

Politics of Western Europe

CPO 3103

MW

Instructor: Paul Fabian Mullen

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Office Hours: (M 4:30-5:30, W 3:30-4:30 and by appointment)

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Overview of the Course

The course will deal with the politics and Government of Western Europe, and the origins and nature of the major political issues facing Europe today. To that end, the course is divided roughly into three parts. The first two parts will roughly take us up to the midterm exam, and the third will finish the semester.

First, we will explore the history of Western Europe and how this history shaped the society we now commonly refer to as “Western” Europe. One of the first questions is how and why the “West” became culturally distinct from the “East.” Unfortunately, students come with a varying knowledge of European history. Thus, my review of history is intended to bring those with no background up to speed, and may therefore be redundant for some of you who have taken classes in European History

The second part of the course will be general in approach; building on the issues and themes raised first part of the course. We will discuss issues including political culture, political participation, the structures and forms of government and the styles of policy-making. In general, this section will compare these broadly across nations.

After looking at these broad issues, the third and major part of the course will focus on the individual nations and their current political environment as well as briefly looking at Eastern Europe. We will examine the individual nations in some detail. As part of this, we will also briefly examine the emerging role of the European Union. The European Union and Eastern Europe are, in themselves topics for individual courses (CPO 3104, 4461) and we will focus mainly on how they effect and are affected by Eastern Europe.

Requirements and Expectations

REQUIREMENTS: Note: You must complete all assignments to pass the course.

Turnitin.com: ALL STUDENTS MUST LOG IN AND SET UP AN ACCOUNT BY SEPTEMBER 7. The class ID 1336685 is and the password is panthers. Failure to do so will result in loss of points on your final grade. All written work must be submitted and I will post grades so that you can access your quiz, test, and paper scores online. The service also allows me to communicate to the class through a mass e-mail in the event of emergencies or schedule changes.

There will be two in-class essay tests (Midterm 20% and Final 30% of final grade), a paper (20% of final grade), an in-class group presentation (20% of final grade) and attendance (10%). The essay tests will be closed book. Papers should be a minimum of seven pages and a maximum of ten, excluding bibliographies. I will stop reading at the bottom of page 10. They are due at the beginning of class on the due date. The in-class project and the paper requirements will be described on a separate sheet.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Cheating will not be tolerated. If you cheat and I catch you (and I will catch you), you flunk the course, period. Also, I will pursue charges against for academic dishonesty that may result in suspension or expulsion. You will familiarize yourself with University policies on academic integrity and be held responsible for breaches of these policies. Any assignment or test not meeting the standards for academic integrity will not be accepted or given a grade and you will receive an “F” the course, in addition to any other University-imposed sanctions. Also, lying about an assignment or an excuse for a late assignment will result in a failing grade for that assignment, making it virtually impossible for you to pass the course. Remember, I used to cross-examine people for a living, and I’m relatively hard to fool.

MISSED EXAMS AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS: As a general rule, no makeup tests will be given except in extreme, unavoidable, and documented instances. Please note, returning late from a vacation or break is NEVER a valid excuse, regardless of whether it was your fault or the airline’s fault. Late assignments will be docked one letter grade for the first twenty-four hours, 2 letter grades for 24-48 hours and three for 48-72.

Absent a valid, documented, excuse, papers will not be accepted more than 72 hours late. Again, I will make reasonable accommodation for religious holidays and university related events, provided these are cleared ahead of time. If you know you are going to miss an exam or turn something in late, it's best to contact me ahead of time.

CELL PHONES, BEEPERS AND OTHERS ANNOYANCES. Turn off all beepers, cell phones, and alarms.

CIVILITY AND TOLERANCE: Everyone has a right to their opinions. I expect as part of class discussions, we will challenge each other's opinion and have a frank exchange of ideas. That said, no one should be subject to personal attacks and the tone of the lecture should remain courteous at all times. Violations of the civility rule may result in the loss of participation points. Also, the topics we cover may be controversial. If any of the classroom discussions unduly disturb you, please come and discuss the problem with me.

TEXTS: Kesselman, Krieger et al, *European Politics in Transition*, 5th Ed. (*EP), Boston: Houghton Mifflin (2002), *Global Studies: Europe* 8th Edition (*GS), Dushkin, (2002), Adcock, Anthony, *A Short History of Europe*, Palgrave (2002)

Class reading and exam schedule

PLEASE NOTE: THE SCHEDULE READING AND
EXAM SCHEDULE HAS BEEN MOVED BACK ONE
DAY
THE MIDTERM IS 10/19
PAPER IS DUE NOVEMBER 16

08/29/05: History GS 1-38 EP 1-14 SH 17-64
08/31/05: History GS 38-56 EP15-28 SH
09/07/05: History SH 75-143
09/12/05: History SH 144-192
09/14/05: Modern Europe EP 29-34 SH 192-265
19/19/05: Politics of Europe: Executive and Legislature
09/21/05: Elections and Voting
09/26/05: United Kingdom EP 133-170, GS 219-234
09/28/05: United Kingdom EP 171-185
10/03/05: United Kingdom EP 171-202 Ireland 144-152
10/05/05: France EP 214-247GS 104-114
10/10/05: France EP 249-267
10/12/05: France EP 268-298
10/17/05: MIDTERM
10/19/05: Germany EP 303-347 GS 115-127
10/24/05: Germany EP 348-365
10/26/05: Germany EP 366-398
10/31/05: Italy EP 401-442 GS 152-160
11/02/05: Italy EP 445-462
11/07/05: Italy EP 463-495
11/09/05: "New" Europe East-Central Europe 497-538
11/14/05: "New" Europe 539-589
11/16/05: Scandinavia GS 91-103, 182-186, 204-211, 138-143
11/21/05: European Union EP 37-71
11/23/05: European Union EP 72-92
11/28/05: European Union EP 93-111
11/30/05: European Union EP 112-132
12/05/05: Europe's Future GS 234-256
12/07/05: Review
Final