

**POS 4956/EUS 4950 UF in Jamaica. EUropean Development in the Caribbean.
(3 undergraduate UF Credits)**

Instructors:

Dr. Magda Giurcanu, magiur@ufl.edu
Visiting Assistant Professor, Political Science Department (UF)
Office: 210 Anderson Hall, Political Science

Dr. Georgia Bianchi
Interim Assistant Professor, Social and Behavioral Science (SFC)
Office: A 241, Santa Fe College

Course Description

This course is structured around three questions of great importance to the study of EU(ropean) foreign development:

- How have relations between the EU and the rest of the world developed historically?
- What are the main objectives the EU pursues in other areas of the world?
- Has the EU contributed to the development of economic well-being, human rights, peace, and democracy?

Although the course draws from evidence around the world, the focus of the class is on explaining the dynamic between the EU and the Caribbean, with an in-depth case study of Jamaican-EU interactions.

A secondary goal of the class is to advance students' research and methodological skills. Undergraduate students in European and/or political science studies pursue diverse career paths, but the ability to conduct systematic fieldwork and collect original data on specific research questions is a skill that will serve students well, no matter what profession they choose. To that end, students will be asked to research and evaluate the impact of several EU Initiatives *while* in Jamaica, collecting primary data via interviewing, focus groups, and participant observation techniques.

The value-added of the course is the eight-day trip to various sites in Jamaica, which will allow students to gain hands-on experience on the scope and impact of EU involvement in the region. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to pass on this first-hand knowledge of EU foreign development to the two student-run clubs we have at UF, the EU Club and JAMSA (The Jamaican-American Student Association).

Activities

- daily fieldtrips organized to observe and assess the socio-economic benefits of several EU grants to Women' cooperative, St Thomas Parish, Shortwood Teacher's College in St Andrew, and EU involvement in the sugar production.

- daily presentations prepared by the program directors, experts from local communities, colleges, the University of the West Indies, and EU officials in the region
- students will immerse in the Jamaican culture via trips organized in Kingston, at the National Art Gallery, the Devon House, and Bob Marley House.
- a mock-conference organized at UF, where the EU Club and JAMSA will be invited.

At the end of the class, students will have developed first-hand assessments of what the Jamaican needs are in terms of building competitive economic enterprises, addressing poverty, and improving the quality of life. They will be coached to develop their own opinions with respect to how international organizations, like the EU, may have an impact when assisting small-isle countries compete globally.

Course Materials

A reading package will be made available at Target Copy.

Course Requirements

Attendance and participation (20%) Students should participate in all activities prepared by the instructors, both on campus and abroad. Students with more than one unexcused absence will lose participation points.

Journal Entries (10 entries) (30%)

1) Submit one paragraph summarizing the arguments of the readings (while on campus) and the most important events of the day (while abroad)

2) Submit a second paragraph, relating how the new events/ readings build on the concepts/themes presented the previous day.

Group project (2-3 students/per group) (30%) Students will be assigned to work on several EU initiatives and collect their own primary data. Upon return in the US, they will have to submit a 10-page report identifying the Jamaican socio-economic needs, the EU involvement, assessing the EU impact, and providing recommendations for future EU projects.

Mock conference (20%) Upon return, a student mock-conference will be organized on campus, where two student-run clubs will be invited: the EU Club and JAMSA. Each group will assess the benefits and shortcomings of EU initiatives, highlight the main findings, and impressions.

Policies

1. **Assignments:** All assignments must be submitted by the deadline. Extensions will be granted at our discretion and, if granted, they will require proper documentation. Make sure you ask for an extension only PRIOR to the deadline date.

2. **Cheating/plagiarism:** 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 avoid any disruptive behavior, both on campus and abroad.
4. **Special Needs:** If you have a disability that requires special arrangements, please register with UF's Office of Students with Disabilities and contact us before departure. Every effort will be made to accommodate those with registered disabilities.
5. **Grading scale:** (<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>):

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
Grade Point	4.0	3.6 7	3.3 3	3.0	2.6 7	2.3 3	2.0	1.6 7	1.3 3	1.0	0.6 7	0.0

Course Schedule (47 contact hours)*

*The Instructors reserve the right to alter the syllabus with prior notice.

UF campus meetings: Time & Location TBA

February 17, 2014 (2 hours in-class time): EU History and Development

Readings:

- Ginsberg, Roy: *Demystifying the European Union*, Ch 1-3

February 19, 2014 (2 hours in-class time): EU and Foreign Policy Instruments

Readings:

Bache, Ian, Stephen George, and Simon Bulmer: *Politics in the European Union*,

- Ch. *Trade and Development Aid* (pp.489-508)
- Ch. *Common Foreign and Security Policy* (pp.509-502)

February 24, 2014 (2 hours in-class time): EU and the Outside World

Readings:

Bindi, Federiga and Irina Angelescu (eds). *The Foreign Policy of the European Union*, chapters:

- Ch. 6 *European Neighborhood Policy Living up to regional Ambitions*
- Ch. 11 *The EU and the Mediterranean Nonmember States*
- Ch 13 *The EU and the US*
- Ch 17 *The EU-China Relationships*

February 26, 2014 (2 hours in-class time): Introduction to the Caribbean: History, European Legacy, and Current Events

Readings:

- Bolland, O. N. (1998) "Creolisation and Creole Societies: a Cultural Nationalist View of Caribbean Social History" *Caribbean Quarterly* Vol. 44, No. 1/2, KONVERSATIONS in KREOLE. The Creole Society Model Revisited: Essays in Honour of Kamau Brathwaite (March-June: 1-32).
- Witter, Michael. 'Caribbean Development and the Caribbean people: The Present as History'
- JAMSA visit

