

PSCI 4002: Western European Politics

UPDATED: January 13, 2020

Spring 2020
MWF 2:00-2:50pm, HUMN 135

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Office Hours: Mondays 3-4pm, Tuesdays 2-3pm, and by appointment

Course Objectives

Though the peace, prosperity, and integration of modern Europe would have been unthinkable a century ago, Western Europe is nevertheless in crisis. But why have states pursued different strategies in response to contemporary problems like immigration, the welfare state, domestic security, and integration? How have national governments adapted to increasing European integration and regional governance? What explains recent electoral shifts and the spectacular rise of populist parties across Europe? Building on concepts from Introduction to Comparative Politics, this course offers an introduction to the key institutions, identities, and historical events that define the political landscape and governmental systems of Western European states. In addition to exploring the expanding role of the European Union, we will pay particular attention to how domestic institutional choices and social structures explain cross national differences in political and economic outcomes.

Required Materials

Most required readings will be available electronically through the course page on Canvas, however I ask that you purchase the following two books (no specific editions are required):

- Judis, John B. (2016). *The Populist Explosion: How the Great Recession Transformed American and European Politics*. New York: Columbia Global Reports.
- Putnam, Robert D. (1993). *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Assignments and Grading

Participation and Attendance (15%): Active participation in this course is critical! Coming to class well prepared and offering comments and questions in discussions will result in a superior participation grade. In addition, I count all kind of engagement with the course as participation including coming to office hours, sending emails with questions, forwarding and commenting on a news article, etc. Attendance is mandatory. Three “freebie” absences are allowed and each subsequent absence will result in a 10% decrease in the participation and attendance grade.

Students with ten or more absences will either have to drop the course or receive an “F.” Note that attendance alone is not sufficient to receive full credit. Students with perfect attendance but little or no participation should expect to receive a 70% on the participation and attendance grade.

Quizzes and Short Assignments (20%): Throughout the semester I will give unannounced reading quizzes and will assign short homework tasks to be completed by the following class. Reading quiz questions will cover the assigned readings for that day and/or the content of the prior class meeting. Quizzes will take place at the beginning of class. If you are more than five minutes late you will receive a zero for that quiz. All quizzes and short assignments are weighted equally and I will drop the lowest three quiz or assignment scores when calculating your grade.

Exams (45%): There will be three exams: two midterm exams and one final exam. Each exam will be worth 15% of your total grade. The midterm exams will take place on February 14th and March 16th and the final exam will be administered electronically as a “take home exam” and will take place at each student’s discretion between May 1st and May 6th.

Analysis Paper (20%): Each student will be required to write one 1600-2000 word analysis paper. Analysis papers will be due the last day of class on April 29th. Papers must be submitted as a hard copy in class and uploaded to Canvas by the assignment deadline. A failure to submit either a hard or digital copy will result in a 10% deduction and late paper submissions will result in a 10% deduction per day. More details will be provided in a separate assignment sheet.

Class Policies

I will use email as the primary means of communication. Be sure to check your “@colorado.edu” mailbox regularly. If you send me an email please allow 24 hours for me to respond. If I fail to respond, please resend your message. Open communication is critical! If you have a legitimate excuse and need an accommodation for class assignments or exams, you must inform me in advance. Unless an alternative arrangement has been made in advance **late assignments will not be accepted and make-up exams and quizzes will not be given.**

Tardiness, early departures, ringing phones, playing games, Tindering, Bumbling etc. detract from the learning environment. Therefore, I ask that students arrive on time, remain in class for the duration of the period, and **turn off cell phones and other electronic devices.** If you are expecting an important phone call and wish to keep your cell phone on, let me know at the beginning of class. In addition, I ask that you take notes by hand and **laptops and tablets are not allowed.**

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran’s status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise

me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. For more information, see the [policies on classroom behavior](#) and the [student code](#).

Finally, I reserve the right to make changes to this document. Any changes will be reflected on Canvas.

University Policies

Academic Integrity: Cheating is not acceptable in this recitation; make sure to do your own work. Students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution, which can be found here: <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/acadinteg.html>. For the purposes of this recitation, I will not tolerate plagiarism or cheating of any kind. All work MUST be your own and that work must be correctly cited. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please contact me.

Accommodation for Disabilities: If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam) so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at dsinfo@colorado.edu. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see [Temporary Injuries guidelines](#) under the Quick Links at the [Disability Services website](#) and discuss your needs with me.

Religious Observances: Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. See [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details, **and let me know no later than week three** of the semester if you expect to miss any class for religious observance.

