Politics of the European Union
Spring 2016

Course Information

Course Name	Politics of the European Union
Course ID & Section	CPO 4101 0W 59
Credit Hours	3
Semester/Year	Spring 2016
Location	World Wide Web

Instructor Contact

Instructor	Dr. Anca Turcu
Office	UCF Orlando Campus, Howard Phillips Hall, Office 302N
Office Hours	Tuesday and Thursdays 11:00 AM- Noon EST. If you have a scheduling conflict, feel free to e-mail me and we can make arrangements for a meeting at a different time.
E-mail	• Anca.Turcu@ucf.edu • You may also e-mail me by using the Canvas e-mail/ messages system. I will use that system to send out updates, important messages or announcements. If you e-mail me, I will do my best to get back to you quickly, but I may take up to 48 hours to respond. Also, please note that I do not answer e-mails after business hours or during weekends. At the same time, I can only discuss your grades by using Canvas e-mail, but not via UCF Knights or other e-mail.

Academic and Content Related Questions	If you have questions about the academic material or class content, do not hesitate to contact me! Questions, feedback or comments are all welcome. For technical questions please contact Canvas web support.

Course Description

The class provides an overview of the history, evolution and institutions of the European Union. Topics covered include theories of European Integration, EU policies, EU enlargement and the current economic crisis.

Course Objectives

On completing this course students will be able to:

1. Describe the main characteristics of the European Union and of several member states.
2. Discuss politics and policy-making in the European Union.
3. Understand the economic development, institutions and social realities of the European Union.
4. Evaluate the impact of EU enlargement on the union's newest members.
5. Discuss the causes and impact of the recent economic crisis on EU institutions and member states.

Course Materials

Required Text: European Union Politics (Palgrave Foundations) by John McCormick, 2015. Second Edition. **ISBN-10:** 1137453389 **ISBN-13:** 978-1137453389

- Note: Political Science is a very dynamic subject matter. Due to ongoing elections and unfolding events, material we study is time sensitive and has to be constantly updated with the latest developments. This is why it is imperative that students use the textbook editions indicated above. Older editions will not provide the most up to date information and might negatively affect your answers and your grades.

Other Materials: Documentaries and Clips

For several modules in this class, you will be asked to watch documentaries, clips and other multimedia materials. Some of these clips will be available for free online via YouTube, PBS.org, TED Talks and other sources. I will provide details about these video materials in each individual module and provide you with links or a clear indication where you can find the material. Not viewing these clips is not an option, since they are a central part of the class and quizzes and the final assignment will draw on these materials quite extensively.

Academic Calendar

Week			
Intro Week (01/11-18)	Introductory Module	• Introduction and class overview	Syllabus
Week 1 (01/18-25)	Module 1	The European Union: Introduction, Overview and Historical Context	McCormick Ch.3, 4
Week 2 (01/25- 02/01)	Module 2	Treaties of the European Union: Establishment and Development	McCormick Ch. 6, 7, 8
Week 3 (02/01- 08)	Module 3	Theories of European Integration	McCormick Ch. 1,2
Week 4 (02/08- 15)	Module 4	European Institutions: Structure; The EU Commission	McCormick Ch. 10
Week 5 (02/15-22)	Module 5	The European Parliament; The Courts, EU Law	McCormick Ch. 12, 13
Week 6 (02/22-29)	Module 6	The EU Council	McCormick Ch. 11
Week 7 (02/29- 03/07)	Module 7	Managing Resources: Agricultural Policy; Environmental Policy	McCormick Ch. 22
03/07-14	None	Spring Break	None
Week 8 (03/14-21)	Module 8	Social, Cohesion and Immigration Policy	McCormick Ch.21, 23
Week 9 (03/21-28)	Module 9	Elections, Referendums and Public Opinion in the EU	McCormick Ch.16, 17
Week 10 (03/28-04/04)	Module 10	EU External Relations and EU Enlargement	McCormick Ch. 9, 25
Week 11 (04/04-11)	Module 11	The Single European Economic Community and Economic Policy	McCormick Ch. 5, 19
Week 12 (04/11-18)	Module 12	The European Union and the Economic Crisis	McCormick Ch. 14 (only pages 225- 229) and Ch. 20
Week 13 (04/18-25)	Final Paper	Final Paper Due on 4/25	Complete your Final Project by 04/25

Due Dates

Weekly assignments: due weekly (starting with Week 1: 01/20- 26) on Monday evenings by 11:59 PM EST EXCEPT for the Introductory Week Spring Break Week and Week 13, when there is no weekly assignment. Also, Module 1 and the weekly assignment for Week 1 will be posted on Tuesday, 01/19 , as Monday 01/18, the university will be closed in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Final Paper:
Final Paper requirements will be posted on the class website on Monday, 04/11, two weeks prior to the due date. The final paper will be due on Monday, 04/25 at 11:59 PM. See below for submission details.

Course Requirements

Weekly Assignment Twelve weekly assignments (starting with Week 1: 01/19-25) will test your knowledge of the material from the module covered during each week. These weekly assignments may be quizzes (timed), short response papers, online discussions or other assignments. Your two lowest scoring weekly assignment will be dropped at the end of class, leaving you with ten weekly assignment scores, worth 7% of your grade each. That is, twelve weekly assignments will make up 70% of your final grade. If you miss a weekly assignment, or fail to submit it on time, you will automatically be assigned a grade of 0 for that assignment. Assignments will be available, with the rest of the content for each module, on the Monday of each week and will close by the Monday evening (at 11:59 PM EST), of the following week. If the weekly assignment is a quiz, note that quizzes are timed and may be taken only once. If the weekly assignment is a written paper, make sure to take all necessary measures needed to avoid plagiarism. If you are not sure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it, take this UCF library tutorial: http://infolit.ucf.edu/students/modules/#article116 Students who cheat, commit plagiarism or engage in any other type of dishonest academic behavior will fail the class, (will receive an F grade) and will also be subject to disciplinary proceedings. Please review the UCF Golden Rule: http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/ Please allow for plenty of time to complete each weekly assignment, so that you avoid last minute submissions and the technical difficulties that sometimes accompany them. Late submission of weekly assignment will not be allowed. After the weekly assignment closes, I will release grades and correct answers and you will have one week to review your answers and let me know if you have questions regarding your grade. After that, weekly assignment questions and answers will no longer be visible. No weekly assignments will be due for Intro Week and Week 13, as well as Spring Break week. Weekly assignments submitted after the due date will be given a grade of 0.

