CPO 3104 Politics of Western Europe
Spring 2015

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 the euro.

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 and Jonathan Olsen. 2014. ***The European Union: Politics and Policies.*** 5th Edition. Westview Press.

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). Students need to request permission for any late submission of work; if the request is granted work ought to be submitted within one week of the missed deadline.

There will be **no extra credit** for this course.

Recording Academic Activity Policy

As of Fall 2014, all faculty members are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please **complete the assignments for Module One** by the end of the first week of classes, or as soon as possible after adding the course, but **no later than January 16**. **Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.**

Evaluation and Grading

Grade Categories	**Requirement**	**Grade Weight**
Module One		5%
Modules 2-9	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 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 2015

Week	**Topic**	**Assignments**
January 12	Getting Started	"Learning online" **See Module 1** **Due: January 16, 11 PM**
January 19	Political Parties	*European Democracies*: Chapter 2 **See Module 2:** • Quiz 2 (Chapter 2) • One-page assignment Due: **January 23, 11 PM**
January 26	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 30, 11 PM**
February 2	Cabinet Formation and Heads of State	*European Democracies*: Chapter 4 **See Module 4**: • Quiz 4 (Chapter 4) • One-page Assignment **Due: February 6, 11 PM**

February 9	Courts Referenda Federalism	*European Democracies*: Chapters 5, 6, 7 **<u>Quiz 5</u>: Chapters 5, 6, 7** **Due: February 13, 11 PM**
February 16	Social Movements	*European Democracies*: Chapter 8 **<u>Quiz 6</u>: Chapter 8** **Due: February 20, 11 PM**
February 23	The State and Economic Interest Groups Policy Outcomes	*European Democracies*: Chapters 9, 10 **See Module 5:** • Quiz 7 (Chapters 9 & 10) • On-line discussion **Due: February 27, 11 PM**
March 2	The Legacy of Communism in Central and Eastern Europe	*European Democracies:* Chapter 11 **See Module 6:** • Quiz 8 (Chapter 11) • On-line discussion **Due: March 6, 11 PM**
March 9	***Spring Break***	

March 16	Nationalism and Ethnicity Deeply Divided Societies	*European Democracies:* Chapters 12, 13 **See Module 7**: • Quiz 9 (Chapters 12 & 13) • On-line discussion **Due: March 20, 11 PM**
March 23	European Integration Origins	*The European Union*: Introduction, Chapters 1, 2 **See Module 8:** • Quiz 10 (Chapters 1 & 2) • On-line discussion **Due: March 27, 11 PM**
March 30	The Way to the Single Market Consolidation and Crisis	*The European Union*: Chapters 3, 4 **<u>Quiz 11</u> (Chapters 3, 4)** **Due: April 3, 11 PM**
April 6	<u>EU Institutions</u> Commission The Council of the EU	*The European Union*: Chapters 5, 6 **<u>Quiz 12</u> (Chapters 5 & 6)** **Due: April 10, 11 PM**

April 13	<u>EU Institutions</u> (cont.) Parliament Court of Justice	*The European Union*: Chapters 7, 8 **See Module 9** • Quiz 13 (Chapters 7 & 8) • One-page assignment **Due: April 17, 11 PM**
April 20	<u>EU Policy</u> Public Policy Economic Policy & the Euro	*The European Union*: Chapters 11, 12 **<u>Quiz 14</u>** (Chapters 11 & 12) **Due: April 24, 11 PM**
April 27	<u>EU Policy</u> (cont.) Cohesion Policy Managing Resources	The European Union: Chapters 13, 14 **See Module 10** • 5-6 page research paper **Due May 1, 11 PM**