

**Europe from a social science perspective (EUS 2003)**

**Fall 2012**

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Office: 3326 B TURLINGTON HALL

Office hours: M&W: 9.30-10.30

& By appointment

Mail via the course shell in sakai

**Course Meetings**

M, W, F: 4 (10.40-11.30)

TURLINGTON L005

**Course description**

The goal of this course is to offer a broad introduction to Europe, its history, political institutions, economic and political development, the EU, social issues. It represents an attempt to give students a sense of where Europe and its citizens have been, what concerns they have at the present, and where Europe is going in the future. A few critical questions addressed during the class will relate to:

- old divisions between ‘West’ and ‘East’ and how relevant they are today,
- the European social model and the welfare state
- ‘Unity in Diversity’
- Globalization—can Europe compete with the rising powers, China and India
- The economic crisis, the euro, and the rising of the far right parties

**Course materials**

There is 1 textbook required for this class, available through the UF Bookstore.

1. Paul Kubicek. 2012. *European Politics*, Longman, Pierson Education, Inc.
2. Additional readings will be available through ‘e-Learning in Sakai’

**STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL MATERIALS COVERED IN LECTURES, READINGS, HANDOUTS, & POSTINGS ON THE COURSE WEBSITE.**

**E-Learning in Sakai** You should become familiar with ‘e-Learning in Sakai’. All electronic materials assigned as readings (news articles and book chapters) will be posted here, as well as power point slides for the class. In addition, ALL GRADES will be posted here too.

**Course requirements**

- 3 in-class tests (20% each of the final grade) Total 60%
- 3 movie reviews (5% each of the final grade) Total 15%— more details later in the semester
- Attendance and participation (25% of the final grade).

**Tests 60%**

There will be **3 in-class tests**, each worth 20% of the final grade. Tests will consist of short answer, multiple choice, identification, true/false and fill-in the blank questions.

**3 movie reviews 15%**

We will watch 4 movies/documentaries pertinent to the information presented in the textbook and you will have to submit a 2-page reflection piece for **3** of them. I will circulate a few questions that need to be addressed in your reflection papers after each viewing. The films can also be found at Library West, under Course Reserve—that is in case you miss the class. The films I consider including are:

- 1) *Goodbye, Lenin!*, (2003) (German, Directed by Wolfgang Becker).
- 2) *L’Auberge Espagnole* (2002) (French)

- 3) We are all neighbors : Bosnia” Public Media/Films Inc. Video, 1993
- 4) La Haine

**Class attendance and participation 25%**

1. Come to class-- Attendance will be taken randomly. Students with more than three unexcused absences will lose attendance points (4%)
2. Active participation in class--Read the assigned materials BEFORE class meetings and participate in class discussions (1%)
3. **8 online discussion topics (20%) For this activity you will be divided in small groups of 10 students each**
  - a. Almost every Friday (see the planner below for the exact dates) a few topics will be posted in the Discussion Forum on sakai. As a student, you’ll have to submit 2 posts:
    - i. 1 addressing one of the topics proposed by the instructor (2% each \*8 posts)
    - ii. 1 response to a post submitted by a fellow classmate (.5% each \*8 posts)

**Policies of the course**

1. **Assignments:**
  - a. All assignments must be submitted on line **BY THE DEADLINE** and following all instructions.
  - b. Extensions will be granted at my discretion and, if granted, they will require proper documentation. Make sure you ask for an extension only **PRIOR** (at least 24 hours) to the deadline date. **Late work will result in a lower grade.**
2. **Cheating/plagiarism:** DON’T. Any student caught violating the honor code will fail the class. For more information, read the Code of Student Conduct <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcode.php>
3. **Courtesy:** Don’t come late and turn off your cell-phones. Any disruptive behavior (reading newspapers or materials related to other courses, talking outside of class discussions) will not be tolerated and you will be asked to leave the class.
4. **Special Needs:** If you have a disability that requires special arrangements (e.g. note- and/or test-taking), please register with UF’s Office of Students with Disabilities and contact me **within the 3 days** of class. Every effort will be made to accommodate those with registered disabilities.

