

**Department of Political Science  
Dalhousie University  
Fall 2017/18**

**POLI 3321  
POLITICS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Time and place:**

Wednesday and Friday, 14:35-15:55PM  
Sir James Dunn Building - Room 304

**Instructor:**

Ruben Zaiotti  
E-mail: r.zaiotti@dal.ca

**Office hours:**

- Wednesday 1:30-2:30PM (Henry Hicks building, Room 333F; Ph: 494-7558)
- or by appointment

**Course Overview**

The objective of this course is to introduce students to one of the most ambitious and influential, but also complex and controversial political experiments in regional integration, namely the European Union (EU). The course explores the EU's history, its main institutional structures and how it functions. It also overviews the main theories formulated in the disciplines of comparative politics and international relations to study this political project. These theories will be applied to weigh into key debates about the EU. Does the European Union represent a new and progressive example of regional integration that is moving European politics beyond the nation-state? Is the EU the most effective institutional response to the economic and political challenges of today's world? Should the EU be only an economic bloc, or also political one? Can the Union and its member states have a single and powerful voice on the international arena? Can the EU be democratically accountable? And should it continue to expand its membership, even beyond Europe?

The course is divided in three sections. The first section examines the key principles and objectives of the EU project, overviews the history of European integration since 1945 and presents the most important theories of European integration.

In the second section, students will become familiar with the basic institutional structure of the EU and its decision-making processes. The focus will be on the Union's main institutions (European Commission, Council of the European Union, European Parliament and European Court of Justice), their role and functions, and how they have changed over time.

The third section looks at the most relevant policy-areas in which the EU is involved: economic policy (the Single Market, the Euro), foreign affairs (the Common Foreign and Security Policy), the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP), Justice and Home Affairs, and enlargement.

In concluding, we will consider some of the future directions and challenges facing the Union in years ahead.

### **Course Format**

The course will be based on a combination of lectures and seminar discussions. Lectures will follow the readings, but they will not overlap completely. Since the course will have *no tutorials*, lectures will presuppose familiarity with the readings. It is *essential* for students to complete the reading assignments before the lecture, in order to fully benefit from class discussions

### **Course Textbook**

Ian Bache, Simon Bulmer, Stephen George, and Owen Parker, *Politics in the European Union*, Oxford University Press, Fourth Edition, 2014. The book is available at the University Bookstore. You can also find copies of this book on [Amazon](#). Previous editions of the book are acceptable as well.

### **E-readings**

In addition to the textbook indicated above, the weekly course readings include a number of *journal articles* and *primary documents* (e.g. European Commission's papers). Both types of readings are available on line. Journal articles can be accessed, *free of charge*, to Dalhousie University students through the Library. In order to access them, you need to go to <http://www.library.dal.ca> and then search for the relevant article.

### **Resources on the European Union**

Dalhousie University hosts a European Union Center of Excellence (EUCE; <http://euce.dal.ca/>). The Center brings in guest speakers as well as hosting symposia and lectures from Dalhousie faculty. Details of each talk will be announced in class or through the course website. The Centre also offers financial support for student exchanges, internships and study tours in Europe. Please contact the centre coordinator for more information ([euce@dal.ca](mailto:euce@dal.ca)).

The Dalhousie libraries and other local university libraries have reasonably good collections on European and EU topics. Relevant documents and information about the European Union are available on the EU's official website ([www.europa.eu](http://www.europa.eu)) and the websites of the EU main institutions, such as the Commission's ([www.ec.europa.eu](http://www.ec.europa.eu)), the Council ([www.consilium.europa.eu/docCenter.asp?lang=en&cmsid=245](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/docCenter.asp?lang=en&cmsid=245)). News and articles about the

EU can be found in publications such as the *EU Bulletin* (available in the government documents area of the Killam library), *Agence Europe* (accessible through Factiva), *European Voice*, *EU Observer*. Archival material, including photos and videos, on the history of the EU can be found on the *European Navigator* website (<http://www.ena.lu/>). Academic journals specifically dealing with the EU, its policies and politics include the *Journal of Common Market Studies*, *European Union Politics*, the *Journal of European Integration*, *European Union Foreign Policy Review*. A number of think tanks produce analyses and commentaries on the EU. For a list, see [www.eu.thinktankdirectory.org/](http://www.eu.thinktankdirectory.org/) More resources will be posted on the course website throughout the term.

### **Course on Brightspace**

Lecture slides, syllabus, assignment instructions, bibliographic references and other relevant material for this course will be available on Brightspace. Brightspace will also function as main means of communication between the instructor and students. You will also be able to see your grades, read announcements and contribute to the discussion board. The course on Brightspace can be accessed at <https://dal.brightspace.com/d2l/home>

### **Email Policy**

Please feel free to contact me by email if you have any questions related to the course. I will reply to legitimate email inquiries within 2 days. If you do not receive a reply within this period, please resubmit your question(s).

