

ISC340: An Introduction to the European Union

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

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Office hours: By appointment

Course Description

This is a class on European Integration. The European Union (EU) is a unique international organization, a political project, and a political experiment. The goal of this class is to both introduce you to the accomplishments of the EU and help you become critical participants in the vibrant debates over its future. You will learn the history, structure, and politics of the European Union, including the challenges it faces today. In the first part of the course, we will cover the most prominent explanations of the emergence of the European Community; its historical evolution since the end of World War II; and the main institutions of the EU today. We will also focus on competing visions within the EU (e.g., intergovernmentalism vs. federalism). In the second part, we will focus on the most important policy areas of the EU—that is, economic and market integration, economic and monetary union (EMU), Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), including the European Security and Defense Policy (ESDP). Finally, special attention will be given to the “EU Enlargement” debate. In the final part, we will focus on transatlantic relations and the EU’s position in the world.

Texts

There are 3 required books, available for purchase online.

Neill Nugent. 2010. *The Government and Politics of the European Union*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Andrew Moravcsik. 1998. *The Choice for Europe: Social Purpose and State Power from Messina to Maastricht*. Cornell University Press.

Walter Mattli. 1999. *The Logic of Regional Integration: Europe and Beyond*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Learning Outcomes

As a result of completing this course, students will:

1. Know the history of the European Union and understand its institutional structure.
2. Understand the contemporary political debates about the future of the EU.
3. Have developed an understanding of EU foreign, security, defence, economic, and environmental policy.
4. Improve your presentation skills.
5. Compose a publishable opinion piece on the topic.

Class Policies

The following policies are important. Read them carefully.

Grading

There are four components to your grade:

- Class Participation: 20% - Students will have to read 1-2 texts per class. They are academic articles or chapters. They aim to introduce the issues and debates for each class and they are the beginning and not the end of the discussion. Active participation in the class is strongly encouraged. You are encouraged to bring with you news stories that are relevant to our class.
- In class midterm: 30% - The midterm will consist of two parts. The first part will be a short knowledge quiz (multiple choice and identification questions) that will count for 75% of your grade. The second part will count for 25% of your grade and will require you to write a Policy Note to a leader. You will be given two questions/topics and you will be expected to write on one of them. Please do not bring with you any notes or reading materials.
- 2 Short assignments: 20% of your grade – Students will have to write two short assignments on themes covered in class or on specific cases.
- Final Paper: 30% - There will be an in-class closed-book final that will follow the same structure as the midterm.

If you would like me to re-grade your midterm or the final paper, you must submit a *written* request, explaining why you believe you did not receive the proper grade. I reserve the right to raise *or* lower your grade. There will not be opportunities to do extra-credit work to improve your grade.

Make-up exams

Make-up exams are allowed only if you have consulted with me in advance.

Late Work

Late assignments will lose one third of a full grade (e.g., from an A to a A-, to B+ etc.) for each day after the deadline. There are only two exceptions to the late-assignment policy: illness or family emergency. If either of these circumstances applies, you must provide *written documentation* (such as a doctor's note if you are ill), **and** you must communicate with me *before the assignment is due* (i.e., emailing me on the morning the assignment is due and saying you are sick is not acceptable for avoiding a penalty). I am willing to accommodate documented requests, but you must communicate with me *before* the assignment is due.

Attendance and Participation: Class attendance will be formally recorded and participation incorporated into your final grade. Please come to class on time. Feel free to bring a cup of coffee/tea or water, but please don't bring food. Cell phones must be turned off. Laptop volume must be set to "mute." In case of medical and other emergencies, make sure you notify me in advance and submit relevant documents later.

Course Schedule:

July 2. **Introduction and Overview**

Nye, Joseph. "Why Europe Is, and Will Remain, Powerful," *The Utopian Blog*, December 22, 2010.

Watch: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=95CuBI-BL4E>

July 3. **The Idea of European Integration and the Challenges It Currently Faces**

Nugent, Chapters 1 and 2

Watch: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vwWTMdTlRq0&list=UUUqIbimFVzz5Wj1IrUuQxcw&index=1&feature=plcp>

HISTORY & ORIGINS

July 4. **Explanations for European Integration I**

Moravcsik. Introduction and Chapter 7.

July 8. **Explanations for European Integration II**

Walter Mattli, *The Logic of Regional Integration: Europe and Beyond* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999). Read pages: 1 to 18, 20, 41 to 108. Skim pages: 128 to 138, 189 to 196

July 9. **Explanations for European Integration III - DEBATE**

Josef Joffe. 1984. "Europe's American Pacifier," *Foreign Policy*, No. 54, pp. 64-82.

