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PSCI 322.01: Politics of Europe

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Politics of Europe

Europe has lived on its contradictions, flourished on its differences, and, constantly transcending itself thereby, has created a civilization on which the whole world depends even when rejecting it.

— ALBERT CAMUS (1913–1960), FRENCH-ALGERIAN PHILOSOPHER

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Course Number: PSCI 332

Class Location: Liberal Arts 337

Meeting Time: MWF 1:10-2:00 p.m.

Website: Moodle (<http://umonline.umt.edu>)

CRN (Add/Drop): 73667

You may schedule an appointment with me online at <http://tungle.me/erichines>

Course Description

The course introduces students to the postwar history and politics of Europe and provides them with the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to understand the challenges confronting postwar Europe in the 21st Century. “Postwar Europe” is an unfinished story with an uncertain end. To make sense of this story and its possible endings, the course explores six interrelated themes — representation, parliamentarianism, nationalism, socialism, democratization, and integration — and the role they have played in Europe’s postwar development.

Our study begins with an examination of the aftermath of World War II and the uneasy domestic postwar political settlements forged in Western and Eastern Europe. We then move to a comparative study of national politics and postwar political development including political parties, party systems, political ideologies including socialism and nationalism, and electoral systems. We conclude with an examination of the gradual breakdown of postwar settlements across Europe with a focus on the related processes of democratization and integration.

Prerequisites and required skills: There is no prerequisite knowledge required for this course, however this course focuses on developing analytical and problem-solving skills and involves a significant amount on tasks requiring an ability to work in small groups.

PSCI 400. Political science majors can use this course with PSCI 400 to complete their major writing requirements. Please speak with the instructor if interested.

Course Learning Outcomes and Assessments

After completing this course, students will be able to:

<i>Learning Outcomes</i>		<i>Assessment</i>
1	Use comparative analysis and causal reasoning to explain political phenomena in Europe.	(1) Causal Analysis Paper (2) Library Research Assignment
2	Evaluate the comparative effectiveness of democratic institutions using the criteria of representation, efficiency, and stability.	(1) Homework Assignments (2) Class Debates (3) Election Simulation (4) Simulation Debriefing Paper
3	Describe the motivations of and the ideological, historical, and institutional constraints imposed on political actors in European politics.	(1) Homework Assignments (2) Class Debates (3) Election Simulation (4) Simulation Debriefing Paper

Course Philosophy

Learning is more than memorizing facts and answering questions on a test. It is using information to gain an understanding of how things work and how to make them better.

In this course, learning will be defined as the process of enhancing your ability to:

- Ask the right questions and frame good problems.
- Acquire information and evaluate sources of information.
- Critically investigate and solve problems.
- Make choices among different alternatives.
- Explain abstract ideas to others both orally and in writing.
- Generalize to new situations.

Required Materials

There are two required texts for this course available at the UC Bookstore:

Crepaz, Markus M.L., and Jürg Steiner. 2011. *European Democracies*. 7th Ed. Boston: Longman. ISBN: 9780205779727

Hitchcock, William. 2004. *The Struggle for Europe: The Turbulent History of a Divided Continent 1945 to the Present*. New York: Anchor Books. ISBN: 0385497997.

Student Responsibilities

Students have the responsibility to:

1. Attend class regularly and complete all assigned readings before class.
2. Participate actively in class activities including class discussions.

3. Complete all assignments by the deadline given by the instructor.
4. Complete course requirements by the end of the semester.
5. Review all feedback from the instructor, including feedback posted online.
6. Ask for clarification if instructions or feedback are not fully understood.
7. Inform the instructor beforehand if they cannot fulfill these responsibilities.

Academic Misconduct Policy

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

Statement On Disabilities

I strongly encourage students with documented disabilities to discuss appropriate accommodations with me. Because I am not qualified to make an assessment of your need for an accommodation, if you feel you need accommodations 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.

Course Requirements

Class Debates. On days designated as a class debate, students will bring a worksheet containing (a) a signed statement certifying that you have fully read at least two of the posted articles on the topic, and (b) a list of at least three arguments that could be made during the debate, along with evidence to support each argument. The worksheet, not participation, is graded. The worksheet and the list of readings is available on Moodle.

