

The Politics of European Integration (120H)

UCSD Summer Session II - 2009



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Meetings	Mondays and Wednesdays - 11.00-13.50
Location	APM - Room 2301

Introduction

The European Union today plays an increasingly significant, some would argue intrusive, role in the political affairs of European nation states. Whereas the vast majority of Europeans accept that membership of the European Union has been beneficial for their countries and that collective action is essential if contemporary Europe is to maximise its influence on the global agenda, there is considerable concern regarding the impact that integration is having on national sovereignty and identity. Moreover, the failure to agree a constitutional treaty following enlargement into eastern and central Europe in 2004, and the current uncertainty regarding the Lisbon Treaty have provoked significant tensions regarding institutional representation and decision making. These factors combined have given rise to a debate whether the EU can be considered 'fit for purpose'? Upon successful completion of this course, you will have:

- an appreciation of the historical context and treaty objectives of the European integration process;
- a basic understanding of the institutional framework and decision-making processes of the European Union;
- an awareness of the current political challenges confronting the European Union.

General Learning Resources

The course text is John McCormick, *Understanding the European Union: A Concise Introduction*, 4th Edition, London: Palgrave (2008) and copies should be available in the University bookstore. I will set recommended reading ahead of each class and it will be in

your interest to complete these reading assignments. I have also indicated additional primary sources which I think you will find useful.

You can also download a useful official publication from the EU website by Pascal Fontaine which is entitled '[Europe in 12 Lessons](#)' (2006) and should take a look at the [European Union](#) website as this will be an invaluable source of information for this course. We will also be making extensive use of [Europe's World](#), an excellent magazine which considers current European debates. Finally, take a look at the online version of the newspaper, [European Voice](#) and also [EUobserver](#). Both will be helpful in keeping you informed of current affairs.

Support

I can be contacted via internet and my e-mail address is at the top of the handout. I will attempt to get back to you as soon as possible. I will also leave time at the end of each meeting for informal discussion. If at any time you require assistance or would like to speak with me about the course outside of class, please let me know and we will arrange a time for us to meet.

Course Programme

There will be ten class sessions for this course and there is an expectation that you will attend all of them. Please note that the following format will be used for each meeting except the summary discussion and examination.

11.00-12.15 Lecture

12.15-12.45 Break

12.45-13.50 Discussion

I will distribute copies of my powerpoint slides via e-mail in advance of the lectures. It is, therefore, essential that I have a valid e-mail address for all students taking this course.

Mon 3 August	<p>Session 1: Introduction to the European Union</p> <p>Discussion – What is the purpose of the European Union, and how can we best evaluate its effectiveness?</p>
Wed 5 August	<p>Session 2: European Integration in Historical Perspective</p> <p>Discussion – What general comments can we make regarding the characteristics of the European integration process?</p> <p>Reading</p> <p>-Textbook: Chapter 3 (Evolution of the EU)</p>
Mon 10 August	<p>Session 3: The Constitutional Debate</p> <p>Discussion – Is a new treaty for the European Union necessary?</p> <p>Reading</p> <p>-Document: EU Council - The Lisbon Treaty. NB. This link will provide you with a full copy of the treaty. You are, however, best advised to look at the summarised version (the treaty at a glance) and the questions and answers section.</p> <p>-Document: Joschka Fischer, 'From Confederation to Federation: Thoughts on the Finality of European Integration', speech given at the Humboldt University, Berlin, 12 May 2000.</p> <p>-Document: Mark Eyskens, 'Sharing a Vision of the New Europe', <i>Europe's World</i> (Summer 2008).</p>

-Document: The Bruges Group, [‘A Look at the Lisbon Treaty: Exposing the Revived and Renamed EU Constitution’](#).

Wed 12 August

Session 4: European Integration in Theoretical Perspective

Discussion – How and why does European integration occur?

Reading

-Textbook: Chapters 1 (What is the European Union?) and 2 (The Idea of Europe).

-Document: Andrew Moravcsik, [‘Preferences and Power in the European Community: A Liberal Intergovernmentalist Approach’](#), *Journal of Common Market Studies*, Vol.31, No.4, 1993 pp.473-520.

Mon 17 August

Session 5: Institutions and Decision-Making

Discussion – Where is the centre of power within the European Union?

Reading

-Textbook: Chapters 4 (The Institutions of the EU) and 5 (The EU and the Member States)

-Document: EU Commission - [How the European Union Works \(2005\)](#)

Wed 19 August

Session 6: Enlargement

Discussion – What impact has enlargement had on the European Union, and is it wise to pursue further enlargement?

