
Politics of the European Union

POLI 4074

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

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Office Hours: M 11:30a-12:30p,
or by appointment

COURSE INFORMATION

Louisiana State University
Fall 2021
Section 001
220 Stubbs Hall
MWF 1:30p-2:20p

Course Overview

Course Description

This course provides a comprehensive analysis of the political and economic attributes of the European Union. Special emphasis is given to the evolution of the EU community, theories of governance, institutional roles, policy areas, "real world" legislative processes, and EU expansion into Eastern Europe. This comparative politics course is designed to focus on the internal organization of the European Union, but also features brief interludes into the foreign policies of the EU and national governments of member states, as well as the EU's place in the contemporary political world.

LSU Learning Competency Statement for the Social Sciences

course Moodle site in .pdf format for download. It is the student's responsibility to access and read the appropriate materials for the assigned class period. If the documents are unavailable or cannot be accessed for any reason, inform the instructor so that technical issues can be corrected/modified.

3) Students will also be required to read select academic and news articles provided by the instructor. See 'Graded Items' / 'Quizzes' below for more information.

Graded Items

Composition of Course Grade

Scores for each graded item will be based on a range of 0-100, and weighted according to the table below.

Graded Item	Percentage of Grade (Weight)
Attendance	15%
Participation (in class)	5%
Quizzes (4 x 5%)	20%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory in this course and a student roll will be taken for each class meeting at the discretion of the instructor. This policy is in conjunction with a University-wide effort to bolster student attendance, as research has shown that students who attend class regularly have improved performance scores. Attendance scores are based on 100 total points. Each student receives three unexcused absences before it affects their attendance score. After three unexcused absences, your attendance score drops 10 points for each unexcused absence. See table below:

Unexcused Absences	Attendance Score	Unexcused Absences	Attendance Score
3 or less	100	8	50
4	90	9	40
5	80	10	30
7	60	12	10
		13 or more	0

Participation (in class)

Student participation in class discussions is intended to facilitate learning and is a required component of this course. This includes comments related to lecture and assigned readings, as well as appropriate questions that contribute to the discussion. Students are expected to contribute to class discussion via

Grading Policies

Absences, Missed Exams and Makeups

Allowance for the excusing of missed class and makeup of missed exams & quizzes will be in accordance with University policy, which outlines valid reasons for such occurrences. Valid reasons include, but are not limited to, serious illness, death in the immediate family, religious observances, and scheduled trips for academic purposes. Proper documentation is required for any excused absence or missed examination period. If possible, let the instructor know before missing class. Excused absences do not hurt participation grades. If you miss a class lecture, feel free to obtain notes from a classmate. You can then ask me specific questions concerning the material. I cannot provide you with notes or presentation slides.

If you miss an exam, contact the instructor immediately so that the situation can be evaluated and arrangements made, if applicable. If you have documentation that notes your excused absence, email me a scanned version or photo of the documentation. In cases where makeups are allowed, you will be given an alternate makeup exam different from the class examination. Note that the Final Exam schedule is set by the University and cannot be amended, meaning that makeups are not allowed for this exam. For complete information on the University's attendance and exam makeup policy, see the Regulations section of the LSU Catalog.

General Grading Policy

Grades are based on the academic performance of the student, as it pertains to assigned coursework and examinations, and in accordance to the grading scale, weighting, and policies listed in this syllabus. Any questions or concerns about graded work are welcome, and should be directed toward the instructor in-person during office hours or by appointment.

Grading Scale

Grading for this course will be consistent with the plus/minus grading scale adopted by the University, and as outlined in the LSU General Catalog.

Diversity
Diversity

Communication and Conduct

All communication with the instructor and all written work should be prepared using formal, standard language. In other words, do not use “texting” language or other abbreviated jargon to communicate your thoughts and ideas for this class.

Additionally, all students are required to conduct themselves appropriately at all times and in a professional/courteous manner. This means it is necessary for you to treat others with respect and courtesy. Talking while the instructor or another student is talking will not be tolerated. Conduct that is disruptive and/or not respectful of an academic environment will also not be tolerated. Severe violation of these guidelines will be reported to the LSU Office for the Dean of Students.

