

POLI 321 and HIST 321: EUROPEAN UNION

**Fall 2013: MWF 8:45-9:50 AM
Steele Hall 219**

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The European Union (EU) has developed in fits and starts over the last 50 years, resulting in a complex decision-making network that balances the interests of the individual member states and European-level institutions tasked with accomplishing the objectives of European integration. We will seek to accomplish two primary objectives in this course: to learn about the history and decision-making institutions of the EU and to prepare for a simulation of EU politics with students from around a dozen other colleges and universities in the area. Course readings, lectures and discussions will provide background on the history, institutions and decision-making processes of the EU. Assigned projects will provide additional knowledge about the specific policy areas and issues under the EU's jurisdiction. We will then assume the roles of decision-making actors in the EU for a three-day simulation in Washington D.C. from November 14-16, 2013. This simulation offers an excellent opportunity to apply our studies and develop a better understanding of the EU. **Note that participating in the simulation is a requirement to receive credit for this course.** Please let me know ASAP if you require a letter excusing you from other classes on those dates.

Required Texts:

Cini, Michelle. 2010. *European Union Politics* (3rd edition). Oxford University Press.

Selected Readings available for download on *Blackboard*.

Assessment:

- 10% - class attendance and participation
- 15% - policy area summary paper and presentation
- 15% - alter ego paper
- 15% - country profile paper
- 15% - participation in EU simulation
- 25% - mid-term examination
- 5% - debriefing paper

Grading Scale:

The numerical equivalents of the letter grades are:

A+ = 98%-100%	C+ = 78%-80%	F = 60% or below
A = 93%-98%	C = 73%-78%	
A- = 90%-93%	C- = 70%-73%	
B+ = 88%-90%	D+ = 68%-70%	
B = 83%-88%	D = 63%-68%	
B- = 80%-83%	D- = 60%-63%	

Course Policies:

This course requires you to attend the European Union Simulation, which takes place in Washington, D.C. from November 14-16, 2013. We will depart campus after the conclusion of classes on Wednesday, November 13 and return on Saturday night. You must contact your other professors ASAP to request permission to miss their classes during this time and to make arrangements to make up any missed work for those classes. SU will cover the costs of transportation, hotel rooms and two evening meals during the simulation. Individual students are responsible for covering the costs (about \$100.00) of all other meals and incidentals. We are representing the Netherlands at this year's simulation.

The four assigned papers are designed to help prepare you for the simulation or, in the case of the debriefing paper, to allow you to provide feedback on the simulation experience. More information about the expectations for each of these papers will be provided in class.

You must stay informed of current events in the EU to perform well in the course and at the conference. The best source is the daily newspaper, the Financial Times. You can subscribe to the newspaper, at a heavily discounted rate, for the semester. You can also read the Financial Times website at www.ft.com A fantastic site to research the policy stances of particular countries is European Business News Online at www.eubusiness.com The EU Observer is another important news sources on the EU, accessible at www.euobserver.com You can access the cover stories for free or subscribe for access to all news stories and the archives. Of course, it is helpful to access the EU website to learn about current events. However, it is a bit difficult to navigate the various sites of the EU institutions. You can find the main EU website at www.europa.eu.int The Economist magazine regularly reports on the EU. The New York Times and the Washington Post occasionally cover the EU.

Please note that class attendance is mandatory. You may miss two classes without providing an excuse. The class participation grade will be reduced by 5 points for every additional class missed, unless due to one of the following two exceptions. If you miss class due to a medical reason and provide documentation from a medical practitioner, your absence will be excused without any penalty. Any absences that result from religious observances shall also be excused without any penalty. Anything covered in class lectures or assigned readings may be part of the examinations. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out anything covered in class

from another student. Please contact me immediately if you will need to miss class at any time during this semester.

All assigned readings are required. The *Cini* text (hereafter referred to as *Cini*) is available for purchase at the SU bookstore. Other selected readings will be available for download on Blackboard. The lectures will, at times, overlap with the readings, but will often include content not in the readings. ***The mid-term examination may cover anything from both the lectures and the readings.***

Any student with a disability that may prevent you from fully demonstrating your abilities should contact me as soon as possible so that we can make accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate your educational opportunities. Students with disabilities are advised to also contact Phillip Gehman, Coordinator of Disability Services at 570-372-4340 or gehman@susqu.edu.

Make sure that you include proper citations in any written or oral work. Plagiarism will result in a failure for that assignment, referral to the administration and other potential consequences. Please consult Sharon Stoerger's online resource for more information on plagiarism: <http://www.web-miner.com/plagiarism> Please also consult the Susquehanna University Code of Student Conduct at <http://www.susqu.edu/studentlife/16594.asp> If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please contact me or the Writing Center located in Fisher Hall, Room 202, phone number 570-372-4342.

I reserve the right to move around different topics and assignments on the syllabus in consultation with the class. Please do not hesitate to ask questions, introduce discussion points, articulate your opinions and comment on the reading materials.

Schedule:

Week	Topic	Readings
August 26	Introduction to Course Defining European Integration History of European Integration	<i>Cini Chapters 1-2</i>
September 2	History of European Integration	<i>Cini Chapters 3-4</i>
September 9	Theories of European Integration EU Institutions	<i>Cini Chapters 5-6</i>
September 16	EU Institutions EU Decision-Making	<i>Cini Chapters 8-10</i>
September 23	Types of EU Law Other European bodies Interest Groups	<i>Cini Chapter 11-12</i>
September 30		
October 7	Public Opinion and Democracy in the EU European Elections	<i>Cini Chapters 23-24</i>
October 14	<i>Note: No Classes on Mid-Semester Break October 14-15</i> Review and Discussion <i>Mid-Term (Friday, October 18)</i>	
October 21	Monetary and Fiscal Policy	<i>Cini Chapters 16, 20</i>
October 28	Student Presentations Agricultural Policy Environmental Policy Immigration Policy	<i>Cini Chapters 21-22</i>
November 4	Student Presentations Common Foreign and Security Policy Regional and Cohesion Policy Enlargement	<i>Cini Chapters 15, 18</i>
November 11	Public Speaking, Strategy, and Preparing for the Simulation <i>EU Simulation in Washington D.C. November 14-16</i>	
November 18	Simulation Debriefing Origins and Consequences of the European Debt Crisis	<i>Assigned readings to be posted on Blackboard</i>
November 25	<i>Note: No Classes on Thanksgiving Break November 27-29</i>	

	Review and Discussion	
December 2	The Future of Europe	