IAS 5213-101: Politics of the European Union

Course Description:
The European Union is an international leader in the fields of humanitarian and development aid, trade, finance and the response to climate change. A bit more than a decade ago, many observers believed the EU was emerging as a leading global actor and model for adaptation to globalization. But the EU has since experienced a series of grave challenges, including the Greek financial crisis, the crisis created by the arrival of large numbers of refugees at the borders of the European Union starting in 2014, the 2016 British vote to leave the Union and the retreat from democracy in Hungary and Poland. In the wake of the refugee crisis, British exit and rising nationalism on the heels of the financial crisis, a chorus of critics question whether the EU confronts the prospect of disintegration. This course is designed to equip students with the ability to assess this question by examining the historical process of European integration.

- How might we understand deepening integration between an enlarging group of sovereign states?
- What forces or mechanisms account for progress in European integration?
- How is the European Union structured and how does it decide and act?
- How have the Europeans constructed a single market and introduced a single currency, and what are the most critical consequences of these developments?
- What are the causes of the eurozone crisis, and what does it tell us about the weaknesses and strengths of the European integration project?
- Is it possible to sustain the eurozone without fiscal (government budgets) and even political union?
- What about the refugee crisis -- with nationalism and anti-EU populism on the rise, does European integration threaten to create ever-deepening political turmoil in its member states?
- What about Brexit – does Britain’s departure from the EU represent a first domino to fall, or will it serve as an object lesson in the benefits of integration and the costs of exit?
- How effectively has the EU responded to the COVID pandemic, and what do we learn about the EU from this response?

Class Dates, Format, Location and Hours:

- Dates: November 1-7, 2021
- Format: On-site
- Location: 2451 Crystal Drive, Suite 627 Arlington, VA 22202
- Hours: Monday - Friday 6:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.; Saturday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sunday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: October 4, 2021

Please note that this is an intensive course, demanding extensive reading, interaction and writing over a 7-day period. Our Canvas course site is the definitive guide to all course readings and assignments. Since there may be modest updates to assignments, please check the Canvas course site and your OU e-mail regularly after October 1.
Site Director:
Name:  Ms. Frances Wolf
E-mail:  apwashington@ou.edu
Phone:  TBA

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor:  Mitchell P. Smith, Ph.D.
Mailing Address:  Department of International & Area Studies
University of Oklahoma
Farzaneh Hall, Room 306
Norman, OK 73019
Telephone Number:  (405) 325-6681
E-mail Address:  mps@ou.edu
Professor availability: The professor will be available to students via e-mail in the weeks preceding the start of the course and during the course.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
Student materials are available at the OU Bookstore Website at https://ou.textbookx.com/institutional/index.php. The website has book selling, renting, buying, returning, and order tracking capabilities. If you need help with an order, or if you have any questions contact the toll-free phone at 1-(855)-790-6637, agents are available from 9a – 5p (EST) Monday – Friday. For more information or questions about textbooks, feel free to contact apsyllabi@ou.edu. Text prices are available online.

4. Materials posted on the OU Canvas learning management system: Access Canvas at https://canvas.ou.edu, enter your OU NetID and password, and select course to access material. If you require assistance with Canvas, please click on the Help icon. You can search the Canvas guides, chat with Canvas support, or contact OU IT.

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:
There are four graded components to the course:
1. An analytical essay -- topic provided in Canvas -- of approximately 1250 words (5 double-spaced pages) due to the Canvas dropbox just before the start of our first class meeting AND in hard copy at the first class meeting on Monday, Nov. 1 (25% of course grade);
2. Regular, substantive, high-quality contributions during class M-F (20% of grade);
3. Two final debates (Nov 6 and 7) on the refugee crisis (10%) and on EU values and how the EU should respond to rising nationalism and the straying of Poland and Hungary from the values of
the EU (15% of course grade)

4. A second essay of 1500 words (6 double-spaced pages) due 2 weeks after last class meeting, November 21 11:59 pm CST (30% of course grade).

The instructor will be available for consultation via e-mail (preferred) in advance of the course, so that students wishing to obtain guidance on the first essay assignment may do so. All students should check their OU e-mail regularly after October 1 for communications from the instructor about the course.

Schedule of Assignments and Discussions (Note that the article readings for segments III through V will be updated; see Canvas course site for definitive guide and links to all articles.)

I. The Origins and Forces of European Integration
   i. Selections in the Nelsen and Stubb volume from: Spinelli and Rossi; Churchill; Schuman; preambles to the Treaties of Paris and Rome; Monnet; de Gaulle; preamble to the Single European Act; Thatcher; Delors; Haas.

First essay assignment (1250 words) due to the Canvas dropbox immediately before the first class meeting and in hard copy at first class meeting on Nov 1: Setting aside for now the current challenges confronting the European Union (to which we will devote a great deal of attention in subsequent segments of the course), the advance of European integration is something of a puzzle. Countries with varying cultures, institutions and historical experiences, and which had recently been engaged in bitter conflict, somehow came together in a project of integration. Many observers of European Community/European Union countries (including journalists, politicians, and scholars) argued in the early decades of this project that substantial advances in integration were unlikely to take place, could occur only under highly specialized conditions, and would not endure. The historical development of the EC/EU seems to contradict this claim. How would you explain European integration? What factors or mechanisms have made progress possible? What role have EU institutions played in sustaining and advancing the integration process?

Identify the core factors at work specifically and directly at the very outset of your essay, with elaboration and examples to follow. Draw closely on the assigned readings and cite sources for all ideas and arguments (not only quotations, which should in any case be kept to the minimum necessary to develop your response).

