

9-2013

## PSCI 336.50: European Union

Eric H. Hines

*University of Montana - Missoula*, [eric.hines@umontana.edu](mailto:eric.hines@umontana.edu)

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi>

---

### Recommended Citation

Hines, Eric H., "PSCI 336.50: European Union" (2013). *Syllabi*. 100.  
<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi/100>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by the Course Syllabi at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@mso.umt.edu](mailto:scholarworks@mso.umt.edu).

# EUROPEAN UNION

**Instructor:** Eric H. Hines  
**Office:** JRH 206  
**Email:** [eric.hines@umontana.edu](mailto:eric.hines@umontana.edu)  
**Phone:** 406.359.1660 (Cell/Voicemail)

**Technical Support:**  
[umonline-help@umontana.edu](mailto:umonline-help@umontana.edu)  
(866) 225-1641 (toll-free)

**Course Number:** PSCI 336  
**Class Location:** Online  
**Website:** Moodle (<http://umonline.umt.edu>)  
**CRN (Add/Drop):** 75100

**Office Hours:**  
**In-Person:** TR 9:10-10:00 & by appointment.  
**Online:** W 3:00-4:00 (Method TBD)

**Note:** I will respond to calls and emails within one business day (M-F).

## COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITES

The shared political narrative that sustained Europe's postwar integration for 60 years has fallen apart, leaving Europe to face a string of ongoing crises. This course will provide the knowledge to understand the problems plaguing European integration and enhance the skills and abilities needed to evaluate possible resolutions. It covers theories of European integration and governance, the EU's historical development, its institutional structure, and major areas of policy-making. Students will conduct research using primary and secondary resources, analyze integration using different frameworks, and write a major policy document for European policymakers.

**Prerequisites and Required Skills:** To enroll, students must have junior or senior standing. There are no prerequisite courses or knowledge required for this course.

**Target Students:** This class is targeted towards three different kinds of students: (1) political science majors seeking an elective course in international relations; (2) majors and non-majors interested in careers in international business, law, or with international organizations; and (3) those with an interest in European politics and global issues.

### Five Principles of Politics

1. Politics is collective action.
2. Collective action is problematic.
3. Institutions help fix these problems.
4. Ideas matter.
5. History matters

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

There is one *required* textbook for this course:

Lelieveldt, Herman, and Sebastiaan Princen. 2011. *The Politics of the European Union*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 9780521740111.

All other required materials are available on [Moodle](#).



**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENTS**

<i>After completing this course, students will be able to:</i>		<i>This will be assessed by:</i>
1	Explain the development and dynamics of European integration using theories of international relations.	Short Response Papers
2	Explain how the political system of the EU works; what it does and doesn't do; and who benefits from its policy outcomes and why.	Short Response Papers Policy Memos 1-4 Policy Briefing (Final Paper)
3	Evaluate solutions to major challenges facing the EU using specific criteria that acknowledge existing political, economic, and social constraints.	Policy Memos 1-4 Policy Briefing (Final Paper)
4	Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the EU's political system and its applicability to other regions.	Short Response Papers Policy Briefing (Final Paper)
5	Describe the EU's significance and effect on aspects of international relations including international organizations, law, & business.	Short Response Papers Policy Memos 1-4 Policy Briefing (Final Paper)
6	Assess the reliability, validity, accuracy, authority, timeliness, and point of view or bias of information sources on the EU.	Library Assignment Policy Memos 1-4 Policy Briefing (Final Paper)

**COURSE PHILOSOPHY, CLASS PEDAGOGY, AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

Learning is more than memorizing facts and answering questions on a test. It is the process of enhancing your ability to use information to understand of how things work and how to make them better. This course will enhance your ability to:

