

Politics of the European Union
CPO 3104 (U01)
Spring 2016

Course Information:

Meetings: Tues., Thur. (11:00am-12:15pm)
Classroom: Graham Center 279 A
Class no.: 20537

Instructor: Lukas K. Danner
Email: LDANNER@FIU.EDU
Office hours: Thur. from 2:00 PM to 2:45 PM (GL150)
with previous appointment

"After the Berlin Wall came down I visited that city and I will never forget it. The abandoned checkpoints. The sense of excitement about the future. The knowledge that a great continent was coming together. Healing those wounds of our history is the central story of the European Union."¹

British PM David Cameron

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the structures, policies and current political issues of the European Union (EU). The focus will be on the institutions and policies of the EU as overarching integration project in Europe and its impact on the member states. This course examines the policymaking structures and functions of EU institutions, transitions and integration with particular attention to political cultures and the tension with national politics in Europe. The course will include a combination of lecture and discussions as well as some interactive learning exercises.

This class counts toward the FIU's European Studies Certificate (<http://europe.fiu.edu/certificate-programs/undergraduate-advising/>).

Course Introduction & Learning Objectives:

The primary purpose of this course is to provide students with the analytical tools to understand the current state of politics in Europe. In this course students will:

1. Gain a good understanding of the institutional makeup of the European Union;
2. Become familiar with the workings of the European Union and its impact on member states;

¹ <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newsvideo/uk-politics-video/9820375/David-Camerons-Europe-speech-in-full.html>.

3. Become equipped with theoretical knowledge necessary to explain the evolution of European integration;
4. Improve their research and writing ability when formulating complex arguments.



General Organization:

To successfully accomplish the learning objectives listed above, the course is organized around five main sections. Part one, as a way of introduction, explores the historical background of Europe and the formation and evolution of the European Union. Part two will introduce students to the basics of the theories and conceptual approaches relating to the formation of the European Union and integration of member states—as this course does not have a prerequisite. Parts three and four are the core parts of the course with a focus on the institutions and actors within the European Union, as well as policies and policy-making in the EU. Part five introduces students to the latest debates on issues within the EU, like the Eurozone Crisis and the Syrian Refugee Crisis.

Course Requirements:

Class Preparation: In order for students to take full advantage of the class and make it more enjoyable for all, the required readings must be completed *before* each class meeting. Students are also encouraged to come to class with a set of questions that they may have encountered while preparing for the meetings, and to share them with the rest of the students at the appropriate moment. Class preparation should go both ways: as the instructor prepares the lectures and discussion sessions, every student must also dedicate, normally, about an hour of preparation prior to each class meeting. Otherwise, the instructor will sound like he is speaking an incomprehensible language. In short, prepare thoughtfully and thoroughly before each class meeting. As far as time spent reading, taking notes, revising notes, and the like, it is realistic to calculate with at least one hour preparatory work before class and at least one hour after class in order to be successful in this course. Also, it is advisable to regularly consult think tanks such as www.euractiv.org or www.euobserver.com; another useful resource is the EU Guide at <http://www.eurunion.org/infores/euguide/euguide.htm>.

General Class Participation & Attendance (together 10%): There is a difference between *tactical dilatory* “participation,” and *quality* participation. While normal, quality class participation is always welcome, blather and dilatory interventions are discouraged. For example, simply posing misinformed questions about the readings or the lecture—when clearly exhibiting an abject lack of proper class preparation or reading of the assigned texts—may actually end up working against, rather than in favor of, the student’s grade. In contrast, active, thoughtful, quality participation, demonstrating intimate and thoughtful familiarity with the assigned readings and class topics, is highly welcome, as it will certainly help students improve his/her overall final grade. For attendance requirements, see the course policies section of the syllabus below.

Exams (65%): There will be two (2) partial (midterm) exams during the semester, and one (1) comprehensive final exam during finals week for a total of three (3) exams. Specific dates are listed below. Exams will include any (or a combination) of the following types of questions: identifications, factual short-answer questions, multiple-choice questions and essay questions. The first midterm exam will also contain a map quiz portion. Students must take all exams, the midterms and the final in order to be able to pass this class. Make-up exams can only be granted, if a student has a valid and documented reason for not making the pre-set exam date; if you do miss an exam, you must make arrangements to make it up within ONE WEEK from the date of the scheduled exam. If you do not make up the exam within that time, you will receive a zero as a grade. The partial (midterm) exams count twenty (20) percent of the final grade each, and the final comprehensive exam twenty-five (25) percent of the final grade—for a total sixty-five (65) percent of your final grade. Relevant to the exams are anything learned during class lecture including students' own lecture notes, all of the required assigned readings, and PowerPoint presentations, if used for lecture. No blue book required; students will be provided all necessary paper at time of exam. Also, there will be no supporting materials allowed during exam (i.e. no open books, no scrap paper, etc.). All assigned grades will become available in your FIU Blackboard's "My Grades" section.

