

**EUS 348/GOV 365N:
The European Union and Regional Integration
Fall 2012**

European Studies Center / Department of Government
The University of Texas at Austin

Dr. Michael Mosser
Office: TBD
Phone: TBD
Email: mossERM@austin.utexas.edu

Course location: PAR 306
Course time: T/Th 2:00 – 3:15 pm
Office hours: T/Th: 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
(and by appointment)

<h2>COURSE OVERVIEW AND STRUCTURE</h2>
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This course is designed to provide students with a detailed introduction to the European Union, one of America's major economic and political partners and one of the major actors (and problem areas) in contemporary international relations. In this course students will learn how the EU came about, how the EU component institutions are designed and how they work with each other, and how the EU functions in international relations. Students will also be able to more fully understand the causes and consequences of the European sovereign debt crisis that threatens to undermine not merely the euro currency but the survival of the entire European Union itself.

During the first part of the course, students will be exposed to the geopolitical history of the EU from its beginning as a supranational organization designed to regulate the coal and steel economic sectors to its present status as the political and economic force second only to the United States. Students will also learn to think about the European Union in theoretical terms and will explore various theoretical explanations for the creation and continuation of the European integration project. In Part Two, students will learn the history and politics of the EU's major treaties. Part Three examines the EU's major decision-making institutions, specifically the Council of Ministers, the Commission, the European Parliament, and the European Court of Justice. In Part Four, the course will examine some major EU policies and their consequences, and Part Five looks at the future of the EU.

The research requirement for this course will consist of a structured policy memo with individual sections integrated into a cohesive whole. Students will be divided into research teams by the end of week one. Working in those teams over the course of the semester, students will be given a current or potential problem area for the European Union from the case studies and, using the political and economic history learned during the course of the semester, develop a strategy memo for EU leaders. Students will present their memos to the class in the last meetings of the semester.

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to analyze the European Union across time and space. Students will achieve a comprehensive understanding of the European Union, and will be able to synthesize complex arguments concerning alternative means of international organization. Students will conduct collaborative research and present evaluative arguments in a group setting.

Grading and Assignments:

Grading for this course will be composed of a combination of an end-of-the-semester map quiz, in-class formal exams, student presentations, and in-class (and electronic) discussion. The map quiz will count for 5% of your grade. There will be two midterm exams which together will count for 30% of the course grade. Each midterm will cover only the portion of the course before it (or between it and the prior exam, in the case of the second midterm). The cumulative final exam will count for 30% of the grade, while the student presentations will count for 20% (10% individual and 10% group). In-class/online discussion will count for 10% of your grade.

Grading Standards:

I will use the following grade standards. Grades for individual assignments will be weighted according to the scale in the preceding paragraph. All grades given during the course of the semester will be converted to a 100-point scale. Group projects will be given both a group grade and an individual grade.

93 >	A	75-76	C+
90-92	A-	70-74	C
87-89	B+	67-69	C-
80-86	B	60-66	D
77-79	B-	< 60	F

Required Readings:

- Neill Nugent, *The Government and Politics of the European Union* (7th edition)
- *The Economist* magazine. Students are required to sign up for at least 12 issues (more if they choose). See <https://www.economistsubscriptions.com/students/us/> for subscription information.
- Readings from the official EU website (<http://www.europa.eu>)
- Readings from various scholarly journals or books, available online at the Blackboard site or as in-class handouts.

Recommended Readings:

- Nathaniel Copsy and Tim Haughton (eds.) *The JCMS Annual Review of the European Union in 2009* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2010)
- It is also a good idea to follow European events via contemporary news sources such as the *New York Times* or the *Christian Science Monitor*, or the *Economist*. Attempting to garner an in-depth understanding of European events via local news sources is not recommended.

Important Information

Plagiarism / academic misconduct:

Don't do it. Minimum penalties for cheating are zeros on quizzes or exams where the cheating takes place, and a grade of F on a paper that has been plagiarized. Questions about what constitutes academic misconduct should be brought to my attention.

Undergraduate Writing Center:

Because the bulk of the work in this course revolves around researching and writing a significant paper, the instructor strongly encourages all those enrolled to make use of the Undergraduate Writing Center, FAC 211, 471-6222: <http://www.uwc.utexas.edu/>). The Undergraduate Writing Center offers free, individualized, expert help with writing for any UT undergraduate, by appointment or on a drop-in basis. Any undergraduate enrolled in a course at UT can visit the UWC for assistance with any writing project. They work with students from every department on campus, for both academic and non-academic writing. Their services are not just for writing with "problems." Getting feedback from an informed audience is a normal part of a successful writing project. Consultants help students develop strategies to improve their writing. The assistance they provide is intended to foster independence. Each student determines how to use the consultant's advice. The consultants are trained to help you work on your writing in ways that preserve the integrity of your work.

University of Texas Honor Code:

The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community. Any student found guilty of scholastic dishonesty may receive an "F" in the course and be remanded to the appropriate University of Texas authorities for disciplinary action. For more information, view Student Judicial Services at <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs>.