### **Course Evaluation**

The final grade for this course will be based on four components:

<i>Type of assignment</i>	<i>% of final grade</i>	<i>Date</i>
1) Mid-term Test	20%	October 13
2) Essay	35%	November 24
3) Final Exam	35%	Examination period
4) Participation	10%	

## Format of assignments

**1) Mid-term Test:** The mid-term test will cover material from the lectures and readings discussed in class up until the date of the test. The test will be written in-class on October 11. It is worth 20% of the final grade.

**2) Essay:** The major writing assignment for this course is a paper of approximately 2,500 words, or 8 pages in length based on one of the topics examined in Part II and III of the course. If you choose a topic that is not covered in these sections, you must first gain the approval of the course instructor. More information on this assignment will be given out in class. It is worth 35% of the final grade. The paper is due November 24 in class.

### Best essay on the EU prize

The EU Centre of Excellence at Dalhousie sponsors an annual competition for the best essay on the EU (100\$ prize). The competition is open to all students at Dalhousie. The instructor for POLI3321 will select the best essay(s) from the class to be considered for the prize

**3) Final Exam.** The final exam will be cumulative and draw from all of the course readings and lectures. The final exam will be scheduled during the examination period. It is worth 35% of the final grade.

### **4) Class participation**

The grade for class participation is based on class attendance, *active and informed* involvement in class discussions, and contributions to the online discussion board (at least two).

Overall participation is worth 10% of the final grade.

### Grading scale

A+: 90-100%	C+: 64-67%
A: 85-90%	C: 60-63%
A-: 80-84%	C-: 56-59%
B+: 76-79%	D: 50-55%
B: 72-75%	F: 0-49%
B-: 68-71%	

### Late penalty

Late papers will be penalized **2 per cent per day** (including weekends but excluding religious holidays). Extensions will be granted only for documented reasons of illness, or bereavement. The length of the extension will be based on the information in the documentation. In case of illness, students must ask the physician to indicate *explicitly* the length of time during which they were unable to attend to their coursework obligations.

### Use of sources and referencing style

Both written assignments must be properly sourced, and should include both a bibliography and citation within the text. Research papers must be based on *academic sources*, that is, articles published in peer-reviewed journals, as well as books. The recommended referencing style is APA (details about this style can be found at [http://www.library.dal.ca/Files/How do I/pdf/apa\\_style6.pdf](http://www.library.dal.ca/Files/How%20do%20I/pdf/apa_style6.pdf) ).

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### Academic integrity

All students in this class are to read and understand the policies on academic integrity and plagiarism referenced in the Policies and Student Resources sections of the [academicintegrity.dal.ca](http://academicintegrity.dal.ca) website. Ignorance of such policies is no excuse for violations.

Any paper submitted by a student at Dalhousie University may be checked for originality to confirm that the student has not plagiarized from other sources. Plagiarism is considered a serious academic offence which may lead to loss of credit, suspension or expulsion from the University, or even to the revocation of a degree. It is essential that there be correct attribution of authorities from which facts and opinions have been derived. At Dalhousie there are University Regulations which deal with plagiarism and, prior to submitting any paper in a course, students should read the Policy on Intellectual Honesty contained in the Calendar or on the Online Dalhousie website. The Senate has affirmed the right of any instructor to require that student papers be submitted in both written and computer-readable format, and to submit any paper to be checked electronically for originality.

### **Accommodation policy**

Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers experienced related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic protected under Canadian human rights legislation. Students who require academic accommodation for either classroom participation or the writing of tests and exams should make their request to the Advising and Access Services Center (AASC) prior to or at the outset of the regular academic year. Please visit [www.dal.ca/access](http://www.dal.ca/access) for more information and to obtain the Request for Accommodation form.

A note taker may be required as part of a student's accommodation. There is an honorarium of \$75/course/term (with some exceptions). If you are interested, please contact AASC at 494-2836 for more information or send an email to [notetaking@dal.ca](mailto:notetaking@dal.ca)

### **Writing and Studying Resources**

#### *Writing Centre*

Learning to write well contributes to good marks, completion of degrees and, later, success in the workplace. Now is the time to improve your writing skills. You can visit the Writing Centre for assistance with your assignments. Staff and tutors help you to understand writing expectations and disciplinary conventions. The service is available six days a week. (See our website for hours of operation at the various Writing Centre sites.)

To book an appointment call 494-1963; email [writingcentre@dal.ca](mailto:writingcentre@dal.ca);

*Studying for Success program*

University life can often be challenging. However, with help from the Studying for Success program, you too can become a more effective learner. Attend our workshops or drop in for individual study skills sessions, where we can help you with Time Management, Critical Reading, Note taking, Preparing for Exams, and much more.