Discrimination and Harassment: The University of Colorado Boulder (CU-Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. CU-Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. CU's Sexual Misconduct Policy prohibits sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, intimate partner abuse (dating or domestic violence), stalking or related retaliation. CU-Boulder's Discrimination and Harassment Policy prohibits discrimination, harassment or related retaliation based on race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct under either policy should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127. Information about the OIEC, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation can be found at the [OIEC website](#).

Course Schedule

Assignments are to be completed before class on the day listed

#	Date	Topic	Assignment
1	13-Jan	Course Introduction	N/A
2	15-Jan	Approaches to Comparative Politics	Lichbach and Zuckerman 3-8, Economist: "2019 in review..."
3	17-Jan	Post-War - Social Democracy and Southern Democratization	Judt 360-373
4	20-Jan	NO CLASS	Have Fun (mandatory)
5	22-Jan	Institutions and the Majoritarian Model	Lijphart 1-5,9-20
6	24-Jan	Institutions and the Consensus Model	Lijphart 30-40 (read), 274-294 (skim)
7	27-Jan	National Identities and Regionalism	Judt 701-713
8	29-Jan	Separatist Movements: Catalonia and the Basque Country	Woodworth 2001, Foer Ch.8
9	31-Jan	Federalism and Unitarism	Bale 44-59
10	3-Feb	Electoral Systems - Ideals and Basic Institutions	Sartori 3-12, Economist "How does Germany's..."
11	5-Feb	Electoral Systems – Two-Round and Mixed Member Proportional systems	Lijphart 137-57 (selections)
12	7-Feb	Electoral Systems - M, Disproportionality, Malapportionment, Partisan Effects	Complete Electoral Systems HW
13	10-Feb	Parties and Political Cleavages	Giordano 2000, Lijphart 76-78
14	12-Feb	Electoral Markets and Far-Right Parties	Golder 2016
15	14-Feb	EXAM 1	Study!
16	17-Feb	EU Origins to Maastricht	Friedman 97-114
17	19-Feb	EU Institutions	Complete EU Institutions HW
18	21-Feb	EU and the Democratic Deficit	Gallagher et al. p.155-157, Economist "Parliament Plot" + "How to address EU Democratic Deficit"
19	24-Feb	A European Identity?	Fligstein 132-159
20	26-Feb	Brexit	Goodwin and Heath - Brexit vote explained
21	28-Feb	Introduction to Populism	Economist "Populism, Part of the Furniture," Judis 12-17 and 88-108

22	2-Mar	The Populist Left	Judis 109-130
23	4-Mar	The Populist Right	Judis 131-163
24	6-Mar	Introduction to Social Capital	Putnam Ch.1
25	9-Mar	Measuring institutional Performance	Putnam Ch.3
26	11-Mar	Outcomes of Social Capital	Putnam Ch.4+6
27	13-Mar	The dark side of Social Capital	Voth et. al. 2013
28	16-Mar	EXAM 2	Study!
29	18-Mar	Civil Society and democracy in Spain and Portugal	Fernandes 2015
30	20-Mar	Contemporary challenges in Europe	Porter 2016: "Terrorism, Migrants, and Crippling Debt: is this the End of Europe?"
N/A	23-27-Mar	Spring Break	Relax and Read a Good Book!
31	30-Mar	Immigration and the Welfare State	Koopmans 2010 + Economist "How Immigration is Changing... "
32	1-Apr	Immigration and the Refugee Crisis	Kirchick Ch.4 + Economist "Leading from the Front"
33	3-Apr	Ethnic Conflict, French Riots of 2005	Mucchieli 2009
34	6-Apr	Ethnic Diversity and Assimilation, The Hope of Marseille?	Berlinski 2005, Dickey 2012
35	8-Apr	Social Unrest and Protest	Andronikidou and Kovras 2012
36	10-Apr	The Euro Crisis	Hall 2012
37	13-Apr	The Future of the Euro	Moravcsik 2012, Economist "Members agree..."
38	15-Apr	Europe, Russia, and Ukraine	Kirchick Ch. 8
39	17-Apr	NO CLASS	N/A
40	20-Apr	Turkey and the EU	Economist: "How Recep Tayyip Erdogan..." and "Recep Tayyip Erdogan gets the power..."
41	22-Apr	Democratic Backsliding? Hungary and the EU	Agh 2016
42	24-Apr	TBD	TBD
43	27-Apr	Catch-Up / TBD	TBD
44	29-Apr	Course Conclusions and Review	None

FINAL EXAM: 10am May 1st – 11:59pm May 6th