Reading:

-Document: Wim Kok, [Enlarging the European Union: Achievements and Challenges](#), European University Institute (2003).

-Document: Frank Schimmelfennig, [‘The Double Puzzle of EU Enlargement: Liberal Norms, Rhetorical Action and the Decision to Enlarge to the East’](#), Centre for European Studies: University of Oslo, Arena Working Papers, No.99/15 (1999).

-Document: Armand Clesse, [‘The Enlargement Mess’](#), Europe’s World (Spring 2008).

Mon 24 August

Session 7: European Governance and Popular Legitimacy

Discussion – How can the European Union become ‘closer to its citizens’?

Reading:

-Textbook: Chapter 6 (The EU and its Citizens)

-Document: EU Commission - [White Paper on European Governance \(2001\)](#)

-Document: EU Commission - [Eurobarometer No.70 \(Autumn 2008\)](#).

-Document: Franz Fischler, [‘Responding to Ireland’s No’](#), Europe’s World (Autumn 2008).

-Document: Wilfried Martens, [‘Now we must apply the lessons of the European elections’](#), Europe’s World (Summer 2009).

Wed 26 August

Session 8: The European Economic Debate

Discussion – What are the key problems facing the European economy?

- Reading
 -Textbook: Chapters 7 (Economic Policy) and 8 (Improving the Quality of Life)
 -Document: [The Lisbon Strategy for Employment, Economic Reform and Social Cohesion \(2000\)](#)
- Mon 31 August Session 9: The Common Foreign and Security Policy
 Discussion – How effective is the European Union as a global security actor?
 Reading
 -Textbook: Chapter 9 (The EU and the World)
 -Document: [The European Security Strategy](#) (2003)
 -Document: [Report on the Implementation of the European Security Strategy](#) (2008).
 -Document: Charles Grant and Mark Leonard, '[How to Strengthen EU Foreign Policy](#)', London: Centre for European Reform (2006).
 -Document: Harri Tiddo, '[It's time Europe faced up to its changed security needs](#)', Europe's World (Summer 2009).
- Wed 2 September Session 10: EU-US Relations
 Discussion – Is there a future for the transatlantic partnership?
 Reading
 -Document: Ivo H. Daalder, '[Are The United States and Europe Heading for Divorce?](#)', International Affairs, Vol.77, No.3 (2001), pp.531-544.
 -Document: Robert Kagan, 'Paradise and Power: America and Europe in the New World Order', London: Atlantic Books (2003). NB. I do not have access to an electronic copy of this book but used copies can be purchased on Amazon for as little as one dollar.
 -Document: Javier Solana, '[Mars and Venus Reconciled: A New Era for Transatlantic Relations](#)', The Albert H. Gordon Lecture, Harvard University, 7 April 2003.
 -Document: David P. Calleo, '[Why EU and US geopolitical interests are no longer the same](#)', Europe's World (Summer 2008).
- Fri 4 September Course Examination
 NB. Although the examination slot is 11.30-2.30, I will probably begin at 12.00. The location has still to be confirmed and you will be notified in due course.

Course Assessment

Course assessment will comprise ten discussion comments and a seen examination.

Discussion Comments

You will be required to submit by e-mail attachment a 500-word analysis on each discussion topic (ten in all). The deadline for submission will be the Friday in which the class takes place. No submission extensions will be granted. Each comment will carry 5 per cent of the total grade for this course ie 50 per cent in total.

Examination

This will be in two parts. The first part will be a multiple choice test. You will be required to respond to 40 questions in approximately 30 minutes. All questions will be drawn from the

textbook and powerpoint slides and each question will comprise 0.5 per cent of the total grade for this course ie 20 per cent in total. The second part will comprise a seen examination and the question will be distributed on Thursday 24 July. You will have one hour to provide your response to this question and may not bring any notes or other material into the room with you. This component will comprise 30 per cent of the total grade.

Course Advice

If you can accept that there are no short cuts to the acquisition of knowledge, you will already be on the way to obtaining a good grade for this course. But, in more specific terms, the following advice may be useful:

- attend all class sessions and listen to what points are being highlighted;
- do the recommend reading and come prepared with questions;
- do additional reading when preparing the class comments and do not leave your work until the last minute;
- when writing your class comments and the seen examination, concentrate on explaining rather than describing events and issues;
- remember, although your opinions may be of interest, I would prefer to find out what you have learned;
- spend time organising your thoughts for the examination – a seen question is not an easy option as I will be expecting a higher level of knowledge and analysis than would be expected from an unseen question;
- if there is anything that you do not understand about this course, ask me or the teaching assistant.

Course information produced by Graham Timmins (June 2009)