



SYLLABUS for PSCI 341	Fall, 2013
Wednesdays, 1:00-3:45 p.m.	UC 216
Professor W. T. Casey, Ph.D.	UC 224
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Effective Date: Fall, 2013

Nota Bene: all terms and conditions of this syllabus are tentative and subject to change.

Description: This course will introduce to the history & main political features of European integration, the political system of the European Union, European parties & policies, and current issues of democracy in Europe. We will seek to understand and examine the political institutions, historical development, and philosophical foundations of the EU, and its relationship to the EU member states in comparative perspective. Students will become familiar with the history and the contemporary polity, politics, policy-making and policies of the European Union.

The class is designed for upper-level undergraduate students interested in European politics, Europeanization, and political systems.

I. Course Number: 80248	II. Course Title: European Politics
III. Semester Credit Hours: 3 credit hours	

IV. Required Textbooks/Resources: There are two textbooks required for this course: Desmond Dinan, <i>Ever Closer Union: An Introduction to European Integration</i> , 3 rd ed. 9781588266071 (Hereafter DD) Hix and Hoyland, <i>The Political System of the European Union</i> 4 th ed. 230249825 (Hereafter HH) There is also a Recommended textbook: Mahoney, <i>Brussels Versus the Beltway: Advocacy in the United States and the European Union</i> , 1 st ed. 1589012038 <i>Other assigned materiel -</i> From time to time, I will assign or provide additional reading to supplement the learning process. These materiél and any discussion are always testable. You can learn a great deal about the world merely by digesting the news. I *highly* recommend reading the <i>NY Times</i> , <i>Washington Post</i> , <i>Guardian</i> , <i>The Times</i> , <i>Le Monde</i> , <i>Der Spiegel</i> , or the <i>Christian Science Monitor</i> . All of these have free online editions.

VI. Student Learner Outcomes: Upon successfully completing this course students will be able to:

- a) analyse the various components of 'Europe' and Europeanisation
- b) understand underlying tensions and conflicts
- c) intelligently discuss EU politics, policies, and histories.

VII. Course Outline By Topic:

The course consists of five major sections.

- I. In the first section we will analyze and reconstruct the historical development of and the political-philosophical justifications for the European Union. Contemporary theories on European Integration, including intergovernmentalism, supra-nationalism, and multi-level governance will also be discussed.
- II. The second section scrutinizes the EU's existing major supra-national political institutions, their functions and their democratic legitimacy. Hence, the EU's current institutional frameworks and political system will be explored, and the policy- and decision-making process.
- III. Taking public opinion into account the third section deals with selected political parties, interest groups and policy areas, and the Europeanization thereof. Policy fields include common economic and monetary policy, and common foreign and security policy in the context of the EU as a global actor.
- IV. The fourth section will both move "down" to the discussion of selected EU member states and their relationship to/influence on the EU, and "up" in so far as we also broaden the horizon by incorporating comparative analyses (especially comparisons of the EU with the United States) in order to deepen the understanding of the character of the EU and, for that matter, European politics.
- V. In the last section of the course, particular attention will be paid to prospects and challenges of the EU, addressing current "hot" topics of EU politics, such as the future of the EU's steady enlargement process; the question of Europe's 'cultural identity' and the evolvment of a transnational public sphere; the changes of the decision-making process; and the failed referenda for a European constitutional treaty. Questions regarding the future of European (con-)federalism and political identity, as well as notions of European sovereignty, democratic constitutionalism, and democratic legitimacy, will also be assessed.

VIII. Course Requirements: You are expected to take your own notes in class. I do not provide notes for those who do not take college seriously. I do not grade attendance, but my experience is that those who do not come to class earn D's and F's. Come if you are serious about college.

A. Tardies: Class is scheduled to begin at 4:00, thus, I will begin class at that time. There is not much leeway allowed due to the amount of material being covered. You are adults, you signed up for this class at this time. I will not repeat material for the benefit

of those without the incentive to arrive promptly. If you know you will be late, please do your classmates the courtesy of not entering the room. Excessive tardiness will be penalized at my discretion.

