

Fall 2006

PSCI 4002 Sec. 001 & 002

Western European Politics

Instructor: Lapo Salucci
Department of Political Science

Email: lapo.salucci@colorado.edu
Office Hours:
Monday 3:00 – 6:00 pm and by appointment

Office: Ketchum 21
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Class Schedule and location:
MWF 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM KTCH – 234 (Sec. 001)
MWF 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM KTCH – 234 (Sec. 002)

I. Course Overview

This course examines institutions, political economy and political change in selected countries of Western Europe. Also, part of the course will be devoted to the European Union, especially its institutional setting and its development. The course will illustrate the development of institutional structures in Western European countries and how those different institutional structures influenced policy issues, with a particular focus on welfare, labor markets and immigration.

II. Course Requirements

This is an upper division political science course and places a heavy emphasis on students' participation and writing. Class attendance is strongly recommended. NOTE: repeated absence (more than 10%) may result in a low class participation grade. Students are therefore expected to attend all class sessions and complete the assigned readings prior to class.

The final grade is based on participation, on a mid-term exam, a final project and a final exam; the grade is determined as follows:

- **Class participation: 20%.** This grade will be determined by the students' attendance and participation in the discussion sections. Students will be called randomly to answer questions of relevance to the class topics during the discussion sessions. I strongly encourage every student to participate actively in class; however, should you feel uncomfortable about speaking in front of your fellow classmates, you can email me questions and comments before each class. That will count toward your participation grade in the same way as in-class interaction.
- **Midterm Exam: 25%.** The midterm exam will test students on their knowledge of the material covered in first part of the semester. It will have both a multiple-choice section and an essay/ID section.
- **Policy Brief: 30%.** This assignment will test students on their ability to use the theoretical knowledge they acquired in a practical way. Students will produce a brief on a topic of their choice amongst the ones proposed in class or will propose a topic to the instructor. Proposals are due by Oct. 27. The purpose of the brief is to inform a political leader on the issue(s) at stake and to propose policy recommendations based on the students' knowledge. The brief's length should be between 10 and 12 pages. Further details on the brief's format will be provided in class.
- **Final Exam: 25%.** The final exam will test students on their knowledge of the material covered in the second part of the semester. It will have both a multiple-choice section and an essay/ID section.

III. Readings

Readings will include both books and articles.

The following books are required (or optional where marked) for the class and are available for purchase at the UMC bookstore:

- Gallagher, Laver and Mair, "Representative Government in Modern Europe" (4th edition), McGraw-Hill Humanities/Social Sciences/Languages, 2005 (REQUIRED)
- Buchanan, "Europe's Troubled Peace 1945-2000", Blackwell Publishers, 2006 (OPTIONAL)

Assigned articles and book chapters are listed in the course schedule.

IV. Class Schedule

Part I: Institutions

Week #1: Introduction

Mon. Aug. 28
Class description & Introduction to topics
No readings

Wed. Aug. 30
Introduction on Institutions
Class Notes / Presentation

Fri. Sep. 1
Evolution of Political Systems in Europe – Europe in the 20th Century
Gallagher et al, Ch. 1, pp. 6 – 22

Week #2: The Executive

Mon. Sep. 4
Labor Day: No Class

Wed. Sep. 6
Presidential and Parliamentary Governments I
Gallagher et al, Ch. 2, pp. 24 – 34

Fri. Sep. 8
Presidential and Parliamentary Governments II
Gallagher et al., Ch. 2, pp. 35 – 55

Week #3: Parliaments

Mon. Sep. 11
Parliaments & Governments
Gallagher et al., Ch. 3, pp. 57 – 69

Wed. Sep. 13
The Role of Parliaments
Gallagher et al., Ch. 3, pp. 70 – 82

Fri. Sep. 15
Discussion

Week #4: The European Union

Mon. Sep. 18
EU's Institutional Structure
Gallagher et al., Ch. 5, pp. 115 – 137

Wed. Sep. 20
EU's Policies
Gallagher et al., Ch. 5, pp. 138 – 150

Fri. Sep. 22
Discussion

Week #5: Cleavage Structures

Mon. Sep 25

Origins of Cleavages
Class Notes / Presentation

Wed. Sep. 27
Modern Cleavages
Gallagher et al., Ch.9, pp. 263 - 297

Fri. Sep. 29
Discussion

Week #6: Parties in W. Europe

Mon. Oct. 2
Party Families
Gallagher et al, Ch. 8, pp. 230 – 260

Wed. Oct. 4
Evolution of Parties
Bartolini (Web Link)

