



# THE EUROPEAN UNION

## Global Studies 366

### Winter 2008-09

Professor TERRENCE CASEY

Office Hours: MTRF, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Hours (10:50-12:35)

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European integration developed from the ashes of World War II, a means of rebuilding economies and preventing future wars. This process has developed into the current European Union, one of the most unique political actors in the world today. This course examines the history, institutions, political processes, and policies of the European Union. Understanding the EU is a complicated matter – it is part international organization, part national government, but not fully either. In order to understand this complexity, the first part of the course will review the history of European integration to see how a continent ravaged by the most vicious wars in history during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was able to politically and economically unite in the second half. Parts II and III of the course will examine the core institutions and policies of the EU. In Part IV we will explore the role that the EU will play in 21<sup>st</sup> century world affairs. Finally, we will delve into the main challenges facing Europe in the near term.

**READINGS:** The main text for the course will be **John McCormick, *The European Union: Politics and Policies, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition***. We will also be reading **Robert Kagan, *Of Paradise and Power: American and Europe in the New World Order*** and **John McCormick, *The European Superpower***. All three are available for purchase in the Rose bookstore. Other assigned readings will either be handed out or available through the Logan Library journal article search engines.

**You are also expected to keep abreast of European current events.** The most accessible source for EU information is the BBC's website ([news.bbc.co.uk](http://news.bbc.co.uk)). Publications specializing in the EU include the EU Observer ([euobserver.com](http://euobserver.com)) and the European Voice ([www.european-voice.com](http://www.european-voice.com)). British newspapers will also have more extensive coverage of the EU than the American press. Your best bets are *The Economist* ([www.economist.com](http://www.economist.com)) *The Guardian* ([www.guardian.co.uk](http://www.guardian.co.uk)), *The Times* ([www.timesonline.co.uk](http://www.timesonline.co.uk)), and *The Financial Times* ([news.ft.com](http://news.ft.com)).

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** Your grade will be based on the following:

**(A) Two Exams (22.5% each) on December 20 and January 23.** Exams will include a mix of objective and analytical questions drawn from both the readings and the lectures.

**(B) Critical Review of the Kagan and Leonard Books (20%).** In this paper you will compare and contrast two books dealing with the crucial question of the role of Europe in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Your paper will be due on **Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**, prior to our discussion of these books in class. However, you will have an opportunity to revise and resubmit your paper after our discussions. Revised papers are due on **Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**. Full details of the assignment will be handed out separately.

**(C) Preparation and Participation in a European Council Simulation (10%).** During Week 7 we will be conducting a simulation in which members of the class will be representing the respective countries of the EU. This activity will involve background research on the country you are representing and active participation in the simulation.

**(D) Final Exam (25%)** Date/Time TBA. This will be an all essay exam focused on incorporating material from throughout the course to illustrate the key processes and outcomes of European integration.

**COURSE POLICIES:** The following policies apply unless otherwise stated.

**Attendance and Participation:** Regular attendance and active participation in class discussion is expected. In order to do this effectively, you need to keep up with the reading and stay informed about current events. You are also responsible for all material presented in class and many of the questions on the exams will be based on material that will only be presented in lecture. *If you desire a good grade in the course, come to class, pay attention, and take notes!*

**Late Assignments:** Extensions for exams or assignments will only be given if you have a legitimate excuse and you contact me in advance. *All late assignments will receive a letter grade reduction for each day (including weekend days) that they are late.* You can reach me via e-mail, voicemail, or by dropping a note in either my campus or HSS mailbox. Short of being in a coma, you should be able to reach me if there is a problem. I am very accommodating to those who alert me to a problem in advance; I will be far less friendly if you approach me after the fact.

**Academic Misconduct:** All cases of academic misconduct, including plagiarism (taking another's words or ideas and presenting them as your own) or cheating (making use of assistance on an assignment beyond that authorized by the professor) will be punished appropriately. Penalties for academic misconduct are at the discretion of the professor and can range from the loss of all credit on an assignment to a formal hearing before the Institute's Rules and Discipline Committee. It is incumbent upon you to know what constitutes academic misconduct and make sure to avoid it. If you are in any way unsure about what constitutes a violation, please ask me. *Claiming ignorance after the fact is not a valid excuse. Think rationally; the risks outweigh the gains.*

**Ideological Perspectives:** I have no intention of trying to indoctrinate you with my beliefs. The issues we will be exploring are often contentious and there are often not right or wrong answers per se. That being said, *there are good and bad arguments.* You may

hold any opinion you wish, but *your arguments must be logically sound and supported by the available evidence.*

More importantly, I can only facilitate the learning process; I cannot force knowledge into your heads. You are all adults fully capable of being responsible students and active learners. That means that *if you do not understand something you need to take the initiative to find out the answer* -- raise your hand, talk to me after class, come to my office. I cannot read minds, so it is up to you to seek clarity when it is lacking!

## **Topics and Readings**

### **Part I: The History of European Integration**

#### **Weeks 1-2 (December 1-12)**

What is the European Union?	McCormick, Chapter 1
Postwar Europe and the Origins of Integration	McCormick, Chapter 2
Entrenchment and Reversal	McCormick, Chapter 3
Revival and Transformation	McCormick, Chapter 4
Theories of European Integration	Neill Nugent, "Conceptualizing and Theorizing," from <i>The Government and Politics of the European Union</i> [ <b>Handout</b> ]

### **Part II: The Institutions of the EU**

#### **Week 3-5 (December 15-January 16)**

The European Commission	McCormick, Chapter 5
The Council of Ministers	McCormick, Chapter 6

**FIRST EXAM ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20<sup>th</sup>**

*Christmas Break, December 21-January 4*

The European Parliament	McCormick, Chapter 7
The European Court of Justice	McCormick, Chapter 8
The European Council and Other Institutions	McCormick, Chapter 9
Political Parties and Interest Groups in the EU	McCormick, Chapter 10

**Critical Review of Kagan and McCormick (*European Superpower*)  
DUE MONDAY JANUARY 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Part III: Politics and Policies**

**Week 6 (January 19-23)**

Public Policy and Economic Policy	McCormick, Chapters 11-12
Agriculture, Environmental, and Cohesion Policies	McCormick, Chapters 13-14
Foreign and Security Policy	McCormick, Chapters 15-16

**SECOND EXAM, FRIDAY JANUARY 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Week 7 (January 26-30)**

European Council Simulation	Details TBA
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**Part IV: The Role of Europe in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

**Week 8-9 (February 2-13)**

The Limitations of European Power	Kagan, <i>Of Paradise and Power</i> , ALL
Europe as a Superpower	McCormick, <i>The European Superpower</i> , ALL

**PAPER REVISIONS DUE, MONDAY FEBRUARY 16<sup>th</sup>**

## **Part IV: Key Issues for the New Europe**

### **Week 10 (February 16-20)**

Can the EU get along with Russia? TBA

How will Europe Weather the Economic Storm? TBA

Does Europe Have a “Democratic Deficit”? TBA

Can the EU Constitution Be Revived? TBA

**FINAL EXAM DATE/TIME TBA**