

**University of Pittsburgh  
European Union Center**

**PS 1349**

Transatlantic Marketplace and Global Political Economy

Spring Term 2005-2006

Classroom: 104 David Lawrence

Time: 8-9:15AM

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**Office Hours:** M&W 9:15-10:00

and by appointment

**Course Description:**

The purpose of this course is to develop a broad political economic perspective with which to understand the specific, concrete, and practical aspects of the very important transatlantic partnership that has shaped the modern world since 1945. This course is taught from a practitioner perspective, not purely academic. It attempts to balance a review of academic readings with a close examination and discussion of the transatlantic market from the perspective of private and public sector actors who work daily in this area. Therefore, this course is designed to complement other courses on the EU at the University of Pittsburgh.

This course will approach this subject matter in a broad, comprehensive, and concrete manner. Its goal is provide both concrete and useful information while also stimulating the student to develop a more analytical and powerful ability to think as well as to express oneself orally and in writing. The student will be challenged to be proactive. You will be challenged in many ways similar to the working environment of our new “knowledge economy”. This course will invite a variety of US and European guest lecturers from academia, and more importantly from the private sector and the public sector. These expert practioners will provide practical, concrete, and specific expertise as well as their perspective as practioners in the Transatlantic Market.

The Transatlantic relationship for the United States is still the largest and most important from an economic, political, and strategic perspective. From an economic perspective Europe remains our largest trading relationship, while politically and strategically this relationship has shaped the world since 1945. In 1945, the United States emerged as a new world superpower and entered the 21<sup>st</sup> century as the only world superpower able to dominate the globe in unprecedented fashion. Europe emerged from WWII completely devastated. WWII was simply the latest of at least 70 years of modern warfare in Europe, and represented a continuation of constant conflict and warfare extending back for centuries. Sixty years later, 25 European countries are bound together in the European Union (EU). They share economic and monetary policy and countless other policy areas, traditionally controlled by national governments. The course focuses on various aspects of economic cooperation and conflict among the countries of Western Europe and the United States, emphasizing the developing role of the European Union.

What is the Transatlantic relationship from a political economic perspective? First we will review briefly the political history of the transatlantic relationship since 1945 and how at the turn of the

century we have entered a ‘postmodern age’. To understand the transatlantic relationship we need to understand both sides of it. This involves understanding the rise of the modern, western, nation-state and how it is changing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. This change is seen in the current evolution of the European Union. We will compare the EU and the USA to better understand each political actor.

While one theme of this course is to unfold the political context of the transatlantic relationship, by focusing on the transatlantic ‘market’ we will be review the economic and strategic elements within this ‘marketplace’, including international organizations and actors.

Finally, this course will place the transatlantic marketplace in the context of the global political economy. We will examine how global level political, economic, and strategic dynamics affect this transatlantic relationship and ‘marketplace’.

### **Course Objectives:**

From a political economic study of the transatlantic market, within a global context, this course strives to achieve the following objectives:

- Understand the post-WWII historical context of Europe and the historical unfolding of this European Union within its relationship with the United States and its changing position in the global environment.
- Briefly review the nature of the western, modern, nation-state and the transformation to a “post-modern” environment in the 21<sup>st</sup> century which challenges the nation-state in the west.
- Gain an understanding of the institutions that comprise the EU and how basic political processes function compared to the politics of the United States.
- Understand the interrelationship between the politics and economics of the EU and the USA within their transatlantic relationships.
- Define and understand the nature of this transatlantic market in terms of economic, political, and strategic dynamics.
- Identify and major national and transnational actors within this transatlantic political economy.
- Place the above within the context of the global political arena, through an examination of major characteristics, dynamics, and events occurring in today’s world, specifically within the context of this important transatlantic relationship with the United States.
- Develop an understanding of the subject matter from a “real world” perspective through guest lecturers and the instructor’s experience in the private sector.