Fri. Oct. 6
Discussion

Week #7: Parties & Electoral Systems

Mon. Oct. 9
Types of Electoral Systems
Gallagher et al, Ch. 11, pp. 340 – 362

Wed. Oct. 11
Representation & Political Outcomes
Gallagher et al, Ch. 11, pp. 363 – 377

Fri. Oct. 13
In-Class Midterm Exam

Week #8: European Politics in Practice

Mon. Oct. 16
Simulation: Introduction
Instructions: see website and/or handout

Wed. Oct. 18
Simulation: Part I

Fri. Oct. 20
Simulation: Part II & Discussion

Week #9: Institutions & Parties Wrap-up

Mon. Oct. 23
Choice of Electoral Systems
Norris, P., "Choosing Electoral Systems: Proportional, Majoritarian and Mixed Systems", *International Political Science Review* (1997), Vol. 18, N. 3, 297-312

Wed. Oct. 25
Electoral Systems in Historical Perspective
Class Notes / Presentation

Fri. Oct. 27

Discussion

Policy Brief Proposal Deadline

Part III: Topics

Week #10: Demographic Change

Mon. Oct. 30

The Ageing Bomb

European Demographic Data Sheet 2006 (Link)

Wed. Nov. 1

The Future of Europe's Population

Vienna Institute of Demography: European Demographic Report - Trends (Link)

Fri. Nov. 3

Discussion & Comparison with the US

Week #11: Migration

Mon. Nov. 6

Immigration Trends

Boswell, C., "Migration in Europe", Global Commission on International Migration, September 2005 (Link)

Wed. Nov. 8

Integration & Social Tension

"A Muslim in Europe?", *The Atlantic Monthly*, January/February 2005.

Leiken, R., "Europe's Angry Muslims", *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2005.

Ross, L., "Europe's Divided Muslims", *Foreign Affairs*, January/February 2006

Fri. Nov. 10

Discussion & Comparison with the US

Crook, C., "The Benefits of Brutality", *The Atlantic Monthly*, May 2006

Week #12: The European Social Model

Mon. Nov. 13

What Model?

Mullally, L., "The social failure of the European Social Model", in "Beyond the European Social Model", OpenEurope, 2006. (Link)

Wed. Nov. 15

The Future of Social Europe

Sapir, A., "Globalisation and the reform of the European Social Model", Bruegel Policy Brief, November 2005 (Link).

De Vlieghe, M., "The Myth of the Scandinavian Model", in "Beyond the European Social Model", OpenEurope, 2006 (Link)

Fri. Nov. 17

Discussion

Week #13: FALL BREAK & THANKSGIVING – NO CLASSES

Week 14: Transatlantic Relations

Mon. Nov. 27

Divided?

Kagan, R., "Power and Weakness", *Policy Review* N. 113 (June 2002) (Link).

Mead, W. R., "The Case against Europe" The Atlantic Monthly, April 2002

Wed. Nov. 29

United?

Moravcsik, A., "Striking a New Transatlantic Bargain", Foreign Affairs, July/August 2003.

Hendrickson, D., "Of Power and Providence", Policy Review N. 135 (February 2006) (Link)

Fri. Dec. 1

Discussion

Policy Brief Due in Class

Week #15: TBA

Mon. Dec. 4

TBA

Wed. Dec. 6

TBA

Fri. Dec. 8

Discussion

Policy Briefs are due in class on Friday, Dec 1st.

Students are required to deliver BOTH an electronic AND a hard copy of their projects. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in a 10% grade reduction.

The late delivery policy is as follows: 10% grade reduction for each day of delay. Briefs delivered after class but on Dec. 1st will suffer a 5% grade penalty.

Final Exams schedule:

Section 001: Tue., Dec. 19th, 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m

Section 002: Wed., Dec 20th, 7:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

V. Things you need to know / academic policies

Special Accommodations

Your instructor will be happy, when possible, to accommodate the students' needs. Please note, however, that requests for special accommodations need to be presented in a timely manner: at least two weeks prior scheduled exams / assignments.

Please refer to the following section of the syllabus for further information about the University policies.

Learning disabilities

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices

Religious Observance

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. The above remark on timely signaling of special accommodation needs applies also to religious observance needs.

See full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Class Behavior

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty members have the professional responsibility to treat all students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which they and their students express opinions.

Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records.

See policies at

<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at

http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

Academic Integrity

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at

<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at

<http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>

Discrimination & Harassment

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment

(<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/discrimination.html>, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships applies to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>