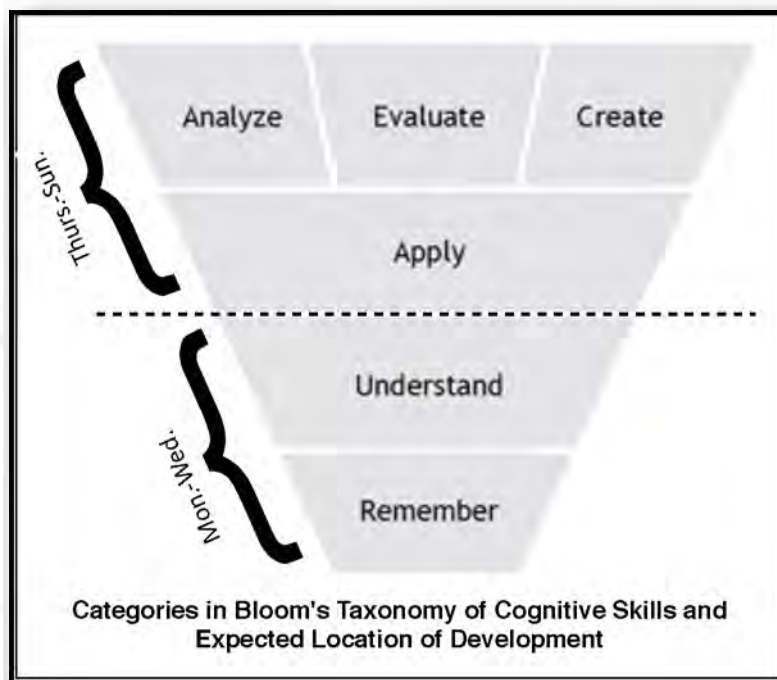
- Ask the right questions
- Frame good problems.
- Acquire information.
- Evaluate sources of information.
- Critically investigate & solve problems.
- Make choices among alternatives.
- Explain abstract ideas to others.
- Generalize to new situations.

**Pedagogy**

The structure of this course is influenced by a taxonomy of cognitive skills developed by Benjamin Bloom. He identified six steps to the learning process students must complete to master a subject and organized them into a pyramid (see figure below) to show how more complex skills developed on a foundation of simpler ones. In this course, students will focus on remembering and understanding concepts during the first part of the week (Monday-Wednesday), while the second half of the week (Thursday-Sunday) will be focused on the application of concepts.

## Learning Objectives

Bloom translated his taxonomy into discrete and measurable actions called learning objectives, which are statements that start with an action (verb) associated with the intended cognitive skill and end with an object that describes the knowledge students are expected to acquire or construct. Learning objectives have been developed for each topic based in this course and are the basis for all instruction and assessment.



## Student Responsibilities

This learning philosophy imposes upon students the responsibility to:

1. Review the learning objectives for each topic.
2. Complete all assigned readings and exercises in order.
3. Ask the professor for assistance if they difficulty with specific learning objectives.
4. Complete all course assignments by their deadlines (Late work is not accepted).
5. Review all feedback from the instructor, including feedback posted online.
6. Ask for clarification if instructions or feedback are not fully understood.
7. Finish the class (University policy on incompletes will be strictly enforced).
8. Inform the instructor beforehand if they cannot fulfill these responsibilities.

## CLASS POLICIES

### Academic Misconduct

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code, which is available for review online at: <http://life.umt.edu/VPSA/name/StudentConductCode>.

### Students with Disabilities

If you have a disability and feel you need accommodations in this course please present me with a letter from Disability Services for Students (DSS), Lommasson Center 154 (243-2243), indicating the existence of a disability and the suggested accommodations.



## Assignment Submission

All assignments are due by midnight Mountain Standard Time on their assigned due dates.<sup>1</sup> Assignments are generally due Wednesdays or Sundays. The due date of major assignments is listed below. I do not accept late work, but since technical difficulties may prevent submission of assignments by the exact deadline there is a 12 hour grace period. For assignments requiring the submission of a file, work must be submitted as a Microsoft Word, iWork Pages, RTF, or PDF document. I will be unable to open other formats and work submitted in a non-approved format will be considered late.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS (% OF FINAL GRADE)

These are the basic course requirements. More detailed information is on Moodle. Assignments within a category have equal weight for the calculation of the final grade.

**Online Quizzes (15%).** There is a quiz due each Wednesday testing recall and understand of the textbook and supplementary materials.

**Exams (30%).** There is a midterm and final examination for this course based on the questions randomly chosen from the listed learning objectives.