**Grading scale:** (<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>):

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
95-100	90-94.9	87-89.9	83-86.9	80-82.9	77-79.9	73-76.9	70-72.9	67-69.9	63-66.9	60-62.9	< 59.9

**\*\*\*I reserve the right to alter this schedule with prior notice—one week in advance.**

**Course Schedule**

**Week 1: Introduction to the course and to the Idea of Europe**

Wed 8/22:

- o Introduction to the course syllabus and website

Friday 8/24:

- o The Idea of Europe
- Kubicek—pp 6-20.
- **Sakai activities 1 (due midnight)**

## **I. Where Europe has been**

### **Week 2: Political Development of Western Europe**

Monday 8/27:

- Western European Development 1
- Kubicek pp 26-34

Wednesday 8/29:

- Western European Development 2—War and Post-War Development
- Kubicek pp34-42

Friday 8/31: **Class cancelled** for the APSA conference

- **Sakai activities 2 (due midnight)**

### **Week 3: The Welfare State**

Monday 9/3 **No class Labor Day**

Wednesday 9/5

- Readings TBA Excerpts from **The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism**

Friday 9/7

- Readings TBA
- **Sakai activities 3 (due midnight)**

### **Week 4 Eastern European Development**

Monday 9/10

- ‘Caught between Empires’ pp7-25 in Roskin. Michael. 2002. *The Rebirth of East Europe* (via sakai)

Wednesday 9/12

- Flunking Democracy pp26-59 in Roskin. Michael. 2002. *The Rebirth of East Europe* (via sakai)

Friday 9/14

- **IN CLASS TEST 1**

### **Week 5 Communism**

Monday 9/17

- ‘The Hated Regimes’ pp80-97 in Roskin. Michael. 2002. *The Rebirth of East Europe* (via sakai)

Wednesday 9/19

- ‘The Decay of Communism’ pp99-118 in Roskin. Michael. 2002. *The Rebirth of East Europe* (via sakai)

Friday 9/21

- *Film screening* Goodbye Lenin!
- **Sakai activities 4 (due midnight)**

### **Week 6 Ethnic Conflicts and State Disintegration in parts of Europe**

Monday 9/24

- **Film review 1 due before class**
- Carol Skalnik Leff. 1999. Democratization and Disintegration in Multinational States: The Breakup of the Communist Federations, *World Politics* 51(2): 205-235

Wednesday 9/26

- ‘The tragedy of Yugoslavia’ Kubicek pp56-60

Friday 9/28

- *Film screening*: “We are all neighbors : Bosnia” Public Media/Films Inc. Video, 1993

## **II. Where Europe is**

### **Week 7 Issues of democratic participation and representation at the national level**

Monday 10/1

- **Film review 2 due before class**
- 1989 Chapter 7 pp120-140 in Roskin. Michael. 2002. *The Rebirth of East Europe* (via sakai)

Wednesday 10/3

- Parliaments and electoral systems
- Kubicek Chapter 5

Friday 10/5

- Executive authority in Europe
- Kubicek Chapter 6
- **Sakai activities 5 (due midnight)**

### **Week 8 The Judicial System across states in Europe**

Monday 10/8

- Legal traditions
- Kubicek pp 181-192

Wednesday 10/10

- Court Systems
- Kubicek pp 193-199

Friday 10/12

- **IN CLASS TEST 2**

### **Week 9 Development at the supranational level: the EU**

Monday 10/15

- Rationale for European Integration
- Kubicek pp 65-83

Wednesday 10/17

- Expansion-Where is the border of Europe?
- Kubicek pp 83-93

Friday 10/19

- EU Institutions
- Kubicek pp 97-108
- **Sakai activities 6 (due midnight)**

### **Week 10 EU Policies and issues of democracy**

Monday 10/22

- What does the EU do?
- Kubicek pp 110-123

Wednesday 10/24

- How Democratic is the EU
- Readings: TBA

Friday 10/26

- Film Screening *L'Auberge Espagnole*

## **III. Where Europe is going**

### **Week 11 Economic and Social Issues**

Monday 10/29

- **Film review 3 due before class**
- Is the Social Welfare state dead?
- Kubicek pp 267-285

Wednesday 10/31

- Globalization
- Kubicek pp 285-293

Friday 11/2

- Is Eastern Europe Different?
- Kubicek pp 293-297
- **Sakai activities 7 (due midnight)**

**Week 12 Immigration and multi-culturalism 1**

Monday 11/5

- Kubicek pp 341-353

Wednesday 11/7

- Case studies
- Kubicek pp 353-360

Friday 11/9 No Class

**Week 13 Immigration and multi-culturalism 2**

Monday 11/12 No Class

Wednesday 11/14

- Religion and other value issues in Europe
- Kubicek pp 360-368

Friday 11/16

- **IN CLASS TEST 3**

**Week 14 Immigration and multi-culturalism 3**

Monday 11/19

- *Film Screening La Haine*

Wednesday 11/21 Thanksgiving

Friday 11/23 No Class

**Week 15 Security and Foreign Policy Issues**

Monday 11/26

- **Film review due before class**
- Institutional Bases for a European Foreign Policy and security issues
- Kubicek pp 303-308

Wednesday 11/28

- Other Security organizations
- Kubicek pp 311-319

Friday 11/30

- Turkey and the EU
- **Sakai activity 8 (due midnight)**

**Week 16**

Monday 12/3 & Wednesday 12/5

- The Future of the EU