

POLI 451: The European Union

POLI 451
Fall 2019
Macdonald Engineering 276

Tue/Thu 16:05-17:25

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This is a course on the politics of the European Union with an emphasis on the comparative politics of European integration in the member and candidate states. You will learn about the history of European integration ideas, the EU's main institutions, and their effects on domestic politics in EU's current and would-be member states. The theoretical and conceptual focus will be on the process of Europeanization of domestic European politics, rather than on the intergovernmentalism, i.e. relations between states, that motivated earlier studies of European integration.

Required Readings

This course requires a moderate amount of reading, but many of the articles are challenging either conceptually or methodologically. Plan accordingly. Do NOT fall behind, because you will not be able to skim the readings to catch up. Readings include:

Textbook:

Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly, Achim Hurrelmann and Amy Verdun, European Union Governance and Policy Making: A Canadian Perspective, University of Toronto Press, 2019

Strongly recommended, but not required*:

Tony Judt, Postwar: A History of Europe Since 1945, Penguin Books, 2019

*Only a small portion of this book is required reading for this class. However, the book provides the best overview and analysis of European political development since the end of WWII, so it will give you important background knowledge on many of the events and processes we will discuss.

You can buy both books from Paragraphe Bookstore.

Articles and book chapters: Most assigned articles and book chapters are available online through McGill library resources. A few readings will be posted on the course website.

Course Obligations

Students will be evaluated based on four measures:

- 1) Conference participation (10%)
- 2) Midterm (25%)
- 3) Multimedia project (25%)
- 4) Final (40%)

Conferences: 10%

You should register for a conference time on Minerva as soon as possible. Conferences will be led by the TA. Conferences will begin during the third week of classes (the week of Sep 16th). Half of your conference grade will be based on attendance. You are expected to attend all conferences. The other half of your conference grade will be based on the quality of your participation in group discussions and activities.

In-class Midterm: 25%

The midterm will be given in class on October 8th. The midterm will consist of term identifications and multiple-choice questions. The material will be drawn both from lecture and from the readings.

Multimedia project: 25%

The class will break up into small groups (up to 5 people). Each group will research a topic related to the EU and will present the findings in a form of their choosing—an infographic, a video primer, or a filmed presentation.

Infographics tell a story with numbers and pictures; they present data in an easily digestible and visually appealing manner to simplify complicated issues for a broader audience. You can find some examples of EU infographics on the course website. The infographics will also be eligible to participate in a competition, sponsored by the Jean Monnet Centre Montreal. The winning infographic team will receive a monetary prize!

A video primer is a short (up to 10min) video that introduces the audience to the basic facts of a topic in an engaging and informative way. The video can be a compilation of screenshots, maps, animation with a voiceover that tell a story. Here is an a good example of a primer video on Brexit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NgVhRVrANhA>

A filmed presentation will be a video of the group members taking turns speaking about different aspects of the topic. You can organize it in interview or round-table format. Be creative!

You can choose any current topic that relates to the EU. The goal is to read in depth about it and follow the latest. Possible topics include: (1) The EU and Migration; (2) Poland and Art 7; (3) The incoming European Commission; (4) Enlargement to the West Balkans. You will form groups and pick a topic after the midterm. Each group will submit a brief plain text draft (250 words) on November 1th; your final assignment is due on November 30th (all deadlines: 11:59 PM on MyCourses).

Final exam: 40%

A cumulative final exam will test your ability to integrate a theoretical understanding of the EU with practical knowledge of the day-to-day workings of the EU. For the final, you will be writing a number of short essays. The date for the final exam will be set by the university.

On Academic Integrity and Submitting Written Work in French

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/integrity for more information).

L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site www.mcgill.ca/integrity).

In accordance with McGill University's Charter of Students' Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.

Other issues

If you have a disability and you would like to discuss the issue with me, please contact me to arrange a time to meet. It would be helpful if you contact the Office for Students with Disabilities at 514-398-6009 before you do this.

End-of-term course evaluations are one of the ways that McGill works towards maintaining and improving the quality of courses and the students' learning experience. You will be notified by e-mail when the evaluations are available on Mercury, the online course evaluation system. Please note that a minimum number of responses must be received for results to be available to students.

Additional policies governing academic issues which affect students can be found in the McGill Charter of Students' Rights (The Handbook on Students' Rights and Responsibilities is available at : www.mcgill.ca/files/secretariat/Handbook-on-Student-Rights-and-Responsibilities-2010.pdf).

Lecture and Reading Schedule

PART I: History and Institutions of the EU

Introduction (Sep 3, Sep 5)

EU Governance and Policy Making, pp. 1-19

From Rome to Lisbon: A Short History (Sep 10, Sep 12)

- EU Governance and Policy Making, pp. 20-41
- 'The Schuman Declaration', website of the European Union, available at: http://europa.eu/abouteu/basic-information/symbols/europe-day/schuman-declaration/index_en.htm
- Ludlow, N. Piers. "Challenging French leadership in Europe: Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and the outbreak of the empty chair crisis of 1965–1966." *Contemporary European History* 8, no. 2 (1999): 231-248.
- Watch the short documentary "Europe Through the Generations": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=isVdxUBAp78>

EU Institutions (Sep 17, Sep 19, Sep 24, Sep 26)

- EU Governance and Policy Making, pp. 42-104
- Hooghe, Liesbet. 2012. "Images of Europe: How Commission Officials Conceive Their Institution's Role." *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 50, 87–111.