Final Paper

You will have to complete a final paper that will cover numerous topics discussed in the various modules. The final paper assignment will be posted on 04/11 and you will have until 04/25 at 11:59 PM to complete and submit your work. Make sure to take all necessary measures needed to avoid plagiarism. If you are not sure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it, take this UCF library tutorial: http://infolit.ucf.edu/students/modules/#article116 Students who plagiarize will receive and automatic FZ grade for the entire class. Please allow for plenty of time to complete the assignment, so that you avoid last minute submissions and the technical difficulties that sometimes accompany them. Assignments submitted late will be penalized by 10 points/24 hours, up to (but no later than) 72 hours post due date. Assignments submitted more than 72 post due date will no longer be accepted.

Missed Assignments/Make-Ups

No extensions will be granted if you fail to submit your work due to technical difficulties. Should you encounter technical problems, please contact Canvas web support. I cannot help you with technical issues. Also, please keep in mind that you are solely responsible if you fail to submit a quiz or an assignment due to technical difficulties, save for a major natural disaster (i.e. a hurricane). In the event of a hurricane, which causes power outages and evacuations, do not panic about your online assignments. Your safety and that of your family is your first priority. When power is restored, contact me. I will work with individual students to determine the best course of action. Remember, your professor could be experiencing the same or similar problems in the event of a hurricane! Other circumstances, which may be considered "unavoidable", include medical emergencies. Pertinent documentation, deemed acceptable by the professor, will be required for any delayed assignment. If you miss an assignment due to illness, e-mail me (scan) an official notification form a doctor or hospital at the latest a week after due date, in order to be allowed to make up missed work.

Evaluation and Grading

Assignment	Percentage of Grade
Quizzes	70
Final Paper	30
Total	100

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Points
A	93 – 100
A-	90 – 92
B+	87 – 89
B	83 – 86
B-	80 – 82
C+	77 – 79
C	73 – 76
C-	70 – 72
D+	67 – 69
D	63 – 66
D-	60 – 62
F	59 and below

Grading Formula

(final paper *.30) + [(sum of twelve highest scoring quizzes/12) *.70]= final grade

Attendance Policy

This course is web-based, fully online and considered a "W" course. Students are expected to fully participate in all online activities and to complete all assignments by the due dates.

Participation and a timely completion of work and assignments are both considered similar to attendance in a face-to-face class. Assignments that are not turned into Canvas by the due date, will receive 0 points.

Federal Financial Aid Requirement

UCF must comply with a federal financial aid regulation that states that in order to receive federal aid, students must be actively academically engaged (according to a federal definition) in each course in which they are enrolled. All faculty are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. Without verification of this engagement, students will not receive their aid.

In order to document that you began this course, you will have to submit the student introduction, opened under "discussions". Make sure you do so by no later than January 15th. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid, or will mean that you will not receive your aid. A bonus for completing the student introduction post is the fact that you will receive 2 points extra credit added to your grade for the first quiz of the semester.

Academic Honesty

Students must demonstrate a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one’s own work or material that is not one’s own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records.

If you are not sure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it, take the UCF library tutorial.

Students who cheat, plagiarize, falsify records or practice any other form of academic dishonesty will receive an automatic FZ grade for the class.

Student Accessibility Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons who need accessibility assistance. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students who need

accessibility accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Accessibility Services, http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/ Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Copyright

This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

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.

Religious Holidays

The University of Central Florida welcomes diversity of religious beliefs and practices, recognizing the contributions differing experiences and viewpoints can bring to the community. There may be times when an academic or work requirement conflicts with religious observances and practices. If that happens, students may request reasonable accommodation of their religious practices. In all cases, you must put your request in writing and present it to the instructor at the beginning of the semester. The instructor or supervisor will review the situation in an effort to provide a reasonable accommodation when possible to do so without fundamentally altering a course or creating an undue burden for the department.

E-mail Protocols

E-mail will be an integral part of this course. Make sure you: Check your e-mail at least once every 48 hours during regular business hours (more often is better).

Be patient. Don't expect an immediate response when you send a message. Generally, two days is considered reasonable amount of time to receive a reply. Please not that your professor only checks and answers to e-mails during regular business hours.

Include Subject headings: use something that is descriptive and refer to a particular assignment or topic.

Be courteous and considerate. Being honest and expressing yourself freely is very important, but being considerate of others online is just as important as in the classroom.

Make every effort to be clear. Online communication lacks the nonverbal cues that fill in much of the meaning in face-to-face communication.

Do not use all caps. This makes the message very hard to read and is considered shouting. Check spelling, grammar, and punctuation (you may want to compose in a word processor, then cut and paste the message into the discussion or e-mail).

Break up large blocks of text into paragraphs and use a space between paragraphs.

Sign your e-mail messages.

Never assume that your e-mail can be read by no one except yourself; others may be able to read or access your mail. Never send or keep anything that you would mind seeing on the evening news.

Disclaimer

Please note that the academic calendar, policies, procedures and assignments listed in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the professor.