POLITICS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

The purpose of this course is to acquaint the student with the institutions, processes, and policies of the European Union (EU). During the course, we will seek to understand how and why the EU was created, how it operates, where it fits in the international political economy, and what challenges it currently faces. Our emphasis will be on both theory and practice.

TEXTS

*The New York Times*

RESPONSIBILITIES AND REQUIREMENTS

As a responsible student you will be expected to:

1) attend all lectures;
2) complete all of the required reading;
3) participate in class discussions; and
4) keep abreast of current events.

The assignments for this class include:

1) 5 short research papers;
2) 1 class presentation;
3) a comprehensive final exam.

Students with disabilities who need academic accommodations should contact the Coordinator of Disability Services. **Accommodations must be agreed to before the midterm exam!**

ETHICAL CONDUCT

Your presence in class signifies that you accept the basic rules of academic honesty. You must not engage in plagiarism or cheating in any form. Such conduct will not be tolerated and will result in severe penalties.

CONDUCT IN CLASS

Please, please, please—out of consideration for your classmates and the instructor—hold off on leaving the classroom for any purpose other than an emergency (i.e., get your Mountain Dew and go to the bathroom before you enter the classroom). In addition, students are not permitted to use laptop computers, tablets, cell phones or other
personal hand-held electronic devices in class unless asked to by the instructor (which will happen sometimes!). These rules apply during testing periods as well as class lectures and discussions. [By the way, I’m not a Luddite! I just know—from much personal experience from both sides of the lectern—how multitasking can undermine the learning process.]

**Grading**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Papers and Presentation</td>
<td>70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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**Course Outline and Reading Assignments**

I. Introduction: An Overview of the European Union  
   Staab: Chapters 1, 2

II. Post-War European Integration: History and Theory  
    Gilbert: entire  
    Nelsen and Stubb: Preface, Introduction, and Chapters 1-19  
    
    **Theory Paper—February 2**  
    **History Paper—February 23**  

III. The Institutions of the European Union  
    Stabb: Chapters 3-8  
    Nelsen and Stubb: 23  
    Lewis: entire  
    
    **Euro Crisis Paper—March 15**

IV. Policymaking  
    Nelsen and Stubb: Chapters 24-25  
    Laqueur: entire

V. Key Policy Areas  
    Staab: Chapters 9-16  
    
    **Policy Paper and Presentation—April 2 or 5**

VI. Contemporary Theory  
    Nelsen and Stubb: Chapters 20-22; 26-27

VII. European Futures: Problems and Prospects  
     Marquand: entire  
     
     **EU Futures Paper—April 23**  
     **Final Exam—Thursday, May 3, 3:30 pm**

Some seek knowledge for the sake of knowledge: that is curiosity;  
Others seek knowledge that they may themselves be known: that is vanity;  
But there are still others who seek knowledge in order to serve and edify others,  
and that is charity.

—St. Bernard of Clairvaux