Religious Holidays:

According to UT-Austin policy, students must notify the instructor of an impending absence at least 14 days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If a student must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, the student will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

Student Privacy:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requires that student privacy be preserved. Thus the posting of grades, even by the last four digits of the social security number, is forbidden. All communication will remain between the instructor and the student, and the instructor will not be able to share details of the student's performance with parents, spouses, or any others.

Documented Disability Statement:

The University of Texas will make reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Any student with a documented disability who requires academic accommodations should contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (Video Phone) as soon as possible to request an official letter outlining authorized accommodations.

Emergency Evacuation Policy:

In the event of a fire or other emergency, it may be necessary to evacuate a building rapidly. Upon the activation of a fire alarm or the announcement of an emergency in a university building, all occupants of the building are required to evacuate and assemble outside. Once evacuated, no one may re-enter the building without instruction to do so from the Austin Fire Department, University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office. Students should familiarize themselves with all the exit doors of each room and building they occupy at the university, and should remember that the nearest exit routes may not be the same as the way they typically enter buildings. Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructors in writing during the first week of class. Information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at <http://www.utexas.edu/emergency>.

COURSE SCHEDULE

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

Thursday 30 August

Topic:

- An introduction to the European Union
- We will also get to know each other and will conduct a brief self-assessment of general EU knowledge

Required Reading:

- View the EU main website (www.europa.eu) before class
 - Examine “Europe on the Move” map of historical events to 2007, available at http://bookshop.europa.eu/is-bin/INTERSHOP.enfinity/WFS/EU-Bookshop-Site/en_GB/-/EUR/ViewPDFFile-OpenPDFFile?FileName=NA7606444ENC_002.pdf&SKU=NA7606444ENC_PDF&CatalogueNumber=NA-76-06-444-EN-C
 - Examine “Panorama of the European Union,” interactive website available at http://europa.eu/abc/panorama/index_en.htm

PART ONE: THE HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION and THEORIES OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION (INTRODUCTION TO THE EU)

Tuesday 4 September

Topic:

- Europe after WWII

Required Reading:

- Nugent, Chapter One

Thursday 6 September

Topic:

- The Creation of the European Community

Required Reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Two

Tuesday 11 September

Topic:

- The Deepening of the Integration Process
- Neofunctionalism

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Three

- Ben Rosamond, *Theories of European Integration*, Chapter 3 (available on Blackboard)

Thursday 13 September

Topic:

- The Widening of the Integration Process
- Intergovernmentalism

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Four
- Rosamond, Chapter 4 (available on Blackboard)

<p style="text-align: center;">PART TWO: THE EVOLVING TREATY FRAMEWORK and THEORIES OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION (CONCLUSION)</p>

Tuesday 18 September

Topic:

- From Rome to Nice
- Theories of European integration in the 1980s

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Five
- Rosamond, Chapter 5 (available on Blackboard)

Thursday 20 September

Topic:

- The Constitutional and Lisbon Treaties
- Theories of European integration in the 1990s and today

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Six
- Rosamond, Chapter 6 (available on Blackboard)

Tuesday 25 September

Topic:

- Treaties and the Integration Process

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Seven

Thursday 27 September *MIDTERM ONE*****

PART THREE: INSTITUTIONS AND ACTORS
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Tuesday 2 October

Topic:

- The Commission

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Eight

Thursday 4 October

Topic:

- The Council of Ministers

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Nine

Tuesday 9 October

Topic:

- The European Council

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Ten

Thursday 11 October

Topic:

- The European Council (continued)

Required reading:

- Readings from contemporary news sources

Tuesday 16 October

Topic:

- The European Parliament

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Eleven

Thursday 18 October

Topic:

- European Union Law and the EU's Courts

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Twelve

Tuesday 23 October

Topic:

- Other Institutions

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Thirteen

Thursday 25 October * MIDTERM TWO *****

PART FOUR: POLICIES AND POLICY PROCESSES
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Tuesday 30 October

Topic:

- Understanding EU Politics

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Sixteen

Thursday 1 November

Topic:

- Policy Processes
- Making and Applying EU Legislation

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Seventeen and Chapter Eighteen

Tuesday 6 November

Topic:

- Internal Policies

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Nineteen

Thursday 8 November

Topic:

- Agricultural Policy and Policy Processes

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Twenty

Tuesday 13 November

Topic:

- External Relations

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Twenty-One

Thursday 15 November

Topic:

- The Budget

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapter Twenty-Two

PART FIVE: STEPPING BACK AND LOOKING FORWARD

Tuesday 20 November

Topic:

- Conceptualizing and Theorizing/ Present Realities and Future Prospects

Required reading:

- Nugent, Chapters Twenty-Three and Twenty-Four

Thursday 22 November – NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Tuesday 27 November

- The EU's existential crisis: The prospects of imminent collapse?

Required reading:

- Readings from contemporary news sources

Thursday 29 November

- STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Tuesday 4 December

- STUDENT PRESENTATIONS (CONTINUED)

Thursday 6 December

- ***MAP QUIZ***

FINAL EXAM: FRIDAY, DEC. 14 9-12PM