B. Leaving Early: Due to the amount of material being covered, leaving before class is complete will hurt your interactive note-taking. Moreover, doing so is an unnecessary breach of etiquette and a distraction to your colleagues. If you must leave early, inform me before class, or else your leaving will be treated just like a tardy and your grade will be penalised.

IX. Methods of Evaluation: Examinations and Assignments -

By design, this is an upper level writing course. There will be two in-class examinations and two 8 - 10 page papers on topics discussed in the lectures and the readings of the course. There will also be a commentary on a paper draft by a fellow student. The two research papers will each comprise 25 percent of the final grade; the exams will each comprise 20 percent of the final grade, with the commentary accounting for 10 percent. Since the lectures comprise an absolutely essential component of this course that will not be found in the readings, class attendance is strongly recommended.

Thus the final grades will consist of the following:

- 1) First paper, 8 - 10 pages (25%)
- 2) Second paper, 8 - 10 pages (25%)
- 3) First exam (10%)
- 4) Second exam (20%)
- 5) Commentary on fellow student's paper draft (10%)
- 6) Participation (10%)

B. Exams will occur on regular class days. If you are involved in an official campus activity, I expect you to take the exam early. All assigned book chapters, as well as any and all material discussed or assigned in class, are all sources eligible for all examinations.

C. MAKE-UPS: must be arranged with me prior to the scheduled date, no exemptions.

D. There will be Extra Credit available, for up to 5% additional points. No student who has not completed all other assigned work shall be eligible for Extra Credit point attempts. I will discuss details later.

You will be graded on the standard 100-point scale, conformed to Letter grades. I DO NOT CURVE GRADES- it only rewards the weak and punishes the smart.

Grading Scale:	90+ = A	80-89 = B	70-79 = C	60-69 = D	Below 60 = F
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You will earn grades based upon your performance. Extra Credit opportunities will not be granted to any student who has not completed all work, and any extra credit will not account for more than five percent of your total grade.

Rules & Reasons

- If you find the readings, lectures or discussions too difficult, there is no need to complain *after* at the end of the course. Instead, you should raise any question or problem that you have either during or, if you prefer, after each class session, or drop by my office any time and discuss the question or problem. Don't miss the chance of making this a good learning experience! If you have a problem, others might have it as well, so don't hesitate to address it.
- Only half of each class session will be in form of lectures. That's why it is not enough to come to class on time (you should!), but you should also be prepared and ready to actively participate, which is strongly encouraged as part of the learning process. In class, you must treat your peers and your professor in a civil and professional manner; while a lively discussion with disagreements are most welcome, you need to tolerate different point of views.
- Participation is strongly recommended. After more than four absences, your participation grade is F. There will be no exception to this rule.

Grading Criteria

Exams.

The mid-term and final exams in this upper level writing course count each for 20 % of your final grade. They will be in-class examinations (1 1/2 hours) which will primarily focus on the reading materials and lectures but will also ask for your point of view, and arguments backing it up. Good knowledge of the reading material, carefully listening to the lectures, and thinking about the issues of concern will ensure that you receive a good grade.

Participation.

You are strongly recommended to actively participate in class, to raise questions, particularly if there is anything you didn't understand, and to make comments. There are NO stupid questions (although there might be more or less intelligent ones) Active participation is also an essential part of the learning process: In class, you have a wonderful opportunity to exercise and enhance your ability to speak in public, which is an essential part of politics, education, and citizenship.

Papers.

As mentioned above, the papers will be the most important element counting for your final grade. The two papers each count for 25% of the final grade. A separate handout on grading guidelines for the papers will be provided later.

