OBJECTIVES:

This class will introduce students to the study of politics in the European Union. Questions we will examine throughout the course include: Why do European countries differ in terms of economic development and political institutions? Why do they want to pool sovereignty? How can we explain episodes of deadlock and progress? This course considers the past, present, and future of European integration. After a brief introduction to the major themes of the course, we will survey theories of European integration, focusing on explanations of conflict and cooperation. We will then study the governance of the EU, policymaking processes, external relations, and the problems for political identity and democratic legitimacy at the European and national levels. Several classes will be devoted to studying economic and social issues, immigration, foreign and security policy, enlargement, and the draft constitution. Finally, we will consider individual country experiences more closely.

BOOKS:

The following books are required and available at the UR book store:


All other required readings (articles, book chapters, conference papers) will be available on the course web page.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS.

Please do all the assigned readings for each week in advance and come to class prepared to discuss them. The class will be run in a combined lecture and seminar format, and as such requires participation from all members to succeed.

1) Discussion Board:

Each week, you are required to submit two or three paragraphs to our online discussion board, commenting on the literature we discussed in the previous two class sessions. There is no need to comment on all assigned articles; pick one or two you find particularly interesting. Please discuss which parts of the argument make the most sense, which are the least convincing, and why. Do not
simply summarize the arguments. You can also respond to the entries of your fellow classmates. The comments are due on the dates indicated on the course website (January 28-April 28). The procedure is easy: go to the main course website: (http://my.rochester.edu). Type in your username and password. Click on the “Politics of the European Union” link. Click on “Communication” under “Tools” on the left side. Then click on “Discussion Board”. Click on the relevant date and post your comment. You should type your comment like an email, so enter a title in the “subject” line, and write your comment in the “message” box. When you are done, hit the submit button.

2) Midterm
There will be a midterm exam on March 6. You will have to identify IDds, attribute quotes to authors, and write two essays.

3) Paper
You will write a 15-20 page paper (Times New Roman, 12 pt font, double-spaced) on a topic using the course readings. Paper topics will be distributed on Thursday, 2/28. Final papers are due on April 29. Late papers will be penalized by half a grade each day it is late; e.g. A- becomes B+ after one day, B after two days, etc.

Grade:
Submissions to class journal: 15%.
Midterm: 40%.
Final Paper: 45%.

Borderline grades will be rounded up or down depending on class participation.

COURSE OUTLINE

Thursday, 1/17: Introduction to the class: Why study the European Union?


Tuesday, 1/22: What is the European Union? Federation, Multi-Level Polity, or Regional State?


Ginsberg, Roy H. (2007), ch. 1, 2, 3 (pp. 11-136).
Thursday, 1/24: Theorizing about the EU: Neofunctionalism and Liberal Intergovernmentalism


Ginsberg, Roy H. (2007), (pp. 67-72).

Tuesday, 1/29: Theorizing about the EU: Rational Choice, Historical Institutionalism, and Constructivism


Thursday, 1/31: The European Presidency, Commission and Council

Tallberg, Jonas (2006), Leadership and Negotiation in the European Union. Ch. 5 (The EU Presidency as a broker).


Tuesday, 2/5: The European Parliament and Voting Behavior

Ginsberg, Roy H. (2007), ch. 5 (pp. 184-199).


**Thursday, 2/7: The Legal Institutions in Europe (European Court of Justice, European Convention of Human Rights)**


Ginsberg, Roy (2007), 204-218.


**Tuesday, 2/12: Is there a democratic deficit in the multilevel EU? If so, how problematic is it?**


**Thursday, 2/14: Britain – the EU’s awkward partner**


Tuesday, 2/19: Spain – substate empowerment through EU membership

Closa, Carlos and Paul Heywood (2004), Spain and the European Union. Ch. 4, 6.


Thursday, 2/21: The Europeanization and De-Europeanization of the French state


Tuesday, 2/26: Germany and Europe: centrality in the EU


Thursday, 2/28: Reluctant Europeans: Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland


* Distribution of paper topics in class *

Tuesday, 3/4: Italy in the European Union


**Thursday, 3/6: MIDTERM**

**Spring break – no class**

**Tuesday, 3/18: Trade policy in the European Union**


Oatley, (pp. 100), handout.


**Thursday, 3/20: European Social Policy**


**Tuesday, 3/25: Migration and Asylum Flows**


Geddes, Andrew (2003), The Politics of Migration and Immigration in Europe. Ch. 7: Southern Europe: Immigration Politics in Newer Immigration Countries.

Geddes, Andrew (2003), The Politics of Migration and Immigration in Europe. Ch. 8: The Europeanization of Migration Politics in Central and Eastern Europe.
Thursday, 3/27: The Relationship between Religion and the State in Europe


Jytte Klausen (2005), The Islamic Challenge: Politics and Religion in Western Europe. Ch. 1 (Europe’s New Muslim Political Elite), ch. 4 (From Integration to Culture War). Oxford University Press.


Tuesday, 4/1: The External Relations of the European Union

Ginsberg, Roy (2007), ch. 9


Thursday, 4/3: The Liberalization of Capital markets and European Monetary Union


Tuesday, 4/8: The International Role of the Euro: Rival to the Dollar?


Thursday, 4/10: The Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)
Tuesday, 4/15: Enlargement of the European Union I


Thursday, 4/17: Enlargement of the European Union II


Tuesday, 4/22: Does Europe need a Constitution?

Joschka Fischer (2000), From Confederacy to Federation – Thoughts on the finality of European Integration. Speech by Joschka Fischer, German foreign minister, at Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany, 12 May 2000.

Scharpf, Fritz (2003), What a European Constitution could and could not achieve. MPIfG working paper.


Tuesday, 4/29: Turkey and the European Union


* Hand in your final paper *

Thursday, 5/1: Reading period – no class

Week 16

Tuesday, 5/6: Concluding Remarks: The European Union at the Intersection of Theory and Practice

Roy H. Ginsberg, ch. 10