

POSC 463, Fall 2003

EUROPEAN POLITICS

2:00-3:20 TTh, Taper Hall 119

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From the two World Wars to the fall of Communism, Europe has stood at the center of many of the most decisive global events of the twentieth century. Today, an emerging new Europe stands at the forefront of some of the world's most important emerging challenges. Global economic and social change, adjustments to new democracies, transformations in national states, ethnic and racial tensions, and growing inequality confront European countries as well as much of the rest of the world with problems whose dimensions often differ from those in the United States. This course offers an overview of societies in both eastern and western Europe and their recent politics, and a chance to consider several of the most important problems of these countries in depth.

We will begin with an overview of the broad sweep of modern European history, and the current global context of increasingly internationalized economies and culture. The next segments of the course consider the origins and evolving situation of three of the most important democracies that have persisted since the years immediately after World War Two. We then turn to analyze the new democracies of Spain in southern Europe, Poland and Hungary in east-central Europe and Russia on the edge of Europe. The last portion of the course will analyze a series of critical issues for twenty-first century Europe: the development of transnational political institutions, the enlargement of those institutions to embrace central and eastern Europe, the internationalization of European political economies, the fight against unemployment and social polarization, the challenges of migration and ethnic diversity, and the growth of governance and politics at the regional and city level.

Readings

Most of the readings will come from the required text for this course:

Gabriel Almond, Russell Dalton and G. Bingham Powell, Jr., *European Politics Today*, Second Edition (New York: Longman, 2001).

Along with this text, required readings will include:

Andrés Rodríguez, *The European Union: Economy, Society and Polity* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002).

Jefferey M. Sellers, *Governing from Below: Urban Regions and the Global Economy* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002).

All required books are or will be available in the Bookstore. Additional readings will be available in a packet from University Graphics in University Village. Other readings may be added to or substituted for listed ones over the course of the semester. You will be well informed in advance of any such alterations.

You will also be expected to keep up with current events in Europe. Students will have the opportunity to subscribe to *The Financial Times*, the leading English-language European newspaper, at a special student rate. Although this subscription is optional, keep in mind that even the best U.S. newspapers (the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*) offer only irregular coverage of European events. The internet also offers a wealth of international press resources. Links to these may be found at the U.S. Council of European Studies website (<http://www.europenet.org>). Each week, a portion of class discussion will focus on contemporary European issues. Students will have an additional opportunity to discuss European events by means of web postings (see assignments). Please send in your subscription form as soon as possible.

Assignments

The assignments of this course build cumulatively on each other. By the mid-point you should aim to familiarize yourself closely with the politics and society of at least one country, and acquire textbook knowledge of a wider range of countries. In the second part, for purposes of an in-class presentation and your final paper, you will be expected to analyze a specific issue as it relates to one or more countries.

During the first part of the course, an assignment using the internet will enable us to explore the central theme of internationalization at the same time we proceed through the textbook. Every student will be required to pick one country with a native language besides English (i.e., any country in the textbook besides the United Kingdom). Using analysis of selected websites, you will assess either some substantive aspect of politics and society in that country, or the accessibility of the web in that country as a means of communication about politics and society to an outside observer. In addition to a 2-4 page written report on your research, you will be expected to present your results in a 5- minute in-class presentation. Both components of the assignment will be due the week the relevant country is discussed in class. A separate handout will discuss further details of this assignment.

Following the midterm, we will turn to a series of issues that have confronted countries

across Europe. During this portion of the course, every student will be responsible for making a second 5-10 minute report in class on how one of these issues has manifested itself in or affected a specific country. This assignment can be coordinated with the final project, a term paper of 10-12 pages.

Over the course of the semester you will also be required to participate in our discussions by means of one-page postings on an internet discussion board at the Blackboard website for the course. Every student will be required to submit at least *four* postings of at least 150 words. Your posting should contain either an argument, a well-articulated point, or a series of questions addressed to the readings, or an assessment or account of web materials on closely related topics. All postings are due *by midnight on the day preceding the relevant class session*. Exceptions will be made for postings that relate to news events that take place after the class section.