X. Faculty Office Location: UC 224. Office Hours: TBA, and by appointment. I may also be contacted *via* email.

XI. Course Schedule and Assigned Reading: *YOU MUST READ AHEAD!*

Week 1 - *Introduction to the Course: Eye on Europe - What is the EU?* DD 1-28, HH 1-22

- PART I: POLITICAL HISTORY AND JUSTIFICATIONS OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

Week 2 *From the Very Origins of a European Community...* DD 29-72

Week 3 *... to the Maastricht Treaty & the Creation of the EU* DD 73-170
 and to the Eastern Enlargement Process

Week 4 *Into the Present: Constitutional Change from the Amsterdam Treaty to the (Failed) Constitutional Treaty. Theories of European Integration & European Multi-Level Governance* DD 171-204
 FIRST EXAM

- PART II: THE EU'S POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

Week 5 EXECUTIVES: The Councils. DD 205-234, HH 23-48

FIRST PAPER TOPIC TO BE HANDED OUT. DISCUSSION ON THE NATURE OF RESEARCH PAPERS

Week 6 LEGISLATIVES: The Parliament. DD 235-264, HH 49-74

Week 7 JUDICIARIES: The Courts DD 265-300, HH 75-104

FIRST PAPER IS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS PERIOD.

- PART III: PUBLIC OPINION, PARTIES AND POLICIES IN THE EU

Week 8 POLITICS: Institutional Dynamics DD 301-328

Week 9 POLITICS: The Public HH 105-188

SECOND PAPER TOPIC TO BE HANDED OUT.

- PART IV: EU MEMBER STATES & THE UNION IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Week 10 POLICIES: The Markets, part 1 DD 329-414

DRAFT OF SECOND PAPER DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS PERIOD

Week 11 POLICIES: The Markets, part 2 HH 189-272

COMMENTS ON FELLOW STUDENT'S DRAFT PAPER DUE

Week 12 POLICIES: Jobs DD 415-450

Week 13 POLICIES: Post-Material DD 451-482

• PART V: EVER CLOSER UNION? PRESENT AND FUTURE CHALLENGES OF THE EU		
Week 14	Foreign Policy and the U.S.	HH302-330, DD 529-588
		SECOND EXAM
Week 15	Beyond the Borders?	HH 331-339, DD 483-528
WEEK 16	Wrapping up- What now?	

SECOND PAPER DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS PERIOD

XII. Participation and Conduct

A. Student Participation:

The views of the instructor are not dogma, and are open to question and discussion. Please feel free to disagree, but be prepared to logically and empirically back up your argument! Please remember the basic courtesies when disagreeing with others in the room- Speak clearly, concisely, and do not engage in shouting matches. At the same time, if you merely sit there and absorb without examining the issues critically, you are missing out. The college campus is truly one of the last places in this country to voice your ideas in a public forum, and these issues DO affect you for the rest of your lives. Your participation is expected, and will be a consideration on your final grade.

B. Course Etiquette:

1. Classroom Conduct -

TAMUT has rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of business. It is students responsibility to know the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on this may be found in the catalog, which is provided to all registered students each academic year. TAMUT administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Please consult your catalog, under "Student Code of Conduct".

More specifically: We are all adults, at least legally. Adult behaviour is thus expected. Disrespectful language, gestures, shouting, insults, *et cetera*, is improper and will be handled through the Dean's office, and most likely will result in a grade of F.

- a. Turn off your cell-phones- if they ring I will deduct points from your final average- and turn off your pagers as well. Remove your iPods from your head. I reserve the right to have you removed from the classroom if this turns out to be a persistent problem and your grade will be penalised.
- b. No hats permitted to be worn while in the classroom, nor headphones.
- c. I do not care if you eat or drink, simply do so quietly and unobtrusively.
- d. No Laptops or electronic recording devices

In other words: *I fully expect you to behave as if you are mature, reasonable, sane people.*

2. Attendance -

- a. TAMUT requires "Regular and Punctual attendance". It has been my experience that poor attendance DOES result in a lackluster performance. Nonetheless, you are adults, so I feel no need to take attendance- Come only if you intend to learn.
- b. Verification of Enrollment: The State of Texas requires that all persons residing in the state carry an identification card, and:
 - 1) have on their person this card, and
 - 2) be ready to surrender it for examination to any duly constituted authority.

