Political Science 4428: Topics in European Political Development
Spring 2018

This is an upper-level course in European political development with a focus on Western Europe. It is designed for undergraduates who already have some exposure to European history or politics or comparative politics and graduate students. The course will analyze important theoretical works, and debates about critical issues and events in European political development and place the European experience in comparative perspective.

Requirements: Readings are heavy and must be done before each class meeting. There is more reading for this class than for a standard undergraduate class, but in line with what is expected of graduate students. In return for completing the readings each week, students will write a series of short essays for the class—two essay “exams” during the semester and then a series of essays at the end (which will be the class’ final project). Students will get ample time to digest the material they have read and we have discussed (a full week will be given for each set of essays). Each of the essay “exams” during the semester will be count for 25% of the grade and the final essay “exam” will count for 35%. Class participation will constitute 15% of the grade.

All work is expected to be done in accordance with the Barnard Honor code (info about which can be found here: http://www.barnard.edu/dos/honorcode). Plagiarism in any form will result in a failing grade. (For more information about what constitutes plagiarism see, for example, http://www.arch.columbia.edu/resources/gsapp-policies/plagiarism).

Course Readings: All readings will be available via courseworks except those in Brent Nelson and Alexander Stubbs, The European Union which should be purchased.

Student Learning Outcomes: By the end of this course students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate substantive knowledge of many of the most critical issues and junctures in postwar European political development.
2. Identify and evaluate key scholarly literatures and debates on postwar European political development.
3. Evaluate European political development in comparative perspective.
4. Understand the nature and causes of Europe’s current political and economic problems.
5. Construct, both orally and in writing, their own arguments about the key factors, events and dynamics driving postwar European political development.
Disability accommodation: If you have a documented disability and require academic accommodation, you must register with the Office of Disability Services (ODS) and obtain a notification letter from ODS before meeting with your instructor to discuss accommodations. (You must register with ODS each semester.)
Week 1 (January 17): Introduction

Week 2 (January 24): The Postwar Order
- Daniel Bell, The End of Ideology, Epilogue and Afterward.
- Alan Milward, The European Rescue of the Nation State, chapter 2.

Week 3 (January 31): Postwar Political Economies
- Andrew Shonfield, Modern Capitalism, chapter 1 pages 3-10, chapters 5-12 (pick chapters on either Britain, France or Germany to read).
- Gosta Esping-Andersen, Politics Against Markets, chapters 5 and 7.
- G. John Ikenberry, Liberal Leviathan, chapter 5.

Week 4 (February 7): European Welfare States
- Gosta Esping-Andersen, The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism, Introduction and chapters 1, 2, 3 (pages 1-78).
**Week 5 (February 14): The Origins of the European Community**

- Desmond Dinan, *Ever Closer Union* (Lynne Rienner, 2005), chapter 1 (both are optional).
- Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 17, 18, and 23 in Nelson and Stubbs, eds., *The European Union*.
- Peter Cocks, “Towards a Marxist Theory of European Integration,” *IO*, 34, 1.

**Week 6: (February 21) First Exam**

**Week 7 (February 28): Conceptualizing the European Union**

- Chapters 22, 24, 25, 26 in Nelson and Stubbs, eds., *The European Union*.
Week 8 (March 7): The Decline of the Postwar Order: Economics
-Gosta Esping-Andersen, Social Foundations of Postindustrial Economies, chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 (5 is a review and is optional).

Optional:

[March 14: Spring Break]

Week 9 (March 21): The Decline of the Postwar Order: Politics

Optional:
-Wolfgang Streeck, “A New Regime,” in King and Le Gales, eds., Reconfiguring European States in Crisis

Week 10 (March 28): Second Exam
Week 11 (April 4): Populism: Definitions

-“When a Political Movement is Populist”

-Cas Mudde, “Populism in Europe: A Primer”
  https://www.opendemocracy.net/can-europe-make-it/cas-mudde/populism-in-europe-primer


  https://www.theguardian.com/books/2016/sep/02/trump-erdogan-farage-the-attractions-of-populism-for-politicians-the-dangers-for-democracy


  http://occupywallst.org/article/reflections-laclau/

  https://www.the-american-interest.com/2017/11/28/what-is-populism/

-Sheri Berman, “Populism is not Fascism,” Foreign Affairs, November/December 2016.
  https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/united-states/2016-10-17/populism-not-fascism

-Michael Mcternan and Claudia Chwalisz, “The Populists: Threat or Corrective to The Political Establishment?” Policy Network, Jan 2014
**Week 12 (April 11): Populism Causes**

-Antonis Ellinas, *The Media and the Far-Right in Western Europe*, chapter 2 and conclusion.
-David Art, *Inside the Radical Right*, chapter 1, 2 and conclusion
-Sasha Polakow-Suransky, “The Ruthlessly Effective Rebranding of Europe’s New Far-Right.”
https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/nov/01/the-ruthlessly-effective-rebranding-of-europes-new-far-right
https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/the-politics-of-anger-by-dani-rodrik-2016-03
https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/anti-globalization-backlash-from-right-by-dani-rodrik-2016-07
-Sheri Berman, “Populism is a Problem.” *Foreign Policy*, December 2017.
-Chantal Mouffe, “Populism is a Necessity,” The European Magazine.
https://www.bloomberg.com/view/articles/2017-10-23/the-new-populism-isn-t-about-economics
-“Interview with Marine Le Pen”
https://www.foreignaffairs.com/interviews/2016-10-17/france-s-next-revolution
-“Why My Father Votes for Marine Le Pen”
-“So, the Wave of Populist Nationalism is Finished?”
-“How Stable Are Democracies? Warning Signs are Flashing Read”
Week 13 (April 18): The European Union and the Crisis of Democracy

  https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/europe/2012-08-16/crisis-europe

  https://www.nytimes.com/2015/12/20/magazine/has-europe-reached-the-breaking-point.html


- “The E.U. is Democratic. It Just Doesn’t Feel that Way”

Week 14 (April 30): Democratic Decline in Eastern Europe

- Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt, How Democracies Die, Introduction and chapters 4 and 5.
- Grzegorz Ekiert, How to Deal with Poland and Hungary,” Social Europe, 13, August 2017.