Maastricht Program        Spring Term 2008

SYLLABUS

Professor: Alfred P. Montero    Office: Willis 407
Phone: x4085 (Office)     Email: amontero@carleton.edu
Web Page: http://people.carleton.edu/~amontero
Office Hours: by appointment in person or via Skype
Skype: amontero9601

POSC 383: The Political and Economic Integration of Europe

Course Description

This course will systematically analyze the European Union (EU) and the larger project of economic and political integration in Europe. Instruction will focus on the major institutions and policy areas of the EU. The course begins with an examination of the current institutional framework of European policy-making. It then proceeds to a more extensive evaluation of competition policy, agricultural policy, regional policy (the structural funds), the common foreign and security policy, and justice and home affairs. Beyond these areas, the course will focus on the ongoing problem of the “democratic deficit.” In this vein, special attention will be given to a project on the (dis)connections between European leaders and citizens.

What is Expected of Students

Students will be expected to read, think, criticize, and form arguments. That will require keeping up on reading assignments and attending class regularly. Students must be fully prepared at all times to discuss the readings and concepts from previous lectures. The best students will be critical but balanced in their assessments, and will develop coherent arguments that they can defend in their writing and their in-class discussion.

Reading Materials

This course requires one book, which has been purchased by the program and has been distributed to all students prior to the trip.1 The course also uses a reader containing a complete compilation of all of the other required readings. In addition to the course reader, I will distribute copies of relevant articles from the International Herald Tribune, Financial Times, The Economist, Google, Wikipedia, and YouTube via email. All readings for this course may be downloaded from e-reserves or the common folder. Additionally, a small supply of hard copies will be available during the program.

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Grading

Assessment of the students in this course will be based on their performance during regular seminar meetings, including lectures and other events outside of Maastricht, a data gathering and analysis project; numerous quizzes, a simulation of decision-making in the EU Council of Ministers, and a cumulative, final examination at the end of the sixth week. The grade breakdown follows:

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<tr>
<td>Seminar Participation</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Analysis Project</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU Simulation</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20</td>
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The Grading Scale

I will be using the following grading scale in this course and in POSC 387:
98-100 A+
94-97 A
91-93 A-
88-90 B+
83-87 B
79-82 B-
76-78 C+
72-75 C
68-71 C-
67/below D/F

Attendance

Consistent attendance in the course and all program-related activities is required. If you know you will be absent due to health problems, you must report this to an RA or the program assistant as soon as possible. Failure to attend a meeting for any reason other than an approved medical or otherwise sanctioned reason will be punishable by a reduced 10 percent off of the final grade. More than three such unexcused absences will result in failure.

Academic Misconduct

Given the fact that academe relies upon the ethical conduct of scholars, students are held to the same standards in their own work. Any act of academic dishonesty or misconduct will be referred to the Office of the Dean. For further information, see the useful handout on “Avoiding Academic Misconduct,” available on the course webpage.
Special Needs

Students requiring access to learning tools/special schedules approved by Student Support Services should contact me at the beginning of the course.

NOTE: Readings must be completed for the dates assigned below.

Session 1: Reforming EU Institutions: Towards a More Democratic Union?

Prior to the Trip:

Europa webpage (http://europa.eu). Become familiar with the material on the “Institutions” tab and under the “Services” tab, the Eurostat webpage (“Statistics”) and the Eurobarometer webpage (“Opinion Polls”).

As a refresher:


Whither the European Union? An Introduction (Tuesday, April 1)


The Institutional System and the Democratic Question (Wednesday, April 2)


The Decision-Making Process and the Democratic Question (Thursday, April 3)


Session 2: The Judicial and the Regulatory Systems of the EU

The Judicial System of the EU (Tuesday, April 8)


Official Resources:

ECJ webpage for access to decisions since 1997 ([http://curia.eu.int/en/content/juris/index.htm](http://curia.eu.int/en/content/juris/index.htm)).

Eurlex webpage of access to EU law ([http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/en/index.htm](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/en/index.htm)).

A Visit to the ECJ in Luxembourg (Wednesday, April 9)

Competition Policy of the EU (Thursday, April 10)


Official Resources:


COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 773/2004 of 7 April 2004 relating to the conduct of proceedings by the Commission pursuant to Articles 81 and 82 of the EC Treaty.