For our purposes, this means I may ask for your I.D. when you turn in an examination. Not having one on you means I will not grade that work until I see an ID. This is not meant to belittle or insult you, but with as many students as there are just in my sections, getting to know all by sight is very difficult.

C. WITHDRAWING FROM THIS COURSE-

1) If you decide that you must drop the course, it is your responsibility to fill out the appropriate form in the college office on campus. Withdrawal from the course after the official day of record will result in a final grade of "W" on the student transcript and no credit will be awarded. Prior to the official day of record, it is the student's responsibility to initiate and complete a request for withdrawal from any course. I do not automatically drop students. *You do your own paperwork.*

2) If you stop attending class and do not fill out the drop form, you will receive an "F" in the course.

XIV. Disability Accommodations: Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations through the A&M-Texarkana Disability Services Office by calling 903-223-3062.

XIII. Academic Integrity and Scholastic Dishonesty

TAMUT is committed to a high standard of academic integrity in the academic community. In becoming a part of the academic community, TAMUT students are responsible for honesty and independent effort. The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work. Failure to uphold these standards includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records. Students suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings. Plagiarism,

especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com (and other resources) for searches on the web for possible plagiarism.

A. Some Definitions:

- 1) Cheating includes looking at or copying from another student's exam, orally communicating or receiving answers during an exam, having another person take an exam or complete a project or assignment, using unauthorized notes, texts, or other materials for an exam, and obtaining or distributing an unauthorized copy of an exam or any part of an exam.
- 2) Plagiarism means passing off as his/her own the ideas or writings of another (that is, without giving proper credit by documenting sources). Plagiarism includes submitting a paper, report or project that someone else has prepared, in whole or in part.
- 3) Collusion is inappropriately collaborating on assignments- such as exams and tests- designed to be completed independently.

These definitions are not exhaustive.

B. With instructor permission only, magnetic tape audio recording devices may be used during lectures only for the purpose of helping students take notes. The use of such devices for any other purpose may result in loss of device use for remainder of semester, system charges of academic dishonesty, and administrative drop from the course. No other electronic devices will be allowed during class without specific written instructor approval. All lectures are copyrighted material and may not be disseminated without the express written consent of the instructor.

BASICS:

When there is any scholastic dishonesty, I will assign an "F" for the course. Additional sanctions may include being expelled from TAMUT and the TAMU System, and punishments appropriate under State of Texas Criminal Code, Penal Section §32.49, (HB 0762).

C. Academic honesty is expected of students enrolled in this course. Cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of research data, plagiarism, and undocumented use of materials from any source constitute academic dishonesty and may be grounds for a grade of 'F' in the course and/or disciplinary actions. For additional information, see the university catalog.

XVI. Student Technical Assistance:

· Blackboard Helpdesk contacts: Office hours are: Monday - Friday, 8:00a to 5:00p
Kevin Williams (main contact) 903-223-1356 kevin.williams@tamut.edu
Frank Miller (alternate) 903-223-3156 frank.miller@tamut.edu
Nikki Thomson (alternate) 903-223-3083 nikki.thomson@tamut.edu

Upon application to Texas A&M University-Texarkana an individual will be assigned an A&M-Texarkana email account. This email account will be used to deliver official university correspondence. Each individual is responsible for information sent and received via the university email account and is expected to check the official A&M-Texarkana email account on a frequent and consistent basis. *Faculty and students are required to utilize the university email account when communicating about coursework.*

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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT TEXARKANA

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Name:

(Print) _____

Student

I.D. _____

By my signature affixed, I acknowledge that I have read, understood, and will comply with all terms and conditions of this syllabus, including but not limited to 'withdrawing', 'conduct', and 'scholastic honesty', and that the explanations of the syllabus offered by the instructor were sufficient for comprehension of the syllabus:

(Name)

(Date)

(updated 2 April 2013)