Final grades will be based on the following weights:

Internet research report/presentation:	8%
Mid-term:	22%
Discussion board postings:	20%
Country/issue presentation:	5%
Final paper:	35%
Final examination:	10%

This list of assignments is based on the assumption that all students will do all the required reading, attend all classes and participate regularly and constructively in discussions. Failure to do any of these tasks will be considered just cause for lowering of your final grade.

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to TA) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is (213) 740-0776.

Class Schedule

(*=included in reader)

August 26: Introduction

August 28: NO CLASS

September 2, September 4: Europe and the U.S.: One World or Two?

Robert Kagan, "Power and Weakness," *Policy Review* 113 (June-July 2002), online at <http://www.policyreview.org/JUN02/kagan.html>

Claus Leggewie, "The Worried Friend, or Globalization and Hegemony," online at <http://www.aicgs.org/publications/PDF/leggewie.pdf>

Gabriel Almond, Russell Dalton and G. Bingham Powell, Jr., *European Politics Today* (New York: Longman, 2001), Chs. 1-2.

The Established Democracies

September 9, 11: England

Almond, Dalton and Powell, Chs. 3-4.

September 16, 23: France

Almond, Dalton and Powell, Ch. 5.

September 18: NO CLASS

September 25, September 30: Germany

Almond, Dalton and Powell, Ch. 6.

The New Democracies

October 2, October 7: Spain

Almond, Dalton and Powell, Ch. 7.

October 9, October 14: Russia

Almond, Dalton and Powell, Ch. 8.

October 16, 21: Poland and Hungary

Almond, Dalton and Powell, Chs. 9-10 (read either chapter).

October 23: Mid-term exam (in class)

Transnationalism and Trans-European Issues

October 28, October 30: The European Union

Almond, Dalton and Powell, Ch. 11.

*Thomas J. Biersteker, "Locating the Emerging European Polity: Beyond States or State?" In Jeffrey Anderson (ed.), *Regional Integration and Democracy* (Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield, 2001), pp. 21-39.

*(Materials on European constitutional convention)

November 4, November 6: Enlargement, Sub-national Regions and the Future of the EU

Andrès Rodríguez, *The European Union: Economy, Society and Polity* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002), pp. 34-61, 139-184.

November 11: Paper topic statements due in class

November 11, November 18: European Capitalism(s)

*Peter Hall and David Soskice, "Introduction," in Peter Hall and David Soskice (eds.), *Varieties of Capitalism* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001).

Rodríguez, pp. 113-135.

*Robert E. Goodin, Bruce Headey, Ruud Muffels and Henk-Jan Dirven, *The Real Worlds of Welfare Capitalism* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999), pp. 240-264.

November 13: NO CLASS

November 20, November 25, November 27: Internationalization and Ethnicity in Europe

Rodríguez, pp. 89-112.

*Yasemin Soysal, *Limits of Citizenship* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1994), pp. 136-162.

*Excerpts from Antje Harnisch, Anne-Marie Stokes and Friedemann Weidauer (eds., transl.), *Fringe Voices: An Anthology of Minority Writing in the Federal Republic of Germany* (Oxford/New York: Berg, 1999), pp. 221-263.

ALSO READ EITHER: *Aristide Zolberg and Long Litt Woon, "Why Islam is Like Spanish: Cultural Incorporation in Europe and the United States," *Politics and Society* 27 (1999), 5-38.

OR: *Virginie Guiraudon, "Citizenship Rights for Non-Citizens: France, Germany and the Netherlands," in Christian Joppke (ed.), *Challenge to the Nation-State* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998), pp. 372-318.

Film in Class: "Aprilkinder" (Germany, 1998).

December 2, December 4: European Cities

*(optional background reading) Patrick Le Galès, *European Cities* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002), pp. 30-68.

Jefferey M. Sellers, *Governing From Below: Urban Regions and the Global Economy* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002), pp. 178-238, 284-289.

Exam Review Session (optional): TBA

December 5, 2003, 5 p.m.: Final Paper due

December 11, 11 a.m.: Final examination