

**The European Union**  
**POLS 3365**  
**Fall 2019**  
**MWF 10:00 – 10:50am**  
**Ross Hall 211**

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Office hours: TR 11:00am to noon, and by appointment

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***Course Overview***

The course is designed to provide you with an understanding of the European Union and the process of European integration. It will focus briefly on the history of the EU and integration. We will then study the institutional structures that comprise the EU. Next, we then examine theories explaining European integration. Finally, we will focus on the major issues that confront Europeans in the context of European integration.

The objective is to enable you to develop a critical understanding of the nature of European and EU politics and society, to the point where you can think critically about the EU and its role in the world. You will also gain practice in generating sound political science research. This will be a mixture of a lecture based and seminar style course. You will be required to read some academic research concerning the European Union, and you will be asked to discuss this material in class.

***Expectations***

It is important to remember that you are adults, and success at the collegiate level is dependent upon approaching your studies as a responsible adult. While there will be no formal attendance grade, there will be a participation grade, and it is impossible to participate if you are not in class. As this is an upper level course that covers a large amount of unfamiliar material, attendance will also serve to improve your grade. Further, you will be expected to do all of the readings (both textbook and other readings) by the below enumerated dates.

***Course Goals***

At the end of this course you will be able to:

- 1) Identify and analyze major theories of integration
- 2) Identify the major institutional structures of the European Union

- 3) Analyze the relationships between those institutional structures
- 4) Analyze the impact that inter-institutional relationships have the major issues and problems facing European society today

And you will have developed:

- 1) A greater understanding of European Union politics
- 2) Important critical and analytical thinking skills

### ***Required Reading***

Cini, M., and N. Pérez-Solórzano Borragán. 2010. *European Union Politics*. Oxford University Press. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition.

Additional articles will be required for this class. These articles can be found on Blackboard or via a link in the syllabus.

### ***Course Assignments***

1. Exam 1	25 %
2. Exam 2	30 %
3. Research Paper	25 %
4. Reaction Papers	10%
5. Participation	10%

**Grading:** Grading will follow a standard scale: 89.5% or higher is an A, 79.5% to 89.49% is a B, 69.5% to 79.49% is a C, and 59.5% to 69.49% is a D.

In order to avoid myriad problems I will NOT do any of the following:

1. Change grades unless a computational error is made
2. Reveal grades via e-mail or telephone
3. Give any extra credit opportunities other than those mentioned in the syllabus or by me in class
4. ***ACCEPT ANY LATE MATERIALS***
5. Allow any makeup exams, unless in extenuating circumstances

Exam grades will be posted on Blackboard, usually within 7 days of the exam.

If you do poorly on any of the assignments, I advise you to see me as soon as possible. It is your responsibility to seek my help if you need it.

It is important to note, I may provide a general curve on each exam. This is done in order to avoid curving the final grades which is again possible, however, unlikely.

**Exams:** Two exams will be given in this course. The first exam will be a midterm and will consist of 20 multiple choice questions and one essay. You will be given a choice of two essay questions, of which, you will be required to answer one. This exam will test you regarding all course content up until the date of the exam. This exam will be worth 25% of your overall grade.

The second exam will be the final, which will be cumulative, will consist of 30 multiple choice questions and 2 essays. You will be provided two sets of two essay questions each (set A and set B). You will be required to answer one essay question from each set. As this exam is comprehensive it will include questions covering the entire content of this course. This exam will be worth 30% of your overall grade.

***PLEASE NOTE: BOTH EXAMS ARE ONLINE, IF YOU DO NOT START THE EXAM BY 11:59PM ON THE DAY OF THE EXAM YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TAKE IT.***

Makeup exams will only be given in light of a university excused absence or at the discretion of the instructor. Inform me of your absence before or within 48 hours of the examination date, either in person or by e-mail. I will need specific, written documentation to verify the nature and legitimacy of your absence. You must present this documentation to me, in person, during my office hours (or make an appointment) and before the last week of classes. At that time, I will determine whether you are eligible to take a makeup exam. You will have fifty (50) minutes to complete the makeup exam, which consists of answering **one essay question**. **All makeup exams will take place during the last week of classes. YOU MUST CONTACT ME BEFORE THE LAST WEEK OF CLASSES TO SCHEDULE A MAKEUP EXAM. MAKE UP EXAMS WILL NOT BE GIVEN FOR THE FINAL EXAM.**

**Exam Preparation:** The optimal way to succeed in this class is to attend class regularly, take good notes, and keep up with the readings. The first student who can work the phrase “flim flam a blim blam” into class conversation will receive five points on their final exam. Your notes will alert you to the material that I think is most important, however, everything in the required readings is fair game.