News Briefing (10%): Every student will individually present one or two pieces of news at one occasion in the semester. A list of assignments of students names to dates (by alphabet) will be circulated after the add-and-drop period is over, on Wednesday, January 20th. The first students (usually one to three per session) will present Tuesday, January 26th. It is the student's responsibility to be present at the assigned date and time (i.e., at the beginning of class), or else they will forfeit that part of their overall grade. Should there be scheduling conflicts with the assigned date on the circulated list, please let the instructor know ahead of time, so that you could be rescheduled. Part of the assignment is for the student to look for an appropriate piece of news that relates to the politics of the EU. Please stay on top of what is happening in the world of the EU and Europe by going through the news—political, economic, and social—on a regular, best be daily, basis—also when you are not about to present the news in class. This may be achieved by reading or visiting, especially the relevant sections of the freely on campus available *The New York Times* (<http://nytimes.com>), or other trusted media outlets like *The Economist* (<http://economist.com>), *Financial Times* (<http://ft.com>), *Spiegel Online International* (<http://spiegel.de/international/>), *BBC News* (<http://bbc.com>) or that of your personal choice. When choosing which news to present, please keep in mind that it should be recent, i.e. it must not be over one week old at the time of presentation. Also you should be able to relate it to our course, and you should make it clear during your presentation how exactly it is related to EU, if it is not obvious. Please check with the instructor one to two days before your assigned presentation date, if the news you have in mind is fitting via email or in person, and whether or not someone else is not already presenting the same news. The duration of one student's presentation should not exceed two to three minutes. Upon grading, your assigned grade will become available to you in FIU Blackboard's "My Grades" section.

EU Council Simulation & Policy Brief (15%): Each student will participate in a simulation of the Council of Ministers of the EU. This exercise consists of a written assignment of approximately five (5) pages, or 1,500 words per student (double-spaced, 12-point font, Times New Roman or Palatino Linotype font, to be submitted via the *TurnItIn* feature link in our class's Blackboard "Assignment" section (just

log in to Blackboard to gain access to this) and one class session (last class session) of oral participation. Negotiation topics and extra info handout will be provided during the Thursday session of the second week of class, i.e., after the Add/Drop period. At this time, students will select, in order of seniority and based on availability, the country they wish to represent during the simulation — with a maximum of two students per country. To prepare the policy brief, I recommend Eleanor E. Zeff and Ellen B. Pirro, *The European Union and the Member States* (Boulder, Colo.: Lynne Rienner, 2015); ISBN: 978-1-62637-256-6. The 5-page policy brief will be due a week ahead of the simulation, i.e., on April 21, 2016, by 11:59pm ET.

Final Grade Point Distribution and Schedule:

Attendance & Participation.....	10%
First Partial Exam, Tuesday, February 9, 2016, 11:00am-12:15pm, GC279A.....	20%
Second Partial Exam, Tuesday, March 8, 2016, 11:00am-12:15pm, GC279A.....	20%
News Briefing (January 26 –April 26; see schedule avail. via Blackboard starting on Jan-20).....	10%
EU Council Simulation (April 28) & Policy Brief 5-page paper (April 21).....	15%
Final Comprehensive Exam, Thursday, May 5, 2016, 9:45am-11:45am, GC279A.....	25%
Total.....	100%

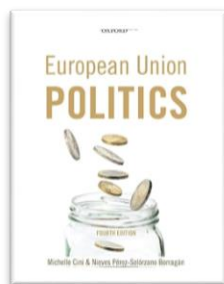
Grading System: The grading scale will follow FIU standards. Please note that less than a 60% average score is an automatic “F.”

No incomplete grade will be granted.

A: 93-100%	B: 83-87%	C: 73-77%	D: 63-67%
A-: 90-92%	B-: 80-82%	C-: 70-72%	D-: 60-62%
B+: 88-89%	C+: 78-79%	D+: 68-69%	F: <60%

Readings: One textbook is required for this class (see below). Textbook readings *will not* be provided to students; I will assume you have bought or rented them. Other required reading assignments, if applicable, would be provided to students through FIU Blackboard. Suggested readings will not be provided and would be the student’s responsibility, if interested in reading more on the subject. Students will not be expected to have read the suggested, i.e. optional, readings. Should they have been discussed during class lecture, they will indirectly become relevant for examinations, though.