Theories of European Integration (Oct 1, Oct 3)

- EU Governance and Policy Making, pp. 105-125
- Stone-Sweet, Alec & Wayne Sandholtz (1997) 'European Integration and Supranational Governance', *Journal of European Public Policy*, 4:3, pp. 297-317
- Moravcsik, Andrew (1995) 'Liberal Intergovernmentalism and Integration: A Rejoinder', *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 33:4, 611-628
- Parsons, Craig. "Showing ideas as causes: the origins of the European Union." *International organization* 56, no. 1 (2002): 47-84.

INCLASS MIDTERM Oct 8

PART II: Integration

Enlargement (Oct 10, Oct 15, Oct 17)

- EU Governance and Policy Making, pp. 295-316
- 1995 European Commission White Paper 'Preparation of the Associated Countries of Central And Eastern Europe for Integration into the Internal Market of the Union', COM(95) 163 available from the Archive of European Integration at the University of Pittsburgh at: http://aei.pitt.edu/1120/1/east_enlarg_wp_COM_95_163.pdf
- Grabbe, Heather. "How does Europeanization affect CEE governance? Conditionality, diffusion and diversity." *Journal of European public policy* 8, no. 6 (2001): 1013-1031.
- Grzymala-Busse, Anna, and Abby Innes. "Great expectations: The EU and domestic political competition in East Central Europe." *East European Politics and Societies* 17, no. 1 (2003): 64-73.
- Moravcsik, Andrew, and Milada A. Vachudova. "National interests, state power, and EU enlargement." *East European Politics and Societies* 17, no. 1 (2003): 42-57.

The CVM Mechanism for Bulgaria and Romania (Oct 17)

- Noutcheva, Gergana, and Dimitar Bechev. "The successful laggards: Bulgaria and Romania's accession to the EU." *East European Politics and Societies* 22, no. 1 (2008): 114-144.
- Mendelski, Martin. "The EU's pathological power: The failure of external rule of law promotion in South Eastern Europe." *Southeastern Europe* 39, no. 3 (2015): 318-346.

Enlargement to the Western Balkans and Beyond? (Oct 22)

- Vachudova, Milada Anna. "EU Leverage and National Interests in the Balkans: The Puzzles of Enlargement Ten Years On." *JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies* 52, no. 1 (2014): 122-138.
- Freyburg, Tina, and Solveig Richter. "National identity matters: the limited impact of EU political conditionality in the Western Balkans." *Journal of European Public Policy* 17, no. 2 (2010): 263-281.

Legal integration (Oct 24)

- Sionaidh Douglas-Scott, "A tale of two courts: Luxembourg, Strasbourg and the growing European human rights acquis." *Common Market Law Review* 43, no. 3 (2006): 629-665.
- Karen Alter, "Who are the "masters of the treaty"?: European governments and the European Court of Justice." *International organization* 52, no. 1 (1998): 121-147, available online [here](#)

Democratic Legitimacy (Oct 29)

- EU Governance and Policy Making, pp. 339-358
- Moravcsik, Andrew. "Reassessing legitimacy in the European Union." *JCMS: journal of common market studies* 40, no. 4 (2002): 603-624.
- Follesdal, Andreas, and Simon Hix. "Why there is a democratic deficit in the EU: A response to Majone and Moravcsik." *JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies* 44, no. 3 (2006): 533-562.

European Parliament and democracy (Oct 31)

- Hix, Simon, and Bjørn Høyland. "Empowerment of the European parliament." *Annual Review of Political Science* 16 (2013): 171-189.
- Dinan, D. 'Governance and Institutions: the Year of the Spitzenkandidaten', *Journal of Common Market Studies*, vol. 53 s1 (2015), pp. 93-107

European and National Identity (Nov 5, Nov 7)

- Tony Judt, Postwar, pp. 777-800
- Fligstein, Neil. *Euroclash: The EU, European identity, and the future of Europe*. Oxford University Press, 2008, Chpt 5, pp. 123-165
- Carey, Sean. "Undivided loyalties: is national identity an obstacle to European integration?." *European union politics* 3, no. 4 (2002): 387-413.
- Hobolt, Sara B., and Catherine E. De Vries. "Public support for European integration." *Annual Review of Political Science* 19 (2016): 413-432.

PART III: Disintegration

Democratic Backsliding (Nov 12)

- Kelemen, R. Daniel. "Europe's other democratic deficit: National authoritarianism in Europe's Democratic Union." *Government and opposition* 52, no. 2 (2017): 211-238.
- Bozóki, András, and Dániel Hegedűs. "An externally constrained hybrid regime: Hungary in the European Union." *Democratization* 25, no. 7 (2018): 1173-1189.

Rule of Law Backsliding (Nov 14, Nov 19)

- Wojciech Sadurski, 'Polish Constitutional Tribunal Under PiS: From an Activist Court, to a Paralysed Tribunal, to a Governmental Enabler' (2018) *Hague Journal on the Rule of Law*.
- Kovács, Kriszta, and Kim Lane Scheppele. "The fragility of an independent judiciary: Lessons from Hungary and Poland—and the European Union." *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* 51, no. 3 (2018): 189-200.

Euroskepticism (Nov 21)

- Szczerbiak, A. and Taggart, P., 2008. Theorizing party-based Euroscepticism: problems of definition, measurement, and causality. *Opposing Europe*, pp. 238-262.
- Usherwood, Simon, Nicholas Startin, and Benjamin Leruth. "Defining Euroscepticism: From a broad concept to a field of study." In *The Routledge Handbook of Euroscepticism*, pp. 3-10. Routledge, 2017.

Brexit (Nov 28)

- Curtice, John. "Why Leave won the UK's EU referendum." *JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies* 55 (2017): 19-37.
- Hobolt, Sara B., T. Leeper, and James Tilley. "Divided by the vote: Affective polarization in the wake of Brexit." *American Political Science Association, Boston* (2018). Available [here](#)