



**SPRING 2019 SYLLABUS
SSC 410 THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Prof. Enrico Calossi
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Office hours: Tuesday 14 - 15
or on Skype upon appointment
Class schedule: TUESDAY: 11:00 – 13:45

Personal info on teacher:

Google scholar: https://scholar.google.it/citations?user=ICI_OGgAAAAJ&hl=it

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Mid-term exam on Tuesday, 2 April
Final exam, May 27 – 30, day and time to be announced

Course Description

This course introduces the main aspects of the European Union (EU), covering the process of European evolution, institutions and actors, policies and policy making, and theories. First, students will become familiar with the major historical determinants of the EU, from the post-WWII efforts to recover the economic situation till the latest innovations fixed by the Lisbon Treaty (2007) and the worrying on-going process of “disintegration” (Brexit). Secondly, students will be introduced to the main theories and conceptual approaches which have been used to explain such a unique political organisation as the EU is, being in between a federal state and a international organisation. Then, the main institutions and actors of the EU (Commission, Parliament, Council and Council of the Union, Europarties, Interest Groups; Courts) will be presented. A selection of relevant policies performed by the EU, with relative policy-making processes, will be dealt (EU’s foreign and defense policy, the single market, common agricultural policy, etc.). To conclude, the class will try to discuss and debate the most relevant issues which currently characterize the European Union (EU “Democracy deficit” and legitimacy, the EU and the economic crisis, comparison and relations between EU and US, the EU in the world, Brexit).

CSU GE CATEGORY: D3 OR d5

Required Books / Reading

Textbook:

Michelle Cini and Nieves Pérez-Solórzano Borrágán (eds) *European Union Politics*. Fifth Edition. January 2016. Paperback

Also the edition of 2013 is acceptable with integrations by the lecturer: Michelle Cini and Nieves Perez-Solorzano Borragan (eds), *European Union Politics*, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2013.

Other reading:

Calossi, Enrico (2015) “**Towards European Electoral and Party Systems**”, IAI Working Papers 15|47, ISBN/ISSN/DOI: 978-88-98650-72-9. Free download: <http://www.iai.it/sites/default/files/iaiw1547.pdf>

Recommended Readings:

Calossi, Enrico (2016). “**Anti-Austerity Left Parties in the European Union. Competition, Coordination, Integration**”. Pisa: Pisa University Press. ISBN 978-886741-6653

A movie or selection of movies could be projected in class. To be announced.

General Course Requirements

You are responsible for the weekly readings, the information given to you in class, on handouts **and via email**. Part of your grade will be determined by regular attendance, participation in class discussions and active engagement in all activities of this course. ***Make sure to check your email on a regular basis for updates and additional information.***

Class Site Visits

Visits to museums or other institutions and sites are included in this course and you are required to attend all of them.

Learning Objectives

Students will read and analyze seminal works on the European Union studies’ literature. Students will learn to illustrate the functions of the main European Union’s institutions, to interpret the EU’s structure within several theoretical framework, and to insert the EU’s evolution within the proper historical environment. Students will gain an understanding of the historical origins of European Union’s integration. Students will study the major EU regulatory and representative institutions.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the semester students will be able to recite discussions about the major European Union’s characteristics and to write papers about the same topic. They will identify the main policy makers of the EU and will be able to compare the main EU institutions with the corresponding ones of the US. They will be able to discuss the ongoing policy change proposals, aimed at solving the current shortcomings of the EU.

Grading and Exams

Grades will be based on six performances. Three will be done within the **midterm exam** and they weigh as follows: **home essay**: 13 points; **in-class essay**: 11 points; **m/c questions** 9 points (+0.5 points for any good answer, no penalties/no points for blank or wrong answers). Other three will be done within the **final exam** and they weigh as follows: **home essay**: points 26; **in-class essay**: points 23; **m/c questions**: points 13 (+0.5 points for any good answer, no penalties/no points for blank or wrong answers). Perfect performances in both the Mid and Final Term exams will result in 100 points.

The mid-term exam will be based on knowledge taught in lessons held before the mid-term; the final exam will be based on the WHOLE program taught in class.

Final scores will be translated into grades on the basis of a consideration of the class’ overall performance. In any event, however, a full A grade will be awarded exclusively to students whose total scores are 94 and above. Likewise, a total final score of at least 60 points will be necessary to obtain a passing grade.

Outstanding class participation and reports could result in a 5-point bonus. Poor class participation/reports AND lack of punctuality could each result in a 5-point penalization.

Extra-activities during the semester may be outlined by the lecturer during the class and may give the students point bonuses.

Summary:

- Midterm: 33 points
- Final: 62 points
- Class participation: 5 points
- Other activities: 3 points (extra points)
- Field trip presentation: 3 points (extra points)

Points correspondence to letters:

100-94	A
93-90	A-
89-88	B+
87-83	B
82-80	B-
79-77	C+
76-73	C
72-69	C-
68-67	D+
66-63	D
62-60	D-
59 and below	F

The + and - symbols will be used for grading (except for A+). Specific information about the paper, exams and other projects will be given to you during the semester. Late work will result in a -2 points for each day of delay.

