

ITRN 761-001 European Political and Economic Union

*Professor Desmond Dinan
Professor Susanne Lageard*

Draft Syllabus

*Spring 2005
Tuesday, 7:20-10:00pm, Arlington Campus*

The European Union (EU) is the most advanced regional political and economic entity in the world., It is more than a traditional international organization but less than a traditional nation state (some would say that it is a federation in the making). The EU's member states have pooled a great deal of sovereignty and delegated responsibility to the EU's institutions for a wide range of socio-economic activities. Nevertheless they are reluctant to share more sovereignty and delegating authority in the "high politics" areas of internal and external security, including defense. This course examines the dynamics of European integration, focusing on issues such as governance, economic modernization, internal security, and external relations. The purpose of the course is to familiarize students with key aspects and elements of the EU, a major player in the emerging global system and a vital partner for the United States.

Pedagogy: Students are expected to read the assigned materials in advance and come to class prepared for an informed discussion. The instructors will frame the discussion at the beginning of class with a short presentation on the topic in question. Because students may not be familiar with the subject matter, the instructor will spend more time early in the semester describing the EU (what it is, why it exists, and how it operates). Students will make formal class contributions later in the semester by presenting overviews of their term papers (see below).

Assessment: Students must research and write a term paper on a topic that they choose, no later than February 10, in close consultation with the instructor. The assessment is based largely on a class presentation of the work in progress (presentations will be scheduled throughout the remainder of the semester) and on the paper itself, which is due on April 27 at the latest. Students will also be assessed on their regular class participation. The overall assessment is weighted as follows:

Class participation: 15%

Class presentation: 15%

Term paper: 70%

Required Course Material: The textbooks for this course are Desmond Dinan, *Europe Recast: A History of European Union* (Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2004), and Maria Green Cowles and Desmond Dinan, *Developments in the European Union 2* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2004). The other course materials consist of book chapters; journal and newspaper articles; and Web sites (see class sessions below). Additional readings will be assigned during the semester.

Recommended Reading: There is a large and growing literature on the EU. The following list includes the most widely used texts in courses on the EU. Students with little knowledge of the EU should supplement the required readings with at least one of the following books. In addition, students should spend considerable time on the EU's official Web site www.europa.eu.int and the Website of the Commission's Delegation to Washington www.eurunion.org.

Elizabeth Bomberg and Alexander Stubb, *The European Union: How Does It Work?* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003)

Michelle Cini (Editor), *European Union Politics* (Oxford University Press, 2003).

Desmond Dinan, *Ever Closer Union: A History of European Integration* (Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2000)

John McCormick, *Understanding the European Union: A Concise Introduction*, Second Edition (Palgrave Macmillan, 2002)

Neill Nugent, *The Government and Politics of the European Union*, Fifth Edition (Palgrave Macmillan, 2003)

John Pinder, *The European Union: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press, 2001)

Loukas Tsoukalis, *What Kind of Europe?* (Oxford University Press, 2003)

Helen Wallace and William Wallace (Editors), *Policy Making in the European Union*, Fourth Edition (Oxford University Press, 2003)

Plagiarism: All work must be the student's own work. Plagiarism is an Honor Code violation (see <<http://www.gmu.edu/facstaff/handbook/aD.html>>. For information about proper referencing practice, see <<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/wts/plagiarism.html>>.

Office Hours:

Prof. Dinan: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 5:45-7:00pm, and by appointment.

Prof. Lageard: Tuesdays 6.00–7.00pm, and by appointment.

Class Schedule:

[Please note that the precise content of each session may change as the semester progresses and that there may be some additional guest lecturers]

Session 1, January 25

Introduction: Overview of the EU: key principles, concepts, institutions, and policies

Session 2, February 1

Themes in the history of the EU: the German Question; the role of the United States; British exceptionalism; Franco-German leadership; enlargement; deepening; economic modernization.

