465)

14. Mid-Term (Monday 10/18)

15. Political Economy (Wednesday 10/20)

O'Neill, Patrick H. 2010. Ch. 4 "Political Economy." In *Essentials of Comparative Politics*, 3rd ed. New York: W. W. Norton and Company, pp. 77-108. [BLACKBOARD]

16. National Systems of Political Economy (Monday 10/25)

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. part of Ch. 7 "National Systems of Political Economy." In *Global Political Economy*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, pp. 148-183.

17. Political Economies of UK, France, Germany and Italy (Wednesday 10/27)

Selections from Kesselman, Mark, Joel Krieger, Christopher S. Allen, Stephen Hellman, David Ost, and George Ross. 2005. *European Politics in Transition*. 5th ed. New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, chapters on Political Economy and Development (pp. 151-170, 234-248, 331-347, and 426-444). [BLACKBOARD]

18. Cross-National Differences: Three Worlds of Welfare (Monday 11/1)

Esping-Andersen, Gøsta. 1990. *The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton UP, 9-34. [BLACKBOARD]

Pierson, Paul. 1996. "The New Politics of the Welfare State." *World Politics* 48 (January): 143-179. [BLACKBOARD]

Optional reading:

Ferrera, Maurizio, Anton Hemerijck, and Martin Rhodes. 2003. "Recasting European Welfare States." In *Governing Europe*, eds. Jack Hayward and Anand Menon. New York: Oxford UP, 346-366. [BLACKBOARD]

19. Comparing U.S. and European Welfare States (Wednesday 11/3)

Alesina, Alberto, Edward Glaeser, and Bruce Sacerdote. 2001. "Why doesn't the United States Have a European-Style Welfare State?" *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity* No. 2, 187-254. Discussion (pp. 255-272) is optional. [BLACKBOARD]

Optional reading:

Alesina, Alberto and Edward Glaeser. 2006. *Fighting Poverty in the US and Europe: A World of Difference*. New York: Oxford University Press.

20. Convergence (Monday 11/8)

Garrett, Geoffrey. 1998. "Global Markets and National Politics: Collision Course or Virtuous Circle?" *International Organization* 52.4 (Autumn): 787-824. [BLACKBOARD]

Gilpin, Robert. 2001. part of Ch. 7 "National Systems of Political Economy." In *Global Political Economy*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, pp. 183-195. [BLACKBOARD]

Political Economy Paper Due 11/10**21. Economic Future of Europe (Wednesday 11/10)**

Blanchard, Olivier. 2004. "The Economic Future of Europe." *The Journal of Economic Perspectives* 18.4 (Autumn): 3-26. [BLACKBOARD]

*Articles below available online via the links or in [BLACKBOARD] in pdf

"A Slow-Burning Fuse." June 25, 2009. *The Economist*.

http://www.economist.com/printedition/displaystory.cfm?story_id=13888045

"Scrimp and Save." June 25, 2009. *The Economist*.

http://www.economist.com/specialreports/displaystory.cfm?story_id=13887853

Shorto, Russell. 2008. "No Babies?" *The New York Times Magazine* June 29.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/29/magazine/29Birth-t.html>

III. European Union**22. Regional Integration (Monday 11/15)**

McC Ch. 1 "What is the European Union?" (pp. 1-22)

Selections from Nelsen, Brent F. and Alexander Stubb, eds. 2003. *The European Union. Readings on the Theory and Practice of European Integration*. 3rd ed. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers. [BLACKBOARD]

-Stanley Hoffman. "Obstinate or Obsolete? The Fate of the Nation-State and the Case of Western Europe." (pp. 163-177)

-Bela Balassa. "The Theory of Economic Integration." (pp. 179-191)

-Andrew Moravcsik. "The Choice for Europe." (pp. 239-253)

23. Origins of the European Union (Wednesday 11/17)

McC Ch. 3 "The Evolution of the EU" (pp. 45-68)

Selections from Nelsen and Stubb, eds. 2003. [BLACKBOARD]

-Winston S. Churchill. "The Tragedy of Europe." (pp. 7-12)

-Jean Monnet. "A Ferment of Change." (pp. 19-26)

-Margaret Thatcher. "A Family of Nations." (pp. 49-54)

-Jacques Delors. "A Necessary Union." (pp. 55-64)

24. Institutions (Monday 11/22)

McC Ch. 4 "The European Institutions" (pp. 69-93)

GLM part of Ch. 5 (pp. 115-135)

European Union's FAQ website on the Lisbon Treaty:

http://europa.eu/lisbon_treaty/faq/index_en.htm

No class 11/24 (Thanksgiving)

25. Policy-Making and Economic Integration (Monday 11/29)

McC Ch. 5 “The EU Policy Process” (pp. 94-118)

McC Ch. 7 “Economic Policy” (pp. 142-164)

GLM part of Ch. 5 (pp. 136-142)

26. Beyond the Open Market (Wednesday 12/1)

McC Ch. 8 “Improving the Quality of Life” (pp. 165-188)

McC Ch. 9 “The EU and the World” (pp. 189-211)

Birol, Yeşilada A. and David M. Wood. 2010. Ch. 6 “Enlargement of the European Union.” In *The Emerging European Union*. 5th ed. New York: Longman, pp. 71-87.

[BLACKBOARD]

European Integration Paper Due 12/6

27. Democratic Deficit (Monday 12/6)

McC Ch. 6 “The EU and its Citizens” (pp. 119-141)

Moravcsik, Andrew. 2002. “In Defence of the ‘Democratic Deficit’: Reassessing Legitimacy in the European Union.” *Journal of Common Market Studies* 40.4: 603-624.

[BLACKBOARD]

28. The Future of the EU (Wednesday 12/8)

McC “Conclusions” (pp. 212-215)

GLM part of Ch. 5 (pp. 143-153)

Fischer, Joschka, Jacques Chirac, Tony Blair, and Paavo Lipponen. 2003. “Reflections on a Constitution for Europe.” In Nelsen and Stubb, eds., 69-88. [BLACKBOARD]

Final Exam (Monday, December 13, 12:45-2:45pm)