A Student performance has been outstanding and indicates an exceptional degree of academic achievement in meeting learning outcomes and course requirements

B Student performance has been at a high level and indicates solid academic achievement in meeting learning outcomes and course requirements

C Student performance has been adequate and indicates satisfactory academic achievement in meeting learning outcomes and course requirements

D Student performance has been less than adequate and indicates deficiencies in meeting the learning outcomes and/or course requirements

F Student performance has been unacceptable and indicates a failure to meet the learning outcomes and/or course requirements

Class Code of Conduct

Activities unrelated to the course (including private conversations, emailing, text messaging, reading, web surfing, etc.) are not permitted during class time. Please turn off or put all electronic devices on silent mode prior to the beginning of the class.

Academic Dishonesty will not be Tolerated

Any form of plagiarism or cheating may result in a failing final grade in the course and might be reported to IP and your campus. You are better off spending your time studying for the class. If you have questions about what constitutes academic dishonesty, please refer to the student handbook and catalog of your campus and also ask me and/ or the Resident Director for more information.

Attendance and other Class Policies

A) Attendance to all CSU courses is mandatory. One unexcused absence is allowed during the semester but more than one unexcused absence will lower your grade as follows: **TWO** unexcused absences, lowers one letter grade (i.e., B to C); **THREE** unexcused absences, lowers by 2 letter grades (i.e., A to C). More than **FOUR unexcused absences could result in failure of the course**. Excused absences will be accepted for medical reasons or proved emergencies.

Writing, in advance, an email to the lecturer for any failure in attending the class is welcome.

B) In order not to disrupt the class, punctuality is required. Students are expected to be in class at the beginning of the class hour; any delay exceeding ten minutes will be considered an absence.

C) Dates of mid-term and final exams **cannot** be changed for individual travel plans or personal needs. Missing the midterm or the final exam could mean failure of the course.

D) During the academic year photocopies and other material may be distributed in class by the instructors. Students who were not in class are responsible for getting the material from their classmates and making their own photocopies.

E) Use of laptop computers in class is not permitted, unless previously approved by the professor.

F) Eating is NOT allowed in class. Drinking water is allowed.

G) Cellular phones must be **turned off** or placed on **silent mode** during class.

Important: Exams

You must attend all exams and quizzes as scheduled. Make-up exams are given only for valid reasons. Please check your academic calendar **BEFORE** you book trips, flights and hotels.

Possible Additional Costs

Theater or cinema admissions for one or two films (about € 10 each)

Transportation and admission costs (to be determined, but no more than € 25) for a possible site visit (visit to the European University Institute or to the "State of the Union" in Palazzo Vecchio).

Copyright and Privacy Laws

No portion of the texts, films, videos, and other material used in this course can be reproduced in any format including scanning, electronic downloading or sharing of files.

In addition, no portion of class lectures, discussions, and activities can be reproduced and used in any format, including electronic, without the written consent of the instructor and/or guest speakers.

Changes- Important

Information contained in this syllabus, including the class calendar, other than that mandated by the University, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

LOGICAL PRESENTATION OF THE CLASS

1. Introduction

EU's political system: overview.

2. Historical Background

The European community: from 1945 to 1985; The European Union: establishment and development; from the Constitutional Treaty to the Treaty of Lisbon and beyond.

3. Theories and conceptual approaches.

Neo-functionalism; Intergovernmentalism; Theorizing the European Union after integration theory; Governance in the European Union; Europeanization.

4. Institutions and actors.

The European Commission; The Council of the European Union and the European Council; The European Parliament; the Europarties (exclusively based on my slides); The courts of the European Union; Interest groups and the European Union.

5. Policies and policy-making.

Policy-making in the European Union

EU external relations; The European Union's foreign, security, and defence policy; Enlargement; The single market; The European Union's social dimension; The area of freedom, security, and justice; Economic and monetary union; The common agricultural policy; Environmental policy.

6. Issues and debates.

Democracy and legitimacy in the European Union; Public opinion and the European Union; The European Union and the economic crisis; EU and US; the Brexit (based on hand-given articles and textbook's supplement).

CLASS CALENDAR FOLLOWS:

class #	day	Subject	Readings. Chapter of textbook
1	26 Feb	Introduction, overview, the Idea of Europe, early history of Europe	chap. 1
2	5 March	History of Europe + Treaties before the Euro	chap. 2, 3
3	12 March	Lisbon treaty + theories on the EU Integration Process	chap. 3 - 6
4	19 March	Governance - Europeanization + Commission and European Council	chap. 7 - 10
5	26 March	Council of the European Union	chap. 10
6	2 April	Midterm exam	
7	9 April	Feedback on midterm	
8	16 April	European Parliament, Europarties, Courts, Interests' groups	chap. 11 - 13
	23 April	No class. Spring Break April 19-28	
9	30 April	Policy Areas, External Relations, Enlargement, Special territories	chap. 14 - 17
10	2-4 May 7 May	State of the Union event. Details TBA No class on May 7. Replaced by State of the Union event May 2-4.	
11	14 May	Migration and Schengen, Social Dimension + Freedom, Security and Justice, Agricultural Policy, the economic integration.	chap. 18 - 22
12	21 May	Environmental policy; The EURO, Legitimization Crisis of the EU, EU and US; Brexit	chap. 23 – 27, supplement, Calossi 2015
13	27-30 May	FINAL EXAM - day and time to be announced	