**Research Paper:** You will each be expected to write a political science research paper during the semester. This paper should consist of a research question, a literature review, a theory presenting an answer to your research question, and at least one testable hypothesis. I recommend you start thinking about a research question immediately.

For a good explanation as to how to write a political science research paper, see this guide (<http://davinci.cascss.unt.edu/users/aje0004/projectguidev4b.pdf>) from Prof. Andrew Enterline at the University of North Texas. Although this guide is designed for graduate students, it should provide a useful tutorial for advanced undergraduates. **NOTE: YOU DO NOT NEED TO WRITE A RESEARCH DESIGN OR CARRY OUT ANALYSIS FOR THIS PAPER.**

This paper should not be more than 12 pages. It does not have a minimum page limit. Rather it should be as long as it needs to be to cover all the important aspects of a research paper (i.e. identification of a research question, literature review, theory, hypothesizing). This paper will be worth 25% of your grade.

**Reaction Papers:** Twice during this semester (October 25 and November 18) you will be required to choose and read one of 2 pieces of scholarly literature from a list (labeled as that week's "Reaction readings"). On October 25 and November 18, respectively, you will be required to turn in reaction papers based on the pieces you chose to read. Each reaction paper should be 2-3 pages long, double-spaced with a 12pt Times New Roman font. It should present a brief synopsis of the literature and a critical reaction to the work. Each of these papers will be worth 5% of your final grade.

**Participation:** You are expected to participate in class. Each student will start with 0 participation points for the class. Points will be allocated based on positive participation in class discussions on seminar days. That is, if a student participates in a way that forwards conversation about a topic, demonstrating that they read the assigned reading, they will receive 1 participation point up to 10. However, if a student is asked to participate and has not done the reading they will lose a participation point, down to 0. Participation will account for 10% of your final grade, thus 1 participation point is equivalent to 1% of your final grade.

**Extra Credit:** Extra credit will not be given in this course.

**Attendance:** Attendance is expected, but not required for this class. Remember, however, participation is part of your grade and it is impossible to participate without being in class.

**Communications:** If you have any questions about the class, please see me during my office hours. If you cannot make my office hours, please schedule an appointment to see me. You are more than welcome to e-mail me as well.

**Dropping Courses:** Please visit the website of UALR Student Records (<http://ualr.edu/records/drop-class/>) for information concerning drops, withdrawals, and other administrative information.

**Students with Disabilities:** Your success in this class is important to me, and it is the policy and practice of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock to create inclusive learning environments consistent with federal and state law. If you have a documented disability (or need to have a disability documented), and need an accommodation, please contact me privately as soon as possible, so that we can discuss with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) how to meet your specific needs and the requirements of the course. The DRC offers resources and coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process among you, your instructor(s) and the DRC. Thus, if you have a disability, please contact me and/or the DRC, at 501-569-3143 (V/TTY) or 501-683-7629 (VP). For more information, please visit the DRC website at [www.ualr.edu/disability](http://www.ualr.edu/disability).



### **The European Commission**

September 11 – 16

Read by Sept. 11, Cini and Pérez-Solórzano Borragán,  
Ch. 8

Read by Sept. 16, Williams, C.J. and S. Bevan. 2019.  
“The Effect of Public Attitudes Toward the  
European Union on European Commission Policy  
Activity.” *European Union Politics* OnlineFirst doi:  
10.1177/1465116519857161

### **The European Parliament**

September 18 – 25

Read by September 18, Cini and Pérez-Solórzano  
Borragán, Ch. 10

Read by September 25, Lefkofridi, Z., and  
Katsanidou, A. 2018. “A Step Closer to a  
Transnational Party System? Competition and  
Coherence in the 2009 and 2013 European  
Parliament.” *JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies*  
56:6 1462-1482.

### **European Court of Justice**

September 27

Read by Sept 27, Cini and Pérez-Solórzano Borragán,  
Ch. 11

## **4. THEORIES OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION**

### **Neo-functionalism**

September 30 – October 9

Read by Sept 30, Cini and Pérez-Solórzano Borragán,  
Ch. 5

Read by Oct 9, Rosamond, B. 2005. “The Uniting of  
Europe and the Foundation of EU Studies: Revisiting  
the Neofunctionalism of Ernst B. Haas.” *Journal of  
European Public Policy* 12(2): 237-254.

