

International Relations of Europe
INR 3214

FALL 2010
T R 9.30-10.45am
UP GC 285

Professor: Markus Thiel, Ph.D. E-Mail: thielm@fiu.edu Phone: 305-348-2323	Office: DM 486 C Office hours: T R noon-1pm & by appointment
--	---

Teaching Assistant: Krystel Ramdathsingh, kramd001@fiu.edu

Course Description

This course examines the policies and current political issues in Europe/the European Union as an international actor in global politics. It requires basic knowledge of EU politics. The focus will be on the policies of the EU as well as the individual member states in its relations to other important nations, regions and international organizations. The evolution of Europe as a coherent actor, and the tensions between individual states in the pursuit of global influence through the EU will be highlighted. The course will include a combination of lectures, discussions and student presentations.

Course Objectives

The primary purpose of this course is to provide students with the analytical tools to understand the current state of politics in Europe. In this course students will:

1. gain a good understanding of the interrelationship of the EU & member states in the pursuit of foreign relations;
2. become familiar with the European Union as an International Actor;
3. become equipped with the theoretical tools to explain Europe's relationship with other parts of the world

Required Texts: (available in the FIU bookstore or through online bookseller)

EU Guide for the Americans – online (EUG): <http://www.eurunion.org/infores/euguide/euguide2007.pdf>

The European Union as a Global Actor (2nd edition!), Charlotte Bretherton & John Vogler, Routledge 2006

The Foreign Policy of the European Union, Federiga Bindi, Brookings Institutions Press, 2010

Recommended:

Regular reading of the New York Times (online, www.nytimes.com)

Tiersky/Van Oudenaren, *European Foreign Policies: Does Europe Still Matter?* (Rowman & Littlefield, Sept 2010)

Plus: consultation/subscription of think-tanks such as: www.euractiv.org, <http://www.ecfr.eu>

Course Requirements:

Class Participation and Attendance

Class attendance is mandatory and will be recorded. Each student is expected to come to class prepared to actively participate in class discussions. If you cannot attend class because of emergencies or special circumstances, let me know about it in advance. Attendance and participation will account for 10% of the final grade. Make sure to have access to Moodle. <http://ecampus.fiu.edu> (login with your FIU-mail logon info).

Mid-Term Examination & Quiz

The examinations will consist of a combination of short answer, multiple choice and essay type questions, which will be done in class. Students will be expected to combine assigned readings, current events, class materials, lectures and discussions to critically analyze EU politics. The quiz accounts for 10 % and the midterm accounts for 25% of the final grade. The midterm and the final exam need to be taken on the scheduled days. A makeup exam will only be allowed if the student provides documentation of an ‘official’ scheduling conflict, serious illness or family emergency. Accommodations will be made for students with disabilities.

Research Presentation

Student are expected to present as a group of 4-5 on a previously assigned course topic (see lecture schedule below), which should demonstrate research and a critical analysis based on the literature and knowledge gained throughout the course (What is the issue? Who are the main actors? What difference does EU membership make? Your ‘expert’ assessment?). It is worth 25 % of the grade. It should be around 15-20 min. in length using powerpoint, critical (!), contain discussion questions and complemented by a 4-page paper per student (due on the day of your presentation), double-spaced, min. 1000 words. You need to submit your outline and paper to www.turnitin.com (Class ID: 3322431, Password: Europe).

Final Examination

The final examination will cover all materials presented during the course but will focus on the material covered after the mid term through the end of the course, again consisting of a mix of short answer, essay and multiple-choice questions. This examination is worth 30% of the final grade.

Evaluation Summary:

Quiz	10% (map + MC)
Midterm exam	25%
Presentation (& preparation paper)	25% (10 pres, 15 paper)
Final exam	30%
Attendance & participation	10 %
Total	100 % or 100 points

Grading/Evaluation System:

Students will be evaluated on the following grade scale:

A	93-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69	F	0-59
A-	90-92	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	63-66		
		B-	80-82	C-	70-72	D-	60-62		

Reading Assignments and Examination Outline

- TUE, 8/24: Course overview/Intro
- THU, 8/26: European integration & the EU
Reading for today: Bretherton/Vogler, Introduction, Eurunion Guide (Ch.1 & 2)
- TUE, 8/31: Is the Union a coherent actor?
Reading: Bretherton/Vogler, Ch. 1, 2
- THU, 9/2: A history of European geopolitics
Reading: Tiersky/Van Oudenaren, Ch. 1
- TUE, 9/7: The Foreign Policies of selected EU member states
- THU, 9/9:** **Quiz** + The EU as economic power
Reading: Bretherton/Vogler, Ch. 3
Bindi, Ch. 5
- TUE, 9/14: The EU as environmental leader
Reading: Bretherton/Vogler, Ch. 4
- THU, 9/16: The EU as development & humanitarian actor
Reading: Bretherton/Vogler, Ch. 5
- TUE, 9/21: The Common & Foreign Security Policy (update Ext. Action Service)
Reading: Bretherton/Vogler, Ch.7
Bindi, Ch. 1, 2
- THU, 9/23: EU as security community & military actor
Reading: Bretherton/Vogler, Ch.8
Bindi, Ch. 3
- TUE, 9/28: Justice & Home Affairs
Reading: Bindi, Ch. 4
- THU, 9/30: Relations with potential member states **(1)**
Reading: Bretherton/Vogler, Ch. 6 (- p. 149)
Bindi, Ch. 9, 10

- TUE, 10/5: Review + signup for Presentations!
- THU, 10/7: MIDTERM EXAM!**
- TUE, 10/12: The EU's Neighborhood Policy:
Reading: Bindi, Ch. 6
- THU, 10/14: The EU's Neighbors: Euromed (2) & the East
Reading: Bindi, Ch. 8, 11, 13
- TUE, 10/19: EU – Russia relations (3)
Reading: Bindi, Ch. 7
http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/we/index_en.htm
- THU, 10/21: EU- Middle East Relations (4)
Reading: Bindi, Ch. 12
http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/mideast/index_en.htm
- TUE, 10/26: EU- US relations (5)
Reading: Bindi, Ch. 14, 15
http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/na/index_en.htm
- THU, 10/28: EU-Latin America relations (Guest lecture?) (6)
Bindi, Ch. 16
http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/la/index_en.htm
- TUE, 11/2: EU – Africa relations (7) + 1 page-Outline due on turnitin.com
Bindi, Ch. 18
http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/africa/index_en.htm
- THU, 11/4: EU – Asia relations (8)
Bindi, Ch. 19, 20
http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/asia/index_en.htm
- TUE, 11/9: Promoting Values Abroad (9)
Bindi, Ch. 22-24
- THU, 11/11: Veteran's Day – FIU closed**
- TUE, 11/16: Presentations
- THU, 11/18: Presentations
- TUE, 11/23: Presentations
- TUE, 11/30 Last class: EU Foreign Policy-Myth or Reality (Ch. 25)/Review
Final Exam: TUE, Dec 7, same time same place