Session 3: Agriculture and the Common Market

The Common Agricultural Policy and Its Reform (Tuesday, April 15)

Quiz #1: Institutions, Democracy, and Regulations


Debate #1: CAP Reform

Official Resources:


The Common Market (Part 1) (Thursday, April 17)


The Common Market (Part 2) (Thursday, April 17)


Debate #2: Social and Employment Policy in the EU

Prep Session for the EU Simulation in Brussels (TBA)

Session 4: The EU Democracy Project in Brussels (April 21-25)

EU Simulation (Monday, April 21)

Research (Tuesday-Thursday, April 22-24)

Visit to NATO Headquarters (Friday, April 25)

Session 5: The Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)

Constructing the CFSP: Realpolitik or Nation-Building? (Tuesday, April 29)


Bastian Giegerich and Eva Gross. 2006. “Squaring the Circle? Leadership and Legitimacy in

**Quiz #2: CAP, the Common Market, and EU Decision-making**

**EU Foreign Policy and Global Security (Wednesday, April 30)**


**Assessing the Prospects for a European Security and Defense Policy (ESDP) (Thursday, May 1)**


**Debate #3: The Design and Implementation of the ESDP**

**MIDTERM BREAK (Friday, May 2 – Monday, May 5)**

Meetings at the ISS in Paris (Tuesday-Wednesday, May 6-7)

Research Group Presentations (EU Democracy Project) (Wednesday-Thursday, May 7-8)

**FINAL EXAM (Thursday, May 8)**

“*Toast to the EU*” under the Eiffel Tower @ dusk (Thursday, May 8)

**END OF POSC 383**
POSC 387: Europe of Regions

Course Description

This research seminar will examine the issues facing subnational polities and economies as they deal with the project of European integration. The focus of the work will be the study of cases of EU structural funding for local or regional projects. Students will receive instruction in the theoretical, political, policy, and economic geographic literature on subnational political economy. Students will be divided into research teams of 3-4 members. Each team will prepare to conduct fieldwork in at least two subnational regions of their choice in western Europe. After conducting their research during the period set aside for such travel, students will return to Maastricht and, in consultation with the professor, prepare a formal presentation of their work and a research report.

Reading Materials

Same resources as POSC 383.

Grading

Assessment of the students in this course will be based on their performance on the group research project and class participation. Each individual student will receive an equal share of the group grade given to their research team based on overall performance. The grade breakdown follows:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Preparation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Logistical Preparation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Presentation</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Report</td>
<td>35%</td>
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Course Preparation

Attendance in this course is mandatory. Each student will be expected to take careful notes and to prepare for each class discussion, which may take place in Maastricht or “on the road” (i.e., on the French TGV, a bus, hotel, or café). Students are required to be up on the reading and to be able to discuss these readings in detail.

Logistical Preparation

Each research team will be expected to manage both the academic and logistical content of their
fieldwork and report their progress regularly to the professor. Communication via Skype, email, and telephone as well as face-to-face meetings will determine how each team is making progress.

A large part of the logistical preparation will involve a “group dynamics” component. This score will be determined based on peer evaluations, professor’s observations of preliminary work, and demonstrated work for the group. Emphasis will be placed on the demonstration of consistent effort by all group members. The group dynamics score will be based on a mean group score adjusted for varying level of individual effort. Because this is a collaborative exercise, all group members are responsible for the whole project. That is, each member shares in the collective responsibility of the project, making individual backsliding the problem of the entire team.

Site visits during the field research period must be organized through contacts and students must do all the key logistical work to prepare interview subjects, follow-through with the visit, and then brief the professor and the rest of the program participants during evening discussion sections. The program assistant will manage each group’s research budget, which will cover all transport, hotel accommodations and other research-related costs (e.g., fees, copies, etc.).

**Group Presentation and the Research Report**

After a period of study and compilation of other materials, each research team will present their findings in both an oral and written form. Oral presentations will be scheduled for the ninth week of the program. Research Reports will be due no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, June 6.

**Wednesday, April 2: The “Europe of Regions” and the Future of the EU**


**Tuesday, April 8: Theoretical Approaches to the EoR: Multilevel Governance**


**Wednesday, April 16: The Structural Funds and Regional Policy**


EU Regional Policy DG ([http://europa.eu.int/pol/reg/index_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/pol/reg/index_en.htm)).

 EU Structural Funds Reports (Maastricht '05) (select one)  
(http://apps.carleton.edu/curricular/ocs/maastricht/archive/Spring_05/research/)

**Wednesday, April 30: Comparative Subnational Political Economies**

Regional reports from Maastricht 2002 and 2005 (select one from each cohort)  
(2005: http://apps.carleton.edu/curricular/ocs/maastricht/archive/Spring_05/research/)


**Thursday, May 1: Research Design Workshop**

Fieldwork by Regional Research Teams, May 12-21

Research Team Meetings with Prof. Montero, May 22, 24-26

Fieldwork Presentations, May 27-29

Write-up Workshops, June 3-5