- Discussion of *Life and Debt* (1990, Stephanie Black): documentary which addresses the impact of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and current globalization policies on a developing country such as Jamaica

February 27, 2014 (2 hours in-class time): The Role of Foreign Aid in the Region

Readings:

- Bindi, Federiga and Irina Angelescu (eds). *The Foreign Policy of the European Union: (ch. 14: Relations between the EU, Latin America, and the Caribbean)*
- The European Commission. *The Caribbean and the European Union* (Source: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/infopoint/publications/europeaid/documents/236a_en.pdf)
- European Commission. *Jamaica-European Community. Country Strategy Paper and National Indicative Programme for the Period 2008-2013*, (Source: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/acp/country-cooperation/jamaica/jamaica_en.htm)

Proposed Itinerary while in Jamaica (March 1-8, 2014)

March 1, 2014 (2 hours in-class time): Arrive at Carlewa Bay (Jamaica)

Early afternoon:

- Students arrive at the airport and are met with transportation
- Students settle into accommodations at Carlewa Bay residence

5.00-7.00 pm: Class time

- Reflection “Drive from the Airport”
- Mini lecture/presentation, patwa lesson

March 2, 2014 (1 hour in-class time)

8.30 am Breakfast

9.30 am Leave for Reach Fall/Long Bay

12.00 pm Lunch/Swimming/Games

4.00 pm Depart Long Bay and return to residence

6.00-7.00 pm: Class time

- Reflection: Methodological Issues
- Reading: Kirk, *Reliability and Validity in Qualitative Research*, (Ch 6. *Ethnographic Decision Making: The Four Phases of Qualitative Research*)

March 3, 2014 (6 hours total contact time, with 2 hours in-class time)

8.30 am Breakfast

9.30 am Leave for Bath—EU grant to Women cooperative

3.00 pm Depart Bath and return to residence

6.00-8.00 pm: Class time

- Reflection: EU & Small Grants
- Reading: *Evaluation of the European Commission of the EU Cooperation with Jamaica. Country Level Evaluation Summary* (Source: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/evaluation/evaluation_reports/evinfo/2013/1314_ev_en.pdf)

March 4, 2014 (6 hours total contact time, with 2 hours in-class time)

8.30 am Breakfast

9.30 am Leave for RADA (Rural Agricultural Development Authority) in Morant Bay

10.00 am Driving tour with RADA of St. Thomas parish to assess the implementation of 2 EU projects:

- the Eastern Jamaica Agricultural Support Project (EJASP)
- the Morant/Yallahs Agricultural Development Project (MYADP)

3.00 pm Return to residence

5.00-7.00 pm: Class time

- Reflection: EU agricultural development in the Eastern region (focus on crops and livestock production, irrigation, agro-processing, marketing)
- Reading: *Country Level Evaluation. Final Report 2012* (Source: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/evaluation/evaluation_reports/reports/2013/1314_vol1_en.pdf)
- Mini-lecture on the role of other international donor agencies important in the region, such as **USAID** (Jamaica Business Recovery Programme)

March 5, 2014 (6 hours total contact time, with 2 hours in-class time)

8.30 am Breakfast

10.00 am Leave for Sugar Plantation (Portland Parish)

11.00-3.00 pm Lunch and tour of EU grants to sugar manufacturing in Jamaica

4.00 pm Depart for residence

6.00-8.00 pm: Class time

- Reflection: EU involvement in sugar production
- Reading: Europe Aid. *Jamaica Receives EU Funding to support its Sugar Sector* (Source: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/documents/aap/2009/pr_aap_2009_sugar_jam.pdf)
- Reading: European Commission. *Tropical Storm Nicole Rehabilitation* (Source: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/documents/aap/2011/af_aap-sup_2011_jam.pdf)
- Planning for Kingston trip and visit to the UWI

March 6, 2014 (6 hours total contact time, with 4 hours in-class time)

8.30 am Breakfast

9.30 am Leave for Kingston

11.00-12.30 pm: Meet with the EU Delegation in Kingston (Official website:

http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/jamaica/index_en.htm)

- In addition to the agricultural and poverty reduction programs, discuss the EU efforts geared toward: regional emergency funds like the 2008 Hurricane Gustav emergency relief & renewable energy

12.30 pm Lunch

2.00-6.00 pm: Visit at UWI

- Meet with Dr. Michael Witter--lecture on Jamaican political economy;

- Roundtable with political science/sociology/ economy Jamaican students

Spend the night in Kingston

March 7, 2014 (6 hours total contact time, with 1 hour in-class time)

8.30 am Breakfast

10.30-12.30 pm Cultural immersion

- Devon House, Bob Marley Museum, National Hero Park, Emancipation Park

12.30-1.30 pm Lunch

1.30 pm Leave for St. Andrew Parish

- Visit the Shortwood Teachers' College in St Andrew to assess a program focused on 'Children of Vulnerable Communities' (July 2013)
- Visit with Jesus Orus Bagueña, EU's Delegation Head of Operations in Jamaica.

5.00 pm Depart for residence

7.00-8.00 pm: Class time

- Reflection: EU grants, infrastructure development, and capacity building
- Reading: EuropeAid. *Social Protection & Employment* (Source: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/documents/case-studies/jamaica_poverty-reduction_en.pdf)
- Reading: European Commission: *Social Cohesion* (Source: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/documents/case-studies/jamaica_social-cohesion_prp_en.pdf

March 8, 2014

9.30 am Brunch

12.00 pm Depart for the Airport

UF Campus Meetings: Time & Location TBA

March 20, 2014 (2 hours in-class time)

- Reflections on lessons learned from the trip
- Work on group projects

March 27, 2014 (2 hours in-class time)

- Mock conference to present the main findings of the trip abroad
- Invitees: EU Club and JAMSA