CPO 3104 Politics of Western Europe
Spring 2013

Contact Information:

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Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to European politics. We examine the evolution, structures and operation of representative institutions across European countries and focus on particular themes, such as political parties, elections, and governments, rather than particular countries. We discuss the implications of different political institutions for different political and policy outcomes.
The European Union has been a major feature of the domestic politics of most European states. We examine the institutions and policies of the European Union, and the effects of the EU on the politics of member states. We address the controversies surrounding membership in the EU in general, and the politics of inclusion of countries of Eastern Europe.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course you will:

- Have good knowledge of the structure and operation of European representative institutions
- Have good knowledge of the structure of European Union institutions and European Union policies
- Have good knowledge of the implications of different institutions for political and policy outcomes

- Use your knowledge on institutions and their implications to think analytically on current European politics
- Use your knowledge on institutions and their implications to think critically on political and policy issues in European democracies

Required textbooks:

Markus M.L. Crepaz and Jurg Steiner. 2012. ***European Democracies*.** 8th Edition. Longman

John McCormick. 2011. ***European Union Politics.*** Palgrave Macmillan

Missed Assignments/Make-Ups/Extra Credit

There will be a penalty of one letter grade for all late work (except for cases involving overriding and well documented personal circumstances).

There will be no extra credit for this course.

Evaluation and Grading

Grade Categories	Requirement	Grade Weight
Module One		5%
Modules	Eight Modules (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)	60%
Quizzes	Five Quizzes (5, 6, 11, 12, 14)	15%
Research Paper	See Module 10	20%

- Grading information on the specific assignment will be provided in the assignment itself.
- To complete the course you ought to complete all assignments.
- The following plus/minus grading system will apply in this course.
  A = 93+, A- = 90-92, B+ = 88-89, B = 83-87, B- = 80-82, C+ = 78-79,
  C = 73-77, C- = 70-72, D+ = 68-69, D = 63-67, D- = 60-62,
  F= 59 or below.

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and Cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" for the entire course) and may be subject to

appropriate referral to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. See the UCF Golden Rule for further information. I will assume for this course that you will adhere to the academic creed of this University and will maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. In other words, don't cheat by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. I will also adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, so please do not ask me to change (or expect me to change) your grade illegitimately or to bend or break rules for one person that will not apply to everyone.

Disability Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116.

Copyright

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Third-Party Software and FERPA

During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these could be required assignments, you need **not** make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identity-sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.

Class Schedule Spring 2013

Week	**Topic**	**Assignments**
January 7	Getting Started	"Learning online" **See Module 1** **Due: January 11, 11 PM**
January 14	Political Parties	*European Democracies*: Chapter 2 **See Module 2:** • Quiz 2 (Chapter 2) • One-page assignment Due: **January 18, 11 PM**
January 21	Parliaments: How They are Elected and How They Work	*European Democracies*: Chapter 3 **See Module 3**: • Quiz 3 (Chapter 3) • On-line discussion Due: **January 25, 11 PM**
January 28	Cabinet Formation and Heads of State	*European Democracies*: Chapter 4 **See Module 4**: • Quiz 4 (Chapter 4) • One-page Assignment **Due: February 1, 11 PM**

February 4	Courts Federalism and Referenda	*European Democracies*: Chapters 5 and 6 **<u>Quiz 5</u>: Chapters 5 & 6** **Due: February 8, 11 PM**
February 11	Social Movements	*European Democracies*: Chapter 7 **<u>Quiz 6</u>: Chapter 7** **Due: February 15, 11 PM**
February 18	The State and Economic Interest Groups Policy Outcomes	*European Democracies*: Chapters 8, 9 **See Module 5:** • Quiz 7 (Chapters 8 & 9) • On-line discussion **Due: February 22, 11 PM**
February 25	End of Cold War Transitions to Democracy	*European Democracies:* Chapters 10, 11 **See Module 6:** • Quiz 8 (Chapters 10 & 11) • On-line discussion **Due: March 1, 11 PM**
March 4	**Spring Break**	

March 11	Nationalism and Ethnicity Deeply Divided Societies	*European Democracies:* Chapters 12, 13 **See Module 7**: • Quiz 9 (Chapters 12 & 13) • On-line discussion **Due: March 15, 11 PM**
March 18	European Integration Origins Building a Single Market	McC, Introduction, Chapters 1,4,5 **See Module 8:** • Quiz 10 (Chapters 1, 4, & 5) • On-line discussion **Due: March 22, 11 PM**
March 25	The Way to European Union To Lisbon and Beyond	McC, Chapters 6, 7 **<u>Quiz 11</u> (Chapters 6, 7)** **Due: March 29, 11 PM**
April 1	<u>EU Institutions</u> Commission Councils	McC, Chapters 10, 11 **<u>Quiz 12</u> (Chapters 10 & 11)** **Due: April 5, 11 PM**

April 8	<u>EU Institutions</u> (cont.) Parliament Court of Justice	McC, Chapters 12, 13 **See Module 9** • Quiz 13 (Chapters 12 & 13) • One-page assignment **Due: April 12, 11 PM**
April 15	<u>EU Policy</u> Public Policy Economic Policy The Euro	McC, Chapters 18, 19, 20 **<u>Quiz 14</u>** (Chapters 18, 19 & 20) **Due: April 19, 11 PM**
April 22	<u>EU Policy</u> (cont.) Managing Resources Cohesion Policy	McC, Chapters 21, 22 **See Module 10** • 5-6 page research paper **Due April 26, 11 PM**