## Course Requirements:

- **20%: Newspaper Journal** (See Required Reading): Read and review at least 5 newspaper articles each week. Each Monday students will hand-in their reviews of 5 articles. Review consists of title, source and date of article; a few sentence review of article; a few sentence statement of how the article relates to course materials. The purpose is to demonstrate that the student is engaged in the course material and is thoughtfully connecting it to current events.
- **40%: 2 Take-Home Position Essays** (5-7 pages): Select one essay question and write an essay that develops and articulates a compelling position in response to the question.
- **30%: Course Participation** Comprised of the Following:
  - Active and effective contribution to small group discussions
  - Active classroom participation inter-group discussions.
  - Participation in discussions with guest speakers
  - Class attendance
- **10%: Short Presentation:** 10 minute presentation on a course issue.

### *Extra Credit Options:*

- Completion of additional Position Essays of 5-7 Pages

## Cheating and Plagiarism:

Cheating and Plagiarism are unacceptable and will do nothing to help you achieve the Course Objectives. Cheating on an exam will result in a 0 grade for the test in question. Plagiarism on a written assignment will result in a 0 grade for the assignment in question.

## Makeup Exams and Late Assignments:

All exams must be made up. You must notify me as soon as possible if you will miss an exam. Depending on the documented circumstances, the possibility of a makeup test and its scheduling will be arranged. Assignments turned in late will be penalized 1 grade for each day late.

## Required Reading:

*The United States and the European Union: The Political Economy of a Relationship* (1999)  
Terrence R. Guay, Sheffield Academic Press.

*The European Dream: How Europe's Vision of the Future is Quietly Eclipsing the American Dream* (2005) Jeremy Rifkin. Jermey P. Tarcher Penguin.

*Annual Editions: International Business 2005-2006* (2005) Fred Maidment ed. 13<sup>th</sup> Edition.  
McGraw-Hill/Dushkin.

***International Press:* You must follow the international press on international and European current events and keep a journal of brief entries on articles and how they relate to the course. The following are several online resources:**

**Associated Press:** Wordpress.org (No cost)

**Financial Times:** ft.com (student rates, public area)

**New York Times:** NYtimes.com (No cost, must subscribe)

**International Herald Tribune:** iht.com (No cost, public and subscribe)

**Washington Post:** washingtonpost.com (No cost, public and subscribe)

**The Economist:** economist.com (No cost, public and subscribe)

**Reserve Readings (on reserve in Hillman Library)**

*Surpassing Realism: The Politics of European Integration since 1945*

Governance in Europe Series By Mark F. Gilbert Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.

*Europe Today: National Politics, European Integration, and European Security*, Second Edition

Edited by Ronald Tiersky. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.

*The European Union: How Does It Work?* Edited by Elizabeth Bomberg and Alexander Stubb.

Oxford University Press

*The Institutions of the European Union* (2002) John Peterson and Michael Shackleton.

Oxford Press

*International Institutions: An International Organization Reader* (2001) Lisa Martin and Beth

Simmons MIT press

*Transatlantic Governance in the Global Economy* (2001) Mark Pollack and Gregory Shaffer.

Rowman and Littlefield

*The Twentieth-Century World and Beyond An International History since 1900.* William R.

Keylor. Oxford press. Fifth Edition

*How Transatlantic Markets are Leading Globalization* (2005) Daniel S. Hamilton and Joseph P.

Quinlan, eds. Center for Transatlantic Relations and Center for European Policy Studies.

**Resources:**

- The Learning Resource Center offers free tutoring services, training, and support for students.
- The university has extensive resources to assist you as we study these international topics. For example <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu> will bring you to the University Center for International Studies. The European Union Center, and the Center for West European Studies are excellent resources for Pitt students interested in these areas.
- Hillman library has dedicated resources to provide research documents and assistance in the fields of European studies and EU studies. These resources can be accessed through the European Union Center and the Center for West European Studies.

## **Course Schedule:**

The following is a tentative schedule. The actual pace of the course and readings will be determined weekly based on the needs of the class. Readings could be supplemented with handouts, reserve readings at the library, and other additional materials to be distributed in class.