Purchasing Textbooks: Significant portions of the following book are assigned as required readings and will be available for purchase or rental through the FIU bookstore ([here](#)), or online:



- Michelle Cini and Nieves Pérez-Solórzano Borragán (eds.),
European Union Politics,
Fourth Edition
(New York: Oxford University Press, 2013).
ISBN-13: 978-0-19-969475-4.

Keep in mind that readings complement lectures. Thus, readings will not be summarized in class and I will assume that you read them closely. Rather class sessions will be used to tease out important concepts from the assigned readings and discuss related issues.

The list of topics and readings is a general guideline or schedule. This is not a strict plan to cover at all cost. I establish my class pace based on the progress I sense from the class. Some topics may need additional coverage while others may need less. This is something that I cannot anticipate at the time of selecting the topics and readings for this course. Ultimately, the coverage of the syllabus depends on the nature and evolution of the class itself, not on the instructor's ability to rattle on material that is poorly understood by the majority of the students. My first and foremost priority is to make sure that *all* students progress uniformly when a serious effort is devoted to the class.

*At any time during the semester, the instructor may input changes to the present syllabus, as he deems necessary. The instructor reserves the right to change material on the syllabus, based on his estimation of the class caliber, comprehension, and progress. In case of any such changes, the instructor will notify the modifications in class.

Course Policies:

Fair Warnings on Exams, Paper, Class Attendance, Preparation and Participation: If you miss the midterm exam or the comprehensive final exam, without a well-certified and verifiable excuse, it will count as a zero. In this case, there will be no chance for a make-up exam. A written, verifiable, and valid excuse is required in order to request a make-up exam. If you have conflicting work schedule, adjust it ahead of time or drop the class to avoid future problems. I consider classes and exams more important than work at this time of your life. Examine closely the schedule included here. If you identify a schedule conflict, make your choice early on and decide whether to stay in the course or drop it to avoid future problems.

Attendance: In order for the classes to begin on time (and end on time, too), students should plan ahead and seriously consider coming to the classroom 5 to 10 minutes early. Attendance is mandatory and will be taken via occasional (pop-up) signature sheet and count toward students' overall grade as 10 % of the final grade together with participation in class. Generally, it is preferred that students will let the instructor know much ahead of time, if they need to miss class. Students, who consistently miss classes, even if their performance in the exams and written assignments is satisfactory, will harm their overall class grade. Coming to class is an indispensable part of the student's training and education. Traffic, parking, or car problem excuses are not accepted.

Electronic Devices: The use of mobile electronic devices, such as cell-/smartphones, MP3 players, and other such electronic devices goes against FIU's professional student demeanor policy and is not allowed inside the classroom during class time, and should be turned off and stored away before the beginning of each class. Don't wait to be admonished in public for such prohibited use in class. If in need of making a phone call or texting, please quietly step outside of the classroom—it is your right. Laptop computers, eReaders, or tablets may be allowed for note taking or book reference, if using the eBook-copy of the textbooks. Students are generally encouraged to take notes by hand, though. Under no circumstances will the instructor send out PowerPoints to lectures before class; PowerPoints, if used during class, would be available after class in the class's Blackboard. Finally, the instructor permits no recording of the classes. Please adhere to these policies.

Academic Integrity: Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas, and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook.

It is also to be noted that academic dishonesty is a violation of FIU's Student Code of Conduct Procedures. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, plagiarism, and misrepresentation of one's work. These are academic offenses that will result in failing the course, as per the Student Code of Conduct Procedures.

DRC-Registered Students: The Disability Resource Center (DRC) collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive and sustainable. The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact the Center at 305-348-3532 or visit them at the Graham Center GC 190.

Syllabus: The syllabus is also available online in this course's Blackboard (<http://fiu.blackboard.com/>). Please check the class's Blackboard and your FIU email account for possible communication regarding changes to the syllabus.

Course Communication: I do not email students to personal email addresses, except when replying to students' specific questions. Please check your FIU email (<http://panthermail.fiu.edu/>) regularly, as well as the course's blackboard (<http://fiu.blackboard.com/>) for announcements (announcements in Blackboard are simultaneously sent to your student email address. If you like to continue to use your private email address, I recommend you set up forwarding in your FIU email account to your preferred email account.

Extra Credit Assignments: There will be no extra credit assignments granted.