Ruritania Election Simulation and Party Groups. To gain experience with multi-party parliamentary democracy, you will take on the role of a politician in a simulated election in the nation of Ruritania. After being assigned to one of six political parties, your party group will organize itself by assigning specific roles in the party organization to each member, drafting a party manifesto, creating a media campaign to raise awareness of your party platform, engaging in a debate with the other parties, casting your vote in a mock election, and finally negotiating a coalition government. While there will be specific class days reserved for party work, much of this simulation will occur outside of class. The complete guidelines for this simulation are available on Moodle.

Library Research Assignment. On Oct. 19, the class will meet at the Mansfield Library to complete an online worksheet on the use of library resources.

Final Paper. In this 8-12 page paper, you will select a policy outcome (e.g., tax rates, poverty levels, etc.), compare variations in policy outcomes among European democracies using one of two methods of causal analysis, and provide an explanation for why this policy outcome varies. Complete guidelines are available on Moodle.

Grading Criteria

Participation Expectations. Students are expected to actively and equitably contribute to their party group's work on simulation related assignments. To ensure accountability, primary responsibility for each assignment is assigned to specific group members based on party role. A confidential peer evaluation after the simulation will be used to evaluate group member's contribution and to adjust individual grades as needed.

Assignments and Assessments. The following table lists all assignments and assessments, their value towards the final grade, due dates, and where the assignment should be submitted (i.e., in-class, Moodle, etc.) Full instructions and grading rubrics for all assignments are available on Moodle by selecting "Assignments" in the course menu. All online assignments unless otherwise noted in the Course Schedule section of the syllabus, are due by 9 p.m. (Mountain Standard Time) on the date listed.

Assignments/Assessments	Pts. Possible	Due Date	Where Submitted
Party Organization Chart	10	Sep 7, 2011	Class
Debate Worksheet #1	40	Sep 16, 2011	Class
Electoral Systems Homework	50	Sep 21, 2011	Moodle
Debate Worksheet #2	40	Sep 23, 2011	Class
Government Formation Homework	30	Sep 29, 2011	Moodle
Party Platform	75	Sep 30, 2011	Moodle
Party Logo and Campaign Ad	75	Sep 30, 2011	Moodle
Debate Worksheet #3	40	Oct 3, 2011	Class
Party Leader Debate + Ballot	75	Oct 10, 2011	Moodle
Post-Election Press Release	-25 if not done	Oct 12, 2011	Moodle/Email
Coalition Formation Proposals	-25 if not done	Oct 14, 2011	Class
Library Research Assignment	85	Oct 21, 2011	Moodle
Simulation Debriefing Paper	100	Oct 29, 2011	Moodle
Debate Worksheet #4	40	Nov 11, 2011	Class
Film Debriefing Worksheet #1	25	Nov 21, 2011	Class
Debate Worksheet #5	40	Dec 9, 2011	Class
Film Debriefing Worksheet #2	25	Dec 9, 2011	Class
Comparative Analysis Paper	250	Dec 14, 2011	Moodle

Grading Scale. A = 1000-930, A- = 929-900, B+ = 870-899, B = 830-869, B- = 800-829, C+ = 770-799, C = 730-769, C- = 700-729, D+ = 670-699, D = 630-669, D- = 600-639, F = <600.

Course Schedule

This class will feature lectures, class discussions, debates, and student presentations as outlined below. I reserve the right to make changes to this schedule if necessary.