**No Class October 2-7 as Dr. Williams will be giving a talk at the Center for European  
Studies at the University of Florida**

### **Intergovernmentalism**

October 11 – 16

Read by Oct 11, Cini and Pérez-Solórzano Borragán,  
Ch. 6

Read by Oct 16, Moravcsik, A. 2005. "The European Constitutional Compromise and the Neofunctionalist Legacy." *Journal of European Public Policy* 12(2): 349-386.

### **Postfunctionalism**

October 18 – 25

Read by Oct 18, Hooghe, L. and G. Marks. 2008. "A Postfunctionalist Theory of Integration: From Permissive Consensus to Constraining Dissensus." *British Journal of Political Science* 39(1): 1-23.

Read by Oct 23, Hodson, D, and U. Puetter. 2019. "The European Union in Disequilibrium: New Intergovernmentalism, Postfunctionalisms, and Integration Theory in the Post Maastricht Period." *Journal of European Public Policy* 26(8): 1153-1171.

**OCTOBER 25**

### **FIRST REACTION PAPER DUE**

**Read one of the two following papers and write a reaction paper:**

Schimmelfennig, F. 2014. "European Integration in the Euro Crisis: The Limits of Postfunctionalism." *Journal of European Integration* 36(3): 321-337.

Franchino, F. 2012. "Challenges to Liberal Intergovernmentalism." *European Union Politics* 14(2): 324-337. (Available on Blackboard)

October 28

Review

**October 30**

### **MIDTERM EXAM (Online)**

**No Class November 1-4 as Dr. Williams will be at a professional event**

## **5. The EMU and the Single Market**

### **Economic and Monetary Union**

November 6

Read by Nov 6, Cini and Pérez-Solórzano Borrágán, Ch. 20

### **The Single Market**

November 8

Read by Nov 8, Cini and Pérez-Solórzano Borrágán, Ch. 16

## 6. DEMOCRACY AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

### Democratic Deficit

November 11 – 13

Read by Nov 11, Moravcsik, A. 2002. "In Defence of the 'Democratic Deficit': Reassessing Legitimacy in the European Union." *Journal of Common Market Studies* 40(4): 603-624.

Read by Nov 13, Føllesdal, A. and S. Hix. 2006. "Why There is a Democratic Deficit in the EU: A Response to Majone and Moravcsik." *Journal of Common Market Studies* 44(3): 533-562.

### Public Opinion and Democracy

November 15 – 18

Read by Nov. 15, Gabel, M. 1998. "Public Support for European Integration: An Empirical Test of Five Theories." *Journal of Politics* 60(2): 333-354.

Read by Nov 18, McLaren, L. 2002. "Explaining Mass-Level Euroscepticism: Identity, Interests, and Institutional Distrust." *Acta Politica* 42(2): 233-251.

Read by Nov 18, Williams, CJ. 2016. "Issuing Reasoned Opinions: The Effect of Public Attitudes Towards the EU on the usage of the 'Early Warning System'." *European Union Politics* 17(3): 504-521.  
(Available on Blackboard)

**NOVEMBER 18**

### **SECOND REACTION PAPER DUE**

**Read one of the two following papers and write a reaction paper:**

Toshkov, D. 2011. "Public Opinion and Policy Output in the European Union: A Lost Relationship." *European Union Politics* 12(2): 169-191.

Franklin, M. and C. Wlezien. 1997. "The Responsive Public: Issue Salience, Policy Change, and Preferences for European Unification." *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 9(3): 347-363.

### Enlargement

November 20

Fuchs, D., and H-P Klingemann. 2002. "Eastward Enlargement of the European Union and the Identity of Europe." *West European Politics* 25(2): 19-54.

**Brexit**

November 22

Read BBC Article, available at:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-32810887>

Read Kaufmann, available at:

<http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/europpblog/2016/07/09/not-economy-stupid/>

Read Simpson, available at:

<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/brexit/2019/07/15/why-uk-parties-are-starting-to-embrace-brexit-driven-electoral-pacts/>

**NO CLASS NOVEMBER 25 - December 1 (HAVE A GREAT THANKSGIVING)**

**December 2**

**Review**

**December 4**

**Final Exam (Online)**