IAS 5213-490: Politics of the European Union

Course Description:

The European Union is an international leader in the fields of humanitarian and development aid, trade, and finance. Prior to its recent series of problems, including the financial crisis, the refugee crisis, the British vote to leave the Union and the retreat from democracy in Hungary and many observers believed the EU was emerging as a leading global actor and model for adaptation to globalization. In the wake of the refugee crisis, British exit and rising nationalism on the heels of the financial crisis, a chorus of critics argue that the EU confronts the prospect of disintegration. This course is designed to equip students with the ability to evaluate this claim 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 the eurozone even viable without fiscal and even political union?
- With nationalism and anti-EU populism on the rise, does European integration threaten to create deep political turmoil in its member states?
- What about Brexit – why did this happen and what are the implications? Is the British decision to leave the first domino to fall, or will it serve as an object lesson in the benefits of integration and the costs of exit?

Course Dates:

September 16 – October 1, 2019
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: August 18, 2019

Site Director:

This is a three-credit hour online course. Please see your local Site Director or email our online site coordinator at aponline@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: Mitchell P. Smith, Ph.D.
Mailing Address: Department of International & Area Studies
University of Oklahoma
Farzaneh Hall, Room 306
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. There is no longer a physical bookstore, the store will
remain, but textbooks will not be stocked. 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


   9781626370333.

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.

OU Email:
All official correspondence from instructors will be sent only to students’ ou.edu address.

Assignments, Grading, and Due Dates:

There are four graded components to the course:

1. an analytical essay -- topic provided on syllabus below -- of approximately 1250 words (5
double-spaced pages) due to the Canvas dropbox by noon Central Standard Time on
   Monday, September 16 (20% of course grade);
2. regular, substantive, high-quality contributions to three online discussions, each taking place
during a 72-hour discussion window (35% of grade; 10% for each discussion + 5% for highest
discussion score);
3. a final debate (September 28-October 1) 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 by noon Central Time on Saturday,
   September 28 (30%).

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 the May 26 add/drop deadline for communications from the
instructor about the course.

Schedule of Assignments and Discussions

I. The Origins and Forces of European Integration
   i. Selections from Churchill; Schuman; preambles to the Treaties of Paris and Rome;
      Monnet; de Gaulle; preamble to the Single European Act; Thatcher; and Delors in
      Nelsen and Stubb, eds (pp. 11-61).
   ii. Jonathan Olsen and John McCormick, The European Union: Politics and
       Policies, pp. 1-90 (chapters 1-4) and 95-184 (chapters 5 through most of 9).
   iii. Ernst Haas, “The Uniting of Europe,” pp, 145-149; Andrew Moravesik, “The Choice
       for Europe,” pp. 215-228 and Alec Stone Sweet and Wayne Sandholtz, “Integration,

iv. **First essay assignment** (1250 words) **due to Canvas dropbox by noon CST on Monday, September 16:** Over the years, many observers of European Community/European Union countries (including journalists, politicians, and scholars) argued 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 do EU institutions play in sustaining and advancing the integration process?

v. First online discussion noon, CST, Monday, September 16 to noon, CST, Thursday, September 19.

II. **From Single Market to Economic and Monetary Union**


iv. **Second online discussion:** noon, CST, Friday, September 20 to noon, CST, Monday, September 23.

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)


**Third online discussion, noon CST, Tuesday, September 24 to noon, CST, Friday, September 27**: Is the response to the eurozone crisis a testimony to the ability of the EU to adapt to challenges, or evidence of the limits of the EU’s reform capacity?

IV. EU Values and the Future of the EU


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


Second essay assignment (1500 words) due to the Canvas dropbox no later than noon Central Standard Time, Saturday, September 28: 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?

Final online debate, noon, CST, Saturday, September to noon, CST, Tuesday, October 1: Is the European integration project doomed by rising nationalism and the backlash against elitism and globalization suggested by the British vote to leave the EU and by rejection of EU values of democracy, rule of law and protection of minority and human rights by governments in Poland and Hungary?

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.

Policy for Late Work:
Please contact the professor regarding his/her policy for late work

Attendance Policy:
In addition to interaction via Canvas and email contact, students are required to contact the instructor via email or telephone before the beginning of the course term for an initial briefing. Although physical class meetings are not part of this course, participation in all interactive, learning activities is required.

Student assignments and student/instructor communications will be conducted via Canvas, although students may contact the instructor via telephone, postal mail, email, or fax as needed.

Incomplete Grade Policy:
A grade of “I” is not automatically assigned, but rather must be requested by the student by submitting to the instructor a “Petition for and Work to Remove an Incompleted Grade” form. An “I” can never be used in lieu of an “F” nor can an “I” be assigned because of excessive failure to participate in class activities.

Technical Support Information:
If you experience technical problems, contact Information Technology by visiting their website at: http://webapps.ou.edu/it/ or contacting them by telephone at: (405) 325-HELP (4357).
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Note: Attendance/absences do not apply to online courses. However, participation in all course activities is extremely important to student success in online courses.

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.

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 me 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/eeo.html

Course Policies

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 mailed to the professor for the course.

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 Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA
Mitchell P. Smith, Ph.D.

Education
- 1993 Ph.D., Politics, Princeton University
- 1986 MPA., Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University
- 1982 BA, Economics, University of California, Berkeley

Current Positions
- Academic Director, OU MA program in International Relations (since June 2014)
- Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, College of International Studies, OU (since July 2015)
- Max and Heidi Berry Chair in International Studies, OU (since March 2013)
- Professor and Chair, Department of International and Area Studies, OU (since June 2012)
- 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 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
- PSC 3333 Politics in Western Europe

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).
- 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).
- “Autonomy by the Rules: the European Commission and the Development of State Aid


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