Watch: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OA2kPNwTkhc>

July 10. **European Political Development: From the Cold to the Post-Cold War Era**

Nugent, Chapter 3 and 4

INSTITUTIONS

July 11. **The European Commission**

Nugent, Chapter 8

http://ec.europa.eu/about/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/commission_designate_2009-2014/index_en.htm

July 15. **The Council of Ministers and the European Council**

Nugent, Chapters 9 and 10

Council of Ministers

http://europa.eu/institutions/inst/council/index_en.htm

European Council

<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/showPage.aspx?id=1812&lang=en>

<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/showPage.aspx?id=242&lang=en>

<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/showPage.aspx?id=1823&lang=en>

<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/showFocus.aspx?id=1&focusId=435&lang=EN>

July 16. The European Parliament and Its Main Political Groups

Nugent, Chapter 11

Parliament

New European Parliament: more power, more responsibility. Available at:

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/pdf/lisbon_treaty/Press_kit-EP_and_Lisbon_Treaty-EN.pdf

Watch the videos on this webpage:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/parliament/public/staticDisplay.do?language=EN&id=66>

Assignment #1: *Choose one of the parties that are members of the European People's Party and write a brief memo on its political platform and organizational structure.*

July 17. The European Court of Justice and Other Institutions

Nugent, Chapters 12 and 13

Court of Justice

Available at: http://curia.europa.eu/jcms/jcms/Jo2_7024/

Available at: http://europa.eu/institutions/inst/justice/index_en.htm

The European Central Bank

<http://www.ecb.int/ecb/html/index.en.html>

<http://www.ecb.int/pub/pdf/other/ecbhistoryrolefunctions2006en.pdf>

July 18. MIDTERM EXAM

POLITICS and POLICIES

July 22. Interests, Lobbying, and Access to Decision-Makers

Nugent, Chapters 14 and 15

July 23. How is Policy Formulated and Applied? - DEBATE

Nugent, Chapters 16-18

July 24. The Single Market, the CAP & EMU

Nugent, pp. 323 to 335 and Chapter 20

Frieden, Jeffrey. 1998. "The Euro: Who Wins? Who Loses?" *Foreign Policy* (112): 25-40.

July 25. **The European Debt Crisis**

Alessi, Christopher. "The Eurozone in Crisis," New York: Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder (July 2012), available online at: <http://www.cfr.org/eu/eurozone-crisis/p22055>

Andrew Moravcsik (2012), "Europe After the Crisis," *Foreign Affairs*.
<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/137421/andrew-moravcsik/europe-after-the-crisis>

July 29. **EU Enlargement - DEBATE**

Myths and Facts about Enlargement, available at:

http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/questions_and_answers/myths_en.htm

Harris Mylonas. 2012. "The Future of Euro-Atlantic Integration in the Western Balkans", in Alexander Schmemmann and Cory Welt (eds.). *Bridging Divides in Eastern Europe*. Washington, DC: PONARS Eurasia.

July 30. **EU Foreign Policy Today**

Nugent, pp. 376-399.

The EU in the World: The Foreign Policy of the European Union, European Commission, 2007

July 31. **European Security and Defence Policy**

European Security and Defence Policy - Operations, Council of the European Union Webpage, <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/showPage.aspx?id=268&lang=en>

August 1. **Immigration Policy**

Towards a common European Union immigration policy. Available at:

http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/fsj/immigration/fsj_immigration_intro_en.htm

Simon Hix and Abdul Noury. 2007. "Politics, Not Economic Interests: Determinants of Migration Policies in the European Union," *International Migration Review*.

Terri Givens and Adam Luedtke, "The Politics of European Union Immigration Policy: Institutions, Saliency, and Harmonization," *The Policy Studies Journal*, Vol. 32, No. 1, 2004, pp. 145-165 [skim].

Minority Rights - DEBATE

Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. Available at:

<http://conventions.coe.int/Treaty/en/Treaties/Html/157.htm>

Kymlicka, Will. 2005. "National Minorities in Post-Communist Europe: The Role of International Norms and European Integration" in Zoltan Barany and Robert Moser (eds). *Ethnic Politics After Communism*. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, pp. 191- 217.

THE FUTURE OF THE EU IN THE WORLD SYSTEM

August 5. **EU-USA-China-Russia Relations**

G. John Ikenberry, "The Rise of China and the Future of the West: Can the Liberal System Survive?" *Foreign Affairs*, January/February 2008

August 6. **The Future of Europe** - DEBATE

Nugent, Chapter 24

Andrew Moravcsik, "Europe: The Second Superpower," *Current History* (March 2010).

August 7. **FINAL EXAM**