**Weekly Assignments (30%).** Students will complete a number of assignments that apply concepts, analyze the EU, or evaluate materials. The assignments will either be in the form of a discussion board where students post their answers for the class or a short written answer to an activity.

**Final Policy Briefing (25%).** Students will draft a 5-page policy briefing to EU leaders on Europe's major problems and providing them with a set of recommended solutions.

## GRADING

Final grades are based on a 1000 points distributed as listed above using the following scale:

Scale: A = 100-93%, A- = 92.9-90%, B+ = 89.9-87%, B = 86.9-83%, B- = 82.9-80% C+ = 79.9-77%, C = 76.9-73%, C- = , D+ = 69.9-67%, D = 66.9-63%, D- = 62.9-60%, F = < 60%

## COURSE SCHEDULE

This is a simple outline. The full list of required readings and activities is available on Moodle. I reserve the right to make changes to this schedule. Changes will be posted to Moodle. Material and assignments marked with (M) are on Moodle. Readings from the main textbook, Lelieveldt and Princen, are indicated by "L & S."

---

<sup>1</sup> To avoid confusion about the midnight deadline, Moodle lists all assignments as due at 11:55 p.m. The "missing" five minutes is incorporated into the grace-period.

Week of:	Major Readings/Resources:	Assignment/Assessments:
Learning Unit 1: Course Introduction and The Five Principles of Politics		
8/26	Mini-Lecture: Five Principles of Politics	Discussion Board: Introductions (Wed.) Assignment: Five Principles of Politics (Sun.)
Learning Unit 2: The History of the European Union		
9/2	L & S, Chapter 1	Discussion Board: The EU's History (Sun.) Assignment: Preambles (Sun.)
Learning Unit 3: Analyzing the EU		
9/9	L & S, Chapter 2	Discussion: Member States & Integration (Sun.) Assignment: Researching the EU (Sun.)
Learning Unit 4: How the EU is Governed (The EU's Institutions)		
9/16	L & S, Chapter 3	Discussion: Council vs. Council (Sun.) Assignment: The Court of Justice (Sun.)
Learning Unit 5: How the EU Decides (The EU's Decision-Making Procedures)		
9/23	L & S, Chapter 4	Discussion: Directives and regulations (Sun.) Assignment: Tracking Legislation (Sun.)
Learning Unit 6: The Democratic Deficit (Public Opinion and the EU)		
9/30	L & S, Chapter 5	Assignment: Close Reading <a href="#">Fallesdal and Hix</a> (Sun.) Assignment: Voting in EP Elections (Sun.)
Learning Unit 7: Interest Groups and the EU		
10/7	Library Research Learning Unit L & S, Chapter 6	Assignment: Library Research (Sun.) Assignment: Interest Groups and the EU (Sun.)
Learning Unit 8: Political Parties and the EU		
10/14	L & S, Chapter 7	Assignment: How MEP's Vote (Sun.) Midterm Exam (Units 1-7) (Sun.)
Learning Unit 9: What the EU Does		
10/21	L & S, Chapter 8	Assignment: Close Reading <a href="#">Malcolm</a> (Sun.) Assignment: The EU's Budget
Learning Unit 10: The EU's Policy-Agenda		
10/28	L & S, Chapter 9	Assignment: What's on the EU's Agenda? (Sun.) Discussion: Green Papers (Sun.)
Learning Unit 11: How the EU Really Decides		



Week of:	Major Readings/Resources:	Assignment/Assessments:
11/4	L & S, Chapter 10	Assignment: Voting in the Council (Sun.) Discussion: Impact Analysis (Sun.)
Learning Unit 12: Implementation		
11/11	L & S, Chapter 11	Assignment: Comitology (Sun.) Assignment: Infringement Proceedings (Sun.)
Learning Unit 13: The Future of the EU		
11/18	L & S, Chapter 12	Discussion: Input and Output Legitimacy (Sun.) Assignment: Enlargement (Sun.)
Conclusion: Final Policy Briefing		
11/25		Discussion: Peer Review Final Papers (Wed. & Sun.)
12/2		Assignment: Final Policy Briefing (Sun.)
12/9		Final Exam (Wed.)