### **Section 1: Introduction**

**Section Reading:** 5 Newspaper articles on International Politics  
5 Newspaper articles on European Politics  
TBA

#### **Week 1: Introduction to Course and Basic Concepts**

**Reading:** TBA

M: Class Introduction.

W: Discussion: Current Events

#### **Week 2: Basic Concepts: Nation-State and the Modern Era**

**Reading:** Guay Ch. 1-2

M: Lecture:

*Bring Newspaper Journal Review to Class*

W. Discussion of Readings and Speaker

### **Section 2: Historical Background**

**Section Reading:** Rafkin Ch. 4-7

#### **Week 3: 1945-1970's**

**Reading:** Guay Ch. 3-4

M: Lecture:

*Bring Newspaper Journal Review to Class*

W. Discussion of Readings and Speaker

#### **Week 4: 1980-present**

**Reading:** Guay Ch. 5-6

M: Lecture:

*Bring Newspaper Journal Review to Class*

W. Discussion of Readings and Speaker

### **Section 3: Transatlantic Marketplace: The USA and the EU**

**Section Reading:** Rifkin Ch.1-3

TBA

#### **Week 5: The US Side**

**Reading:** Annual Editions International Business/Comparative Politics

Various websites

TBA

M: Lecture:

*Bring Newspaper Journal Review to Class*

W. Discussion of Readings and Speaker

#### **Week 6: The EU Side**

**Reading:** Annual Editions International Business/Comparative Politics

[www.europea.eu](http://www.europea.eu)

TBA

M: Lecture:

*Bring Newspaper Journal Review to Class*

W. Discussion of Readings and Speaker

#### **Week 7: Explicit Comparisons: EU-USA**

**Reading:** Annual Editions International Business/Comparative Politics

[www.europa.eu](http://www.europa.eu); various web sites

TBA

M: Lecture:

*Bring Newspaper Journal Review to Class*

W. Discussion of Readings and Speaker

**\*\* *Handout of First Position Essay Assignment***

## **Section 4: The Transatlantic Marketplace: The Political Economy**

**Section Reading:** Rifkin Ch.8-12

### **Week 8: Strategic Interests**

**Reading:** www.europa.eu  
Various websites  
TBA

M: Lecture:

*Bring Newspaper Journal Review to Class*

W. Discussion of Readings and Speaker

## **MARCH 5-10 SPRING BREAK, NO CLASSES**

### **Week 9: Political Interests**

**Reading:** TBA

M: Lecture:

*Bring Newspaper Journal Review to Class*

W. Discussion of Readings and Speaker

### **Week 11: Economic and Business Interests**

**Reading:** Annual Editions International Business/Comparative Politics  
TBA

M: Lecture:

*Bring Newspaper Journal Review to Class*

W. Discussion of Readings and Speaker

### **Week 12: Economic and Business Interests**

**Reading:** Annual Editions International Business/Comparative Politics  
TBA

M: Lecture:

*Bring Newspaper Journal Review to Class*

W. Discussion of Readings and Speaker

## **Section 5: The International Environment: Organizations and Monetary Systems**

**Section Reading:** Rifkin Ch.13-16

### **Week 13: International Organizations**

**Reading:** Annual Editions International Business Unit 2, Unit 3

M: Lecture:

*Bring Newspaper Journal Review to Class*

W. Discussion of Readings and Speaker  
In-Class Presentations by Students

### **Week 14: International Monetary Systems**

**Reading:** Annual Editions International Business Unit 2, Unit 3

M: Lecture:

*Bring Newspaper Journal Review to Class*

W. Discussion of Readings and Speaker  
In-Class Presentations by Students

**\*\* Handout of Second Position Essay Assignment**

### **Week 15: The Transatlantic Market in the Global Political Economy**

**Reading:** TBA

M: Lecture:

*Bring Newspaper Journal Review to Class*

W. Discussion of Readings and Speaker  
In-Class Presentations by Students

**FRIDAY APRIL 21 LAST DAY OF CLASSES**