For more information or to make appointments, please:

- visit website: [www.dal.ca/sfs](http://www.dal.ca/sfs)
- visit main office in the Killam Library, Room G28 (main floor)
- call 494-3077 or email the Coordinator at: [sfs@dal.ca](mailto:sfs@dal.ca)

## COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS

### Part 1 – The EU and its origins

#### Session 1 - Introduction: from Europe to the EU (September 6)

Readings:

- Anthony Pagden, “Europe: Conceptualizing a Continent”, in Anthony. Pagden (ed.), *The Idea of Europe: From Antiquity to the European Union*, ed. Pagden (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press 2002). Available at Killam Library (Call number: D 105 I34 2002)

#### Sessions 2-3 - From Rome to Lisbon: a (brief) history of the EU (September 8-13)

Readings (from Bache et al.):

- Chapter 5: From the End of the War to the Schuman Plan (the late 1940s to the early 1950s)
- Chapter 6: The 'Other' European Communities and the Origins of the EEC (the early 1950s to the 1960s)
- Chapter 7: The First Years of the European Economic Community (the 1960s and into the 1970s)
- Chapter 8: The Revival of European Integration (the mid-1970s to the late 1980s)
- Chapter 9: Maastricht and Amsterdam (the late 1980s to the late 1990s)
- Chapter 10: From Amsterdam to Lisbon (2000-2009)
- Chapter 11: The EU in Crisis (2009-)

*Suggested readings:*



- The Marshall Plan declaration (1947), available at: [www.marshallfoundation.org/marshall\\_plan\\_information.html](http://www.marshallfoundation.org/marshall_plan_information.html)
- Schuman Declaration (1950), available at [http://europa.eu/abc/symbols/9-may/decl\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/abc/symbols/9-may/decl_en.htm)
- European Commission, *White Paper on completing the Internal Market* (1985). Available at [http://europa.eu/documents/comm/white\\_papers/pdf/com1985\\_0310\\_f\\_en.pdf](http://europa.eu/documents/comm/white_papers/pdf/com1985_0310_f_en.pdf) (skim)
- The Treaty of Lisbon (2007). Available at [http://europa.eu/lisbon\\_treaty/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/lisbon_treaty/index_en.htm)

### **Sessions 4-5– Theories of the European Union (September 15)**

Readings (from Bache et al.):

- Chapter 1: Theories of European Integration
- Chapter 2: Theories of EU Governance
- Chapter 3: Theorizing Consequences
- Chapter 4: Critical Perspectives

### **Session 6 - Guest lecture (September 20)**

## **Part 2 – The EU institutional architecture**

### **Sessions 7-10 - EU institutions (September 22, 27, 29, October 4)**

Readings (from Bache et al.):

- Chapter 12: The Institutional Architecture
- Chapter 13: The European Commission
- Chapter 14: The European Council and the Council of Ministers
- Chapter 15: The European Parliament
- Chapter 16: The European Court of Justice

*Suggested readings*

- Basic treaties of the European integration. Available at:  
[http://europa.eu/abc/treaties/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/abc/treaties/index_en.htm)

**Session 11 – October 6 - Mid term test**

**Part 3 – What the EU does**

**Session 12 - Policy Making in the European Union (October 11)**

Readings (from Bache et al.):

- Chapter 18: Policies and Policy Making in the European Union

**Sessions 13 and 14 – Economic Policy (October 13-18)**

Readings (from Bache et al.):

- Chapter 20: The Single Market
- Chapter 21: Economic and Monetary Union

**Session 15 - Enlargement (October 20)**

Readings (from Bache et al.):

Chapter 27: Enlargement

**Sessions 16 – External relations (October 25, November 1)**

Readings (from Bache et al.):

- Chapter 26: Common Foreign and Security Policy
- Chapter 25: Trade and Development Aid

*Suggested readings:*

- Andrew Moravcsik, *The Quiet Superpower*, Global Europe (14 September 2009). Available at <http://www.globeurope.com/standpoint/quiet-superpower>

**Session 17 – Security and migration (November 3)**

Readings (from Bache et al.):

- Chapter 24: Freedom, Security, and Justice

**Reading week, no classes (November 8-12)**

**Session 18 – Environmental Policy (November 15)**

Readings (from Bache et al.):

- Chapter 23: Environmental Policy

**Session 19 – The Common Agricultural Policy (November 18)**

Readings (from Bache et al.):

- Chapter 19: Agriculture

**Session 20 – The future of the EU (November 22)**

Readings:

- European Ideas Network, *The World in 2025: How the European Union will need to respond*, available at <http://www.europeanideasnetwork.com/'the-world-in-2025'>
- Joschka Fischer, *From confederacy to federation: thoughts on the finality of European integration*. Speech at the Humboldt University in Berlin, 12 May 2000. Available at [http://www.ena.lu/speech\\_joschka\\_fischer\\_ultimate\\_objective\\_european\\_integration\\_berlin\\_12\\_2000-020005639.html](http://www.ena.lu/speech_joschka_fischer_ultimate_objective_european_integration_berlin_12_2000-020005639.html)
- Andrew Moravcsik, *Europe works well without the grand illusions*, *The Financial Times* June 14 2005. Available at [www.princeton.edu/~amoravcs/library/works\\_well.doc](http://www.princeton.edu/~amoravcs/library/works_well.doc)
- Wolf, Martin, *A more efficient Union will be less democratic*, *The Financial Times* June 15 2005. Available at <http://www.openeurope.org.uk/media-centre/article.aspx?newsid=901>

**Session 21 November 24**

**TBA**

**Session 22 – Exam review (December 1)**

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