European Integration: Theories, Institutions and Decision-Making Processes

This seminar will introduce you to key concepts and developments of the European Union. While we will include history, social science and economics, this class primarily has a political science focus. Questions we will address in the seminar include: How has the meaning of Europe changed over time? Why do states transfer sovereignty to the European level? What is the role of EU-institutions? How does Europe cope with current challenges such as the refugee crisis and the democratic backlash in some member countries? How are transatlantic relations changing? We will begin with major theories of integration, then explore the institutions and policies of the EU. We will also discuss recent developments such as the impact of the “Brexit”-decision for the future of the EU.

This is an intensive seminar and we will meet three times per week. The format of the class includes introductory lectures, student presentations and project work. Please prepare the readings before class to actively participate in our discussions. There will also be some special features such as films and guest lectures as part of the class.

Learning Objectives
* Study major theories and concepts of European integration
* Apply theories and concepts to policy issues
* Understand the workings of EU-institutions and decision-making processes
* Gain a better understanding of European politics
* Critically reflect upon European integration from a political science perspective

Readings
In addition required readings (articles etc.) will be posted on the course website.
For general information about the EU you should use the official website of the EU
http://europa.eu/european-union/index_en

Course Requirements
Writing: You will write two short papers (4-5 pages), and one final paper (15-20 pages). In the two short papers you should critically reflect on the assigned readings, for example a certain theme or argument, or answer a specific question that emerged for you in the course of the reading. The first short paper will be on the concepts and theories of European integration based on your readings; please choose one set of theories or a particular concept or question you wish to
explore. The second short paper should focus on one of the EU-institutions and critically address its role within the EU and in regard to citizens’ participation. The final paper is a formal research paper on a topic of your choice exploring contemporary European politics.

**Due Dates**: First short paper is due on **October 1**; the second short paper on **October 29**. Final papers: Please prepare a first outline of your topic by **November 5**. Final papers are due on **December 10**.

**Presentations**: Everyone should actively participate in class, present findings from the readings and ask questions. To hone your public speaking skills you will be asked to prepare a short 3-5 minute presentation about a **current event** in European politics, based on newspaper articles followed by a brief discussion (one-page hand-out). You will also prepare one brief presentation about one of the European groups and movements (week 2); and another one on one of the EU-institutions (weeks 6, 7, and 8).

The short papers count for 20% each and the final paper for 40% of the grade; the remaining 20% is class participation including the event of the week. Please note that the UNC Honour Code applies.

**Course Schedule**

**INTRODUCTION**

**Week 1  Wed Aug 22, Fr Aug 24, 9:00-9:55**
**What is Europe? The Changing Meaning of Europe Over Time**
Topics: Europe and the EU: Historical legacies, politics, and political movements. How can we conceptualize integration? Why do states transfer sovereignty? Current controversies: More or less integration?
Readings: Habermas (2018). Are we still good Europeans?
Macron (2017). Speech at the Sorbonne

**THE EVOLUTION OF THE EU AND THEORIES OF INTEGRATION**

**Week 2  Aug 27, Aug 29, Aug 31  Concepts and Theories of Integration I: From Postwar Reconstruction to the Treaty of Rome (Federalism and Neofunctionalism)**
Theories to be considered in these sections include: federalism, neo-functionalism, liberal intergovernmentalism, multi-level governance, social constructivism
Topics: The federal idea of Europe: Spinelli and Monnet; the *Ventotene Manifesto*; ECSC and Treaty of Rome; Neofunctionalism; the role of France and Germany; reconciliation

**Project**: European Movements and Groups

**Week 3  (Labor Day) Wed Sept. 5, Fri Sept. 7 History and Theories of Integration II: On the Road to the Maastricht Treaty (Intergovernmentalism)**
Moravcsik/Schimmelfennig (2009). Liberal Intergovernmentalism, in:
Wiener/Diez, pp. 67-87

Week 4 Sept. 10, 12, 14 Constructing the “New Europe” After 1990: Social Constructivism and Multi-level Governance
Topics: Deepening and widening of the EU; economic and political union; the model of multilevel governance; the significance of German unification; social constructivism; is there a European identity? Reforms and the Lisbon Treaty (2009)
Readings: Hooghe/Marks (2001). Multilevel Governance, chap. 1
Olsen/McCormick (2016). The European Union, chap. 4

Week 5 Sept. 17, 19, 21 Crisis of the EU: EU-Politicization and Postfunctionalism
Topics: From “permissive consensus” to constraining dissent; economic crisis and the rise of Euroscepticism; public opinion, parties and the influence of populism; inclusionary and exclusionary discourses; consequences for theories
Readings: Börzel/Risse (2018). From the Euro to the Schengen crisis
Hooghe/Marks (2016). A Postfunctional Theory of Integration

Special Feature: Film Evening “Les Sauteurs - Those Who Jump” (on the refugee problem) Tuesday Sept. 18, 6:00 to 8:00 pm GEC 3024

EU-GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONS

Week 6 Sept. 24, 26, 28 Governance and Institutions of the EU I
(with short students’ presentations)
Topics: European governance: What is the role of EU-institutions? The quest for legitimacy, representation, and democracy; EU-Commission and Council of the EU; is there a democratic deficit?
Readings: Olsen/McCormick (2016). The European Union, chap. 5 and 6
Website of the EU: http://europa.eu/institutions/index_en.htm