General Statements

If in doubt about any policy, requirement, or content related matter, please contact the instructor. Also, it would greatly benefit students to read and become familiar with the LSU General Catalog. This catalog contains the official policies and regulations of the University. I am more than willing to provide additional information or explanation to questions related to course content posed by students. Questions or concerns may be addressed in class, through email, in person during office hours, or by appointment. I will respond to emails within a timely manner, but allow up to 24 hours for responses. I am also available to meet before/after class to discuss questions or concerns.

LSU provides each student with a University affiliated email (ex. jsmith4@lsu.edu) which you should have already activated and currently use. If you have not activated your University email account, you should do so immediately, as all course communication will be sent to this email address.

Check your email, check the course Moodle page, and check the Course Calendar (see below) on a regular basis. Be proactive!

The instructor reserves the right to amend any of the policies, requirements, or statements in this course/syllabus. Any modification of the syllabus or class schedule (for unexpected events such as emergencies, extenuating circumstances, etc.) will be conveyed to student either in class or via email, with as much advance notice as reasonably possible.

Covid-19 Protocols & Student Learning

It is the individual's right to decide what is best for them. However, LSU strongly encourages all students, faculty and staff to get vaccinated for COVID. Visit www.lsu.edu/roadmap/vaccines/ to learn how to get vaccinated on campus. Vaccination helps keep our campus community safe, helps protect those among us who are most vulnerable to COVID-19, and is our path back to more normal operations and the full college experience that our students deserve.

For the Fall 2021 semester, LSU has decided to return to campus learning. Note that if the university approves a return to remote learning, the instructor may transition the course to an online class. I will provide a detailed and thorough plan if this were to be the case.

There are two appendices to this syllabus:

- 1) Lecture Topics, which provides topical information that is to be discussed during the course, along with assigned reading chapters. It is your responsibility to keep with where we are in terms of topics and lecture material.
- 2) Course Calendar, which lists the dates for: class meetings, exams & quizzes, university holidays, and other notations needed by the student.

Have a great semester and Geaux Tigers.

LECTURE TOPICS

(in order of class discussion)

[Fall 2021]

Topic I. European Union Overview

Topic VIII. Expansion & Enlargement to Eastern Europe

Topics of discussion focus on a brief historical look at more recent EU enlargement particularly in the aftermath of the Cold War, as well as the domestic and international consequences of EU enlargement with Eastern European states

Required Reading: Bache et al. 2015, Chapter 27

Topic IX. The EU in Crisis (2009-present)

Discussion of the financial crisis in the Eurozone that started in 2009 and continued well into the 2010's. Also includes discussion of further financial hardships imposed by Covid-19 as well as the political ramifications of these events on the European Union.

Required Reading: Bache et al. 2015, Chapter 11

Topic X. Looking Around: The United Kingdom & Brexit

Discussion of the UK's withdrawal from the EU, from its inception to finalizing arrangements. Implications for what this could mean for both the EU and other disgruntled states.

Required Reading: McBride 2017

Overton 2021, pp. 1-1

Canterbury 2021, pp. 14

Topic XI. Looking Forward: The Future of the European Union

Examination of what the EU does post

COURSE CALENDAR

DATE	CLASS TYPE	GRADED ITEM/SPECIAL
Aug 23	Syllabus / Course Outline	First Class Meeting
Aug 25	Lecture	-
Aug 27	Lecture	-
Aug 30	Lecture	-
Sept 1	Lecture	-
Sept 3	Lecture	-
Sept 6	*No Class*	Labor Day
Sept 8	Lecture	-
Sept 10	Lecture	Quiz #1
Sept 13	Lecture	-
Sept 15	*Lecture Tentative	Academic conference (see Instructor)
Sept 17	*Lecture Tentative	Academic conference (see Instructor)
Sept 20	Lecture	-
Sept 22	Lecture	-
Sept 24	Lecture	-
Sept 27	Lecture	-
Sept 29	Lecture	-
Oct 1	Lecture	Quiz #2