You may use any method of source citations with which you are familiar, provided you (a) are consistent throughout the document, and (b) cite all sources appropriately.

II. From Single Market to Economic and Monetary Union
   iii. Paulette Kurzer, Markets and Moral Regulation, all.

III. The Eurozone Crisis and the EU Response


vii. Lorenzo Bini Smaghi, “European banking union needs its final leg,” *The Financial Times*, October 20, 2017; [https://www.ft.com/content/611b7212-b263-11e7-aa26-bb002965bce8](https://www.ft.com/content/611b7212-b263-11e7-aa26-bb002965bce8)


IV. The EU as a Community of Values and the Future of the EU


ix. Heather Grabbe and Stefan Lehne, “Defending EU Values in Poland and
Hungary,” Carnegie Europe, September 4, 2017;
http://carnegieeurope.eu/2017/09/04/defending-eu-values-in-poland-and-
hungary-pub-72988

x. Matthew Taylor, “‘White Europe’: 60,000 nationalists march on Poland’s
independence day,” The Guardian, November 12, 2017;
https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/nov/12/white-europe-60000-
nationalists-march-on-polands-independence-day

xi. Deutsche Welle, “European Court tells Warsaw to halt Bialowieza Forest
halt-bialowieza-forest-logging/a-41459320

d. Peter Mueller and Christoph Schult, “Merkel Risks Deepening EU Rifts,”
Spiegel Online, October 18, 2017;
http://www.spiegel.de/international/europe/rule-of-law-dispute-deepens-rifts-in-
european-union-a-1173184.html

xiii. Robyn Munro, “Brexit Brief: negotiating the UK’s exit from the EU,” Institute
http://www.instituteforgovernment.org.uk/blog/14280/brexit-brief-negotiating-
the-eks-exit-from-the-eu/


5. Second essay assignment (1500 words) due 2 weeks after last class meeting,
November 21, 2021 by 11:59pm CT: Should the European Council pursue Article 7
action against Poland and Hungary? Is such a step crucial to upholding values central to
the identity of the EU, or would this path be too divisive and potentially destructive for
the European integration project? Is there another approach that would be more
productive?

Grading:

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

Notice: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely
impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

OU faculty will submit grades online through ONE not later than 30 days after the course end date. Course end dates are approximately one calendar month after the final seminar date on this syllabus and are provided on the official scheduling website for reference.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc…in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc…; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity at http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at http://studentconduct.ou.edu/

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Adjustment for Pregnancy/Childbirth-Related Issues

Should you need modifications or adjustments to your course requirements because of documented pregnancy-related or childbirth-related issues, please contact the Professor as soon as possible to discuss. Generally, modifications will be made where medically necessary and similar in scope to
accommodations based on temporary disability. Please see http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo/faqs/pregnancy-faqs.html.

Title IX Resources
For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking, or intimate partner violence, the University offers a variety of resources, including advocates on-call 24/7, counseling services, mutual no-contact orders, scheduling adjustments, and disciplinary sanctions against the perpetrator. Please contact the Sexual Misconduct Office at smo@ou.edu or (405) 325-2215 (8-5), or the Sexual Assault Response Team at (405) 615 -0013 (24/7) to report an incident. To learn more about Title IX, please visit the Institutional Equity Office’s website at http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo.html

Course Policies
Extended Campus (also and formerly known as Advanced Programs) policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are e/mailed to the professor for the course. Neither duplicating services nor office supplies are provided.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about OU Extended Campus, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA
Mitchell P. Smith, Ph.D.

Education

• 1993 Ph.D., Politics, Princeton University
• MPA., Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University
• BA, Economics, University of California, Berkeley

Academic Positions

• Academic Director, OU MA program in International Relations (since June 2014)
• Interim Dean, College of International Studies (Oct 2019-July 2020)
• Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, College of International Studies, OU (since July 2015)
• Professor and Chair, Department of International and Area Studies, OU (June 2012-Sep 2019)
• Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and School of International and Area Studies, OU (2004-2012)
• Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Political Science, OU (2007-12)
• Director of Graduate Studies, School of International and Area Studies, OU (2003-10)
• Assistant Professor, OU 1999 to 2004
• Advanced Programs Professor since 2000

Frequently Taught Extended Campus (Advanced Programs) Courses

• PSC 5550 Politics of the Global Financial Crisis
• IAS 5213 The European Union
• IAS 5790 Introduction to Graduate Studies in International Relations

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

• Comparative Political Economy
• International Political Economy
• West European Politics
• The European Union

Representative Publications and Presentations

• Co-editor, Redefining European Economic Governance (Routledge, 2014).
• Regulating Environment and Health in the U.S. and the EU: Protecting Public and Planet, (Palgrave Macmillan, 2012).
• Editor, Europe and National Economic Transformation: The EU After the Lisbon Decade (European Union Politics series, Palgrave Macmillan, 2012).
• States of Liberalization: Redefining the Public Sector in Integrated Europe (State University of New York Press, 2005).
• "Europe and the German Model: Growing Tension or Symbiosis?" German Politics (December 2001).

Honors and Awards
• 2011 William Talley Award for Teaching Excellence, College of Intl. Studies, OU
• 2000-01 Jean Monnet Fellowship, European University Institute, Florence, Italy
• 1997 Fulbright Inter-country Lecture Award, University of Salamanca, Spain
• 1996-97 Fulbright Research Award in European Union Affairs, Brussels, Belgium
• 1989-90 Fulbright Fellowship, United Kingdom
• 1989 Friedrich Ebert Foundation Fellowship, Bonn, Germany