Course Schedule:







Important Dates:

Please note the following holidays when FIU is closed and other important dates in the class:

1. Monday, January 11: Classes Begin.
2. Monday, January 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday (University closed, no classes).
3. Tuesday, January 19: Last Day to Add, Drop or Swap courses without incurring financial liability.
4. Tuesday, February 9: First Partial Examination (11:00am-12:15pm).
5. Tuesday, March 8: Second Partial Examination (11:00am-12:15pm).
6. Monday, March 14 – Saturday, March 19: Spring Break Holiday (University open, no classes).

7. Monday, March 21: Last Day to drop a course with a DR grade.
8. Friday, April 22 – Saturday, April 30: Passover Holiday (University open, classes in session).
9. Thursday, May 5: Final Comprehensive Examination during Finals Week as per FIU exam schedule, 9:45am-11:45am, GC279 A.
10. Thursday, May 11: Grades available on My.FIU.edu (starting 9:00am).

Class Session Schedule:

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>CLASS ORDER:</u>	<u>CLASS TOPIC:</u>
January 12 (Tues)	Course presentation	Syllabus, administrative points
<u>Part One: Historical Context</u>		
January 14 (Thur)	Class meeting 1	 1. History of Europe & the origins of the EU (Chapter 1) 2. European Community, 1945-85 (Chapter 2) 3. European Union (Chapter 3) 4. From Constitutional Treaty to the Treaty of Lisbon (Chapter 4)
January 19 (Tues)	Class meeting 2	
January 21 (Thur)	Class meeting 3	
January 26 (Tues)	Class meeting 4	
<u>Part Two: Theories and Conceptual Approaches</u>		
January 28 (Thur)	Class meeting 5	 5. Neofunctionalism (Chapter 5) 6. Intergovernmentalism (Chapter 6) 7. New Institutionalism and Critical Perspectives (Chapter 7)
February 2 (Tues)	Class meeting 6	
February 4 (Thur)	Class meeting 7	
February 9 (Tues)	Class meeting 8	 ----- <i>First Partial Exam</i>
<u>Part Three: Institutions and Actors</u>		
February 11 (Thur)	Class meeting 9	 8. Governance in the EU (Chapter 8) & Europeanization (Chapter 9) 9. The European Commission (Chapter 10) 10. The Council of the EU (Chapter 11) ---- <i>Instead of in-class lecture attend a minimum one out of three panels at the Jean Monnet Center European Union Conference at FIU, Miami, FL (Panel I: 9am-10:45am ; Panel II: 11am-12:45pm ; Panel III: 3pm-4:45pm)</i>
February 16 (Tues)	Class meeting 10	
February 18 (Thur)	Class meeting 11	
February 23 (Tues)	Class meeting 12	
February 25 (Thur)	Class meeting 13	 11. The EU Parliament (Chapter 12) 12. The Courts of the EU (Chapter 13) 13. Interest Groups and the EU (Chapter 14)
March 1 (Tues)	Class meeting 14	
March 3 (Thur)	Class meeting 15	
March 8 (Tues)	Class meeting 16	 ----- <i>Second Partial Exam</i>



March 10 (Thur)	Class meeting 17	} ----- <i>Watch in-class Documentary</i>
March 15 (Tues)	---No Class	} ----- <i>Spring Break Vacation</i>
March 17 (Thur)	---No Class	} ----- <i>Spring Break Vacation</i>

Part Four: Policy and Policy-Making in the EU

March 22 (Tues)	Class meeting 18	} 14. Policy-Making in the EU (Chapter 15)
March 24 (Thur)	Class meeting 19	} 15. Enlargement of the EU (Chapter 17)
		} 16. EU External Relations (Chapter 16)
March 29 (Tues)	Class meeting 20	} 17. EU's Foreign, Security, Defense Policies (Chapter 18)
March 31 (Thur)	Class meeting 21	} 18. The Single Market (Chapter 19), Economic and Monetary Union (Chapter 22) & Common Agricultural Policy (Chapter 23)
April 5 (Tues)	Class meeting 22	} ----- <i>Watch in-class Debate</i>
April 7 (Thur)	---No Class	} ----- <i>Instructor at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL</i>
April 12 (Tues)	Class meeting 23	} 19. The EU's Social Dimension (Chapter 20), Justice and Home Affairs (Chapter 21) & Environmental Policy (Chapter 24)
April 14 (Thur)	Class meeting 24	} ----- <i>Guest lecture by Hon. Christer Persson, former Ambassador of the Kingdom of Sweden</i>