Session 3, February 8

The Core Institutions: Commission, European Council, Council of Ministers, European Parliament, Court of Justice.

Session 4, February 15

[Deadline for approval of term paper topic]

Inter-Institutional Dynamics and Decision-Making: the legislative and budgetary processes; the process of treaty reform.

Session 5, February 22

Key aspects of EC law: Limited powers and subsidiarity, supremacy, direct effect and non-discrimination; decentralization of EC law; state liability for breach of EC law.

Session 6, March 1

Key aspects of EC law (cont.): Role of the European Court of Justice to shape EC law, judicial activism; Most important procedures before the Court: preliminary ruling, breach of EC law, failure to act, review of legality, damage actions; Charter of Fundamental Rights

Session 7, March 8

Redistributive Policies: agriculture and cohesion

Cowles and Dinan, Chapter 7

On regional policy and cohesion, see http://europa.eu.int/pol/reg/index_en.htm

[Note: There will be no class on March 15 (Spring Break)]

Session 8, March 22

Economic integration: the internal market, competition policy, public health, consumer protection

Cowles and Dinan, Chapters 5 and 6

Session 9, March 29

Economic integration: social policy and the environment

On environmental policy, see http://europa.eu.int/pol/env/index_en.htm

Cowles and Dinan, Chapter 8

Session 10, April 5

Internal Security and Border Control

Cowles and Dinan, Chapters 9 and 10

Session 11, April 12

An Economic Superpower? Trade and Aid

On development policy, see http://europa.eu.int/pol/dev/index_en.htm

On trade policy, see http://europa.eu.int/pol/comm/index_en.htm

Cowles and Dinan, Chapter 11

Session 12, April 19

A Political Lightweight? Foreign Policy, Security, and Defense

Cowles and Dinan, Chapters 12

Session 13, April 29

Bridging the Atlantic: Relations with the United States

Cowles and Dinan, Chapter 13

Philip Gordon, "Bridging the Atlantic Divide," in *Foreign Affairs*, Jan-Feb 2003.

Robert Kagan, "Power and Weakness," in *Policy Review*, June-July 2002, pp. 3-29.

Session 14, May 3

[Deadline for term paper]

The Future of the European Union

SPP Policy on Plagiarism

The profession of scholarship and the intellectual life of a university as well as the field of public policy inquiry depend fundamentally on a foundation of trust. Thus any act of plagiarism strikes at the heart of the meaning of the university and the purpose of the School of Public Policy. It constitutes a serious breach of professional ethics and it is unacceptable.

Plagiarism is the use of another's words or ideas presented as one's own. It includes, among other things, the use of specific words, ideas, or frameworks that are the product of another's work. Honesty and thoroughness in citing sources is essential to professional accountability and personal responsibility. Appropriate citation is necessary so that arguments, evidence, and claims can be critically examined.

Plagiarism is wrong because of the injustice it does to the person whose ideas are stolen. But it is also wrong because it constitutes lying to one's professional colleagues. From a prudential perspective, it is shortsighted and self-defeating, and it can ruin a professional career.

The faculty of the School of Public Policy takes plagiarism seriously and has adopted a zero tolerance policy. Any plagiarized assignment will receive an automatic grade of "F." This may lead to failure for the course, resulting in dismissal from the University. This dismissal will be noted on the student's transcript. For foreign students who are on a university-sponsored visa (eg. F-1, J-1 or J-2), dismissal also results in the revocation of their visa.

To help enforce the SPP policy on plagiarism, all written work submitted in partial fulfillment of course or degree requirements must be available in electronic form so that it can be compared with electronic databases, as well as submitted to commercial services to which the School subscribes. Faculty may at any time submit student's work without prior permission from the student. Individual instructors may require that written work be submitted in electronic as well as printed form. The SPP policy on plagiarism is supplementary to the George Mason University Honor Code; it is not intended to replace it or substitute for it. (<http://www.gmu.edu/facstaff/handbook/aD.html>)