Week 7 Oct. 1, 3, 5 Governance and Institutions of the EU II
(with short students’ presentations)
Topics: European Parliament; European Court of Justice; European Council
Euro-skepticism and anti-EU parties; the 2019 EP elections; rise of executive nationalism?
Readings: Olsen/McCormick (2016). The European Union, chap. 7, 8 and 9 (176-184)
Website of the EU: http://europa.eu/institutions/index_en.htm

Special Feature: Film Evening “Goodbye, Lenin” (on the fall of the Wall)
Monday Oct. 1, 6:00 to 8:00 pm GEC 3024

Week 8 Oct. 8, 10 (No class Oct 12, University Day): Economic Governance
(with short students’ presentations)
Topics: European Central Bank ECB; Internal market and common currency; varieties of capitalism; euro zone crisis; more integration or disintegration?
Readings: Olsen/McCormick (2016). The European Union, chap. 9 (186-189)
        Hall (2013). Anatomy of Euro Crisis
        Lemke/Welsh (2018). Germany Today, chap. 6 (Political Economy)
        Olsen/McCormick (2016). The European Union, chap. 12 (Economic and Monetary Policy)

Week 9  Oct 15  EU-Governance: Brexit and Beyond
Topics: The rise of Euroscepticism and UKIP; Britain’s role in the EU; What are the consequences of Brexit?
        Hobolt (2016). The Brexit Vote
        Pettifor (2017) Brexit and its Consequences

Fall Break

POLICIES OF THE EU: IMMIGRATION AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Week 10 Oct 22, 24, 26  Policies of the EU I : Migration, Immigration, and Integration
Topics: The policy cycle; Europeanization and modes of governance; citizenship and migration; integration of foreigners; mobility and education; role of religion and culture
        Olsen/McCormick (2016). The European Union, chap. 10, 11 and 13

Week 11 Oct 29, 30, Nov 2  Policies of the EU II: Refugees and Human Rights
Topics: The role of norms for the EU; human rights; border controls, asylum policies; solidarity, security and regulation; national vs. European preferences; Schengen and Dublin
Readings: Biermann et. a. (2017). Political (non-)reform in the euro crisis and the refugee Crisis
        Börzel/Risse (2018). From the Euro to the Schengen crisis
        Lemke/Welsh (2018). Germany Today: Politics and Policy, chap. 5 (Migration)

Week 12 Nov 5, 7, 9  External Relations of the EU: EU-Enlargement
Topics: Enlargement of the EU 2004, 2007 and 2013; Europe as normative power; democratic transitions; backlash; EU-responses to illiberalism; cases of Poland and Hungary
Readings: Del Sarto, Raffaella A. (2016). Normative Empire Europe
        Ekiert (2017). How to Deal with Poland and Hungary
        Levitsky/ Way (2010). Competitive Authoritarianism, chap. 3
        Schimmelfennig (2001). The Community Trap
        Visoka and Doyle (2016). Neofunctional Peace (on Kosovo)
Week 13 Nov 12, 14, 16 External Relations of the EU II: Common Foreign and Security Policy CFSC
Topics: Europe’s Common Foreign and Security Policy; the concept of civilian power; security and the fight against international terrorism; defense policy and NATO; UN-missions; changes with the Lisbon Treaty
Lemke/Welsh (2018). Germany Today, chap. 8 (Global Role)
Olsen/McCormick (2016). The European Union, chap. 15

Week 14 Nov 19 Continue. Selected Topics (Thanksgiving Recess)

Week 15 Nov 26, 28, 30 External Relations of the EU III: Transatlantic Relations - Europe and the US
Topics: Changing perceptions: Values and attitudes; changing policy preferences: Multilateralism, security and diplomacy; trade conflicts; Is populism a transatlantic phenomenon? End of “the West”?
Readings: Cavaillé, Gidron, and Hall (2016). Trumpism as a Transatlantic Phenomenon
Jarausch (2015). Continental Drift
Olsen/McCormick (2016). The European Union, chap. 16
Selected newspaper articles on US and Europe

Session 16 Dec. 3, 5 (last class) Europe in Global Perspective
Topics: Europe and the rise of China; Economic liberalism or protectionism? Is European integration a model for other regions?
Readings: Olsen/McCormick (2016). The European Union, conclusion
Prof. Dr. Christiane Lemke

Course European Integration Literature


Hill, Christopher and Michael Smith (2011). International Relations and the European Union (selected chapters)


Hooghe, Liesbet and Gary Marks (2001). Multi-Level Governance and European Integration, Lanham et.al.: Rowman and Littlefield, chap. 1


Lemke, Christiane et.al. (2013). Germany in Europe: Powerhouse at the Crossroads, Center for European Studies, Max Weber Chair Working Papers, New York University (online) http://cem.s.as.nyu.edu/page/publications


Moravcsik, Andrew (2012). Europe after the Crisis. How to Sustain a Common Currency, Foreign Affairs, May/June, pp. 54-68