Part Five: Issues and Debates

April 19 (Tues)	Class meeting 25	} 20. Democracy and Legitimacy in the EU (Ch. 25) & Public Opinion and the EU (Ch. 26)
April 21 (Thur)	Class meeting 26	} 21. The EU and the Economic Crisis (Chapter 27) <i>(5-page Policy Brief Due by end of the day via Blackboard TurnItIn Feature)</i>
April 26 (Tues)	Class meeting 27	} 22. The Future of the EU (<i>extra reading—download from Blackboard</i>)
April 28 (Thur)	Class meeting 28	} ----- <i>EU Council Simulation</i>
May 5 (Thur)	Final Exam	} ----- <i>In-class Comprehensive Exam, May 5, 2016, 9:45am-11:45am, GC279 A (FIU Exam Schedule)</i>
May 11 (Wed)	Grades available starting 12:05 AM (https://my.fiu.edu)	

Readings:



Course Presentation (Jan-12)

No required readings.

Part One: Historical Context

1. History of Europe and the Origins of the EU (Jan-14)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 1.

2. The European Community (Jan-19)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 2.

-----Recommended attendance to a Conversations on Europe video conference on the British EU Referendum, 12pm-1:30pm, GL 156 (January 19)-----

3. The EU: Establishment and Development (Jan-21)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 3.

4. From Constitutional Treat to the Treaty of Lisbon (Jan-26)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 4.

-----Recommended attendance to a Jean Monnet Center lecture by Hon. Philippe Letrilliart, Consul General of France, 12pm-1:30pm, GL 220 (January 26)-----

Part Two: Theories and Conceptual Approaches

5. Neo-Functionalism (Jan-28)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 5.

6. Intergovernmentalism (Feb-2)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 6.

-----Recommended attendance to a Roundtable on Labor Politics in the EU,
11:45am-1:45pm, GC278B (February 2)-----

7. New Institutionalism and Critical Perspectives (Feb-4)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 7.

-----First Midterm Examination (February 9)-----

Part Three: Institutions and Actors

8. Governance in the EU & Europeanization (Feb-11)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 8
2. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 9.

9. The European Commission (Feb-16)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 10.

---Recommended attendance to a Conversations on Europe video conference on
European Policies on National Artifacts, 12pm-1:30pm, GL 156 (February 16)---

10. The Council of the EU (Feb-18)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 11.

-----Instructor at Jean Monnet Center EU Conference (no lecture Feb. 23)-----

-----Required attendance to a minimum one panel at the Jean Monnet Center EU
Conference at MARC Bldg., MMC Campus (February 23)-----

11. The EU Parliament (Feb-25)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 12.

12. The Courts of the EU (Mar-1)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 13.

13. Interest Groups and the EU (Mar-3)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 14.

-----Second Midterm Examination (March 8)-----

-----Watch Documentary (March 10)-----

-----Spring Break Holiday (no class March 15 and March 17)-----

Part Four: Policy and Policy-Making in the EU

14. Policy-Making in the EU (Mar-22)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 15.

-----Recommended attendance to a Conversations on Europe video conference
on the Greek bailout, 12pm-1:30pm, GL 156 (March 22)-----

15. Enlargement of the EU (Mar-24)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 17.

16. EU External Relations (Mar-24/26)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 16.

17. EU's Foreign, Security, and Defense Policies (Mar-29)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 18.

18. The Single Market, Economic and Monetary Union & Common Agricultural Policy (Mar-31)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 19.
2. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 22.
3. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 23.

-----Watch in-class debate (April 5)-----

-----Instructor at MPSA, Chicago, IL (no class April 7)-----

19. The EU's Social Dimension & Justice and Home Affairs & Environmental Policy (Apr-12)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 20.
2. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 21.
3. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 23.

-----Guest Lecture by Hon. Christer Persson, Former Ambassador of Sweden to the European Union (April 14)-----

Part Five: Issues and Debates

20. Democracy and Legitimacy & Public Opinion and the EU (Apr-19)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 25.
2. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 26.

-----Recommended attendance to a Conversations on Europe video conference on Crime and EU Policies, 12pm-1:30pm, GL 156 (April 19)-----

21. The EU and the Economic Crisis (Apr-21)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, chapter 27.

-----5-Page Policy Brief Due (April 21)-----

22. The Future of the EU (Apr-26)

Required Readings:

1. Cini & Pérez, *European Union Politics*, extra reading (*download from Blackboard*).

-----In-Class EU Council Simulation (April 28)-----

-----Final Exam (Thursday, May 5, 9:45am-11:45am, Graham Center 279A)---