Date	Topic or Activity	Readings and Assignments
Aug 29	Introduction to the Course and Europe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crepez and Steiner, Ch. 1 • <i>Recommended</i>: Bale, "Europe – A Continent in the Making"
Part I: Representation and Parliamentarism		
Aug 31	<i>Lecture</i> : Political Parties and Party Families	• Crepez and Steiner, Ch. 2
Sep 2	<i>Lecture</i> : Socialism	• Hoffman and Graham, "Socialism" (M)
Sep 5	LABOR DAY	NO CLASS
Sep 7	<i>Lecture</i> : Postwar Settlement, Part I (West)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hitchcock, Chapters 1 & 2 • Party Organization Chart Due
Sep 9	<i>Lecture</i> : Postwar Settlement, Part II (East)	• Hitchcock, Chapters 3 & 4
Sep 12	<i>Lecture</i> : Cleavages	• <i>Cleavages</i> (M)
Sep 14	<i>Lecture</i> : Electoral Systems	• Crepez and Steiner, Ch. 3
Sep 16	<i>Debate 1</i> : Which electoral system is best?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Least 3 Readings from List on Moodle • Debate Preparation Worksheet Due
Sep 19	<i>Lecture</i> : Executive-Legislative Relations	• Crepez and Steiner, Ch. 4
Sep 21	<i>Lecture</i> : Making and Breaking Governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Making & Breaking Governments</i> (M) • Electoral Systems Homework Due
Sep 23	<i>Debate 2</i> : Presidentialism or Parliamentarism?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Least 3 Readings from List on Moodle • Debate Preparation Worksheet Due
Sep 26	<i>Lecture</i> : The Role of Courts	• Crepez and Steiner, Ch. 5
Sep 28	<i>Lecture</i> : Levels of Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crepez and Steiner, Ch. 6 • Government Formation Homework Due
Sep 30	<i>Lecture</i> : Social Movements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crepez and Steiner, Ch. 7 • Party Platform Due • Party Logo and Campaign Ad Due
Oct 3	<i>Lecture</i> : Social Movements	• Crepez and Steiner, Ch. 7
Oct 5	<i>Lecture</i> : Corporatism	• Crepez and Steiner, Ch. 8
Oct 7	<i>Debate 3</i> : Pluralism or Corporatism?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Least 3 Readings from List on Moodle • Debate Preparation Worksheet Due
Oct 10	<i>Ruritania Election Simulation</i> : Leader Debate	• Party Leader Debate + Ballot Due
Oct 12	<i>Ruritania Election Simulation</i> : Results Show	• Post-Election Press Releases Due
Oct 14	<i>Ruritania Election Simulation</i> : Gov. Formation	• Coalition Proposals Due
Part II: Policy Outcomes		
Oct 17	No Class : Review "Explaining Policy Outcomes" Lecture on Moodle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crepez and Steiner, Ch. 9 • Hitchcock, Chapter 5 • Handout on "Mill's Methods"
Oct 19	<i>Library Research Session</i>	• Meet at Student Learning Center, Mansfield Library

Date	Topic or Activity	Readings and Assignments
Oct 21	<i>Lecture: The End of Empire</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hitchcock, Chapter 6 • Library Research Assignment Due • Simulation Debriefing Paper Due
Oct 24	<i>Lecture: Khrushchev and De Gaulle</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hitchcock, Chapters 7 & 8
Oct 26	<i>Lecture: Consensus and its Discontents, Part I</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hitchcock, Chapter 9
Oct 28	<i>Lecture: Consensus and its Discontents, Part II</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hitchcock, Chapters 12
Oct 31	<i>Lecture: Democratization</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crepez and Steiner, Ch. 11
Nov 2	<i>Lecture: Democratization (Southern Europe)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hitchcock, Chapter 10
Nov 4	<i>Lecture: Democratization (Eastern Europe)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crepez and Steiner, Ch. 10 • Hitchcock, Chapters 11 & 13
Nov 7	<i>Lecture: European Social Models</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sapir, "Globalisation and Reform of the European Social Models"
Nov 9	<i>Lecture: Post-Communist Politics</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aron, "Everything You Think ..." (M)
Nov 11	<i>Debate 4: Can the European Social Model survive?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Least 3 Readings from List on Moodle • Debate Preparation Worksheet Due
Nov 14	<i>Lecture: Nationalism</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crepez and Steiner, Chs. 12-13 • Hitchcock, Chapter 14-15
Nov 16	<i>Film: No Man's Land</i>	
Nov 18	<i>Film: No Man's Land</i>	
Nov 21	<i>Lecture: European Identity and Pop Culture</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McCormick, "Europeanism" • Film Debriefing Worksheet Due
Thanksgiving Break: No Class November 23-26		
Nov 28	<i>Lecture: European Union, Part 1</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crepez and Steiner, Ch. 14 • Hitchcock, Chapter 16
Nov 30	<i>Lecture: European Union, Part 2</i>	
Dec 2	<i>Lecture: European Union, Part 3</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gordon & Taspinar, "Turkey on the Brink" • Rachman, "The Death of Enlargement"
Dec 5	<i>Film: Spanish Apartment</i>	
Dec 7	<i>Film: Spanish Apartment</i>	
Dec 9	<i>Debate 5: Is European integration the solution to the challenge of nationalism?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Least 3 Readings from List on Moodle • Debate Preparation Worksheet Due • Film Debriefing Worksheet Due • Instructor Evaluations
Dec 14	<i>Final Exam Period (1:10-3:10)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Paper Due at Midnight