



CIEE Prague, Czech Republic

Course Name:	The Politics and Economics of the European Union
Course Number:	POLI 3005 PRAG
Programs offering course:	CES, CNMJ
Language of instruction:	English
U.S. Semester Credits:	3
Contact Hours:	45
Term:	Spring 2020

Course Description

The very existence and the radical enlargement of the European Union is becoming one of the defining events of the early twenty-first century. The students will get acquainted with the history and ideology of the European unification process. The emergence and transformation of political institutions is an essential part of the course. The collapse of communist regimes in Central and Eastern Europe posed new challenges that lead to the necessity to write a new comprehensive document: the Lisbon Treaty. Continuous attention will be paid to both the current monetary crisis and the political process in respective member states.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this class the students will be able to: - outline not only the history and the motives of the emergence of the EU on the European continent, but also to analyze different present political and economic events.

- explain the interdependence of economic, political, and cultural phenomena on the European continent.
- discuss issues arising from the future possible enlargement of the EU in the changing geopolitical context.

Course Prerequisites

General interest in European politics and integration studies is expected.

Methods of Instruction

The course is based on: lectures, respective debates, and discussions based on readings. Every student covers one of the EU countries and informs the class about current issues. Great attention is paid to the analysis of political press and current political and economic developments. The course is based on active participation. The teacher will help the students choose and work on their final paper paying respect to their major and minor studies. Advice will be offered concerning individual travel plans in Europe.

Assessment and Final Grade



The grading is based on attendance and activity in the classroom, midterm test, final test, and final paper including the presentation of the paper in the class.

- Class participation: 20%
- EU country reports and portfolio: 20%
- Midterm test: 20%
- Final test: 20%
- Final paper (incl. the presentation in the class): 20%

Course Requirements

- Active **participation** is required. It is assessed regularly and partial participation grades are distributed four times per semester. Active participation includes activity in class (answering instructor's questions, working on tasks as assigned, demonstrating home preparation for class, including required readings, etc.). The instructor reserves the right to give **short quizzes** on the reading or past lecture content, which will be included in the Class Participation grade. For details on CIEE Prague Participation Policy, see the section below.
- An **EU countries reports and portfolio**. Throughout the course, students will carry out research about one Central European country of their choice, based on requirements specified by the instructor on a weekly basis. Findings will be shared in class on a regular basis (Report) and the Country Portfolio will be submitted to the instructor by Week 11.
- The **midterm test** will be written in the classroom in the sixth week of the program. The midterm will test basic acquaintance with the issues taught in the first five weeks.
- The **final test** will be written in the classroom to test the issues in the second half of the course, during Week 12.
- The **final paper** (8-10 pages, i.e., 2000-2500 words) will be submitted and presented in the last week of the program. The selection of the topic starts in the middle of the program. In addition, students are required to present on the subject of their research in class during the final week of classes.

CIEE Prague Class Participation Policy

Assessment of students' participation in class is an inherent component of the course grade. Participation is valued as **meaningful contribution in the digital and tangible classroom**, utilizing the resources and materials presented to students as part of the course. Students are required to actively, meaningfully and thoughtfully contribute to class discussions and all types of in-class activities throughout the duration of the class. Meaningful contribution requires students to be prepared, as directed, in advance of each class session. This includes valued or informed engagement in, for example, small group discussions, online discussion boards, peer-to-peer feedback (after presentations), interaction with guest speakers, and attentiveness on co-curricular and outside-of-classroom activities.



Students are responsible for following the course content and are expected to ask clarification questions if they cannot follow the instructor's or other students' line of thought or argumentation.

The use of electronic devices is only allowed for computer-based in-class tests, assignments and other tasks specifically assigned by the course instructor. Students are expected to take notes by hand unless the student is entitled to the use of computer due to his/her academic accommodations. In such cases the student is required to submit an official letter issued by his/her home institution specifying the extent of academic accommodations.

Class participation also includes students' active participation in Canvas discussions and other additional tasks related to the course content as specified by the instructor.

Students will receive a partial participation grade every three weeks.

CIEE Prague Attendance Policy

Regular class attendance is required throughout the program, and **all absences are treated equally regardless of reason** for any affected CIEE course. Attendance policies also apply to any required co-curricular class excursions or events, as well as Internship.

Students who transfer from one CIEE class to another during the add/drop period will not be considered absent from the first session(s) of their new class, provided they were marked present for the first session(s) of their original class. Otherwise, the absence(s) from the original class carry over to the new class and count against the grade in that class.

Missing classes will lead to the following penalties:

90-minute semester classes:

<i>Number of 90-minute classes</i>	<i>Equivalent percentage of the total course hours missed</i>	<i>Minimum penalty</i>
one to two 90-minute classes	up to 10%	no penalty
three 90-minute classes	10.1–15%	reduction of the final grade by 3%
four 90-minute classes	15.1–17%	reduction of the final grade by 5%; written warning
five 90-minute classes	17.1–20%	reduction of the final grade by 7%; written warning



six and more 90-minute classes	more than 20%	automatic course failure and possible expulsion
---------------------------------------	---------------	--

180-minute semester classes:

<i>Number of 180-minute classes</i>	<i>Equivalent percentage of the total course hours missed</i>	<i>Minimum penalty</i>
one 180-minute class	up to 10%	no penalty
two 180-minute classes	10.1–20%	reduction of the final grade by 5%; written warning
three and more 180-minute classes	more than 20%	automatic course failure and possible expulsion

Persistent absenteeism (students approaching 20% of the total course hours missed, or violating the attendance policy in more than one class) will result in a written warning, a notification to the student’s home school, and possibly a dismissal from the program.

Missing more than 20% of the total class hours will lead to a **course failure**, and **potential program dismissal**. This is a CIEE rule that applies to all CIEE courses and is in line with the Participant Contract that each CIEE student signs before arriving on-site.

Late arrival to class will be considered a partial (up to 15 minutes late) or full (15 or more minutes late) absence. **Three partial absences due to late arrivals will be regarded as one full class absence.**

Students must notify their professor and Program Coordinators (PC) beforehand if they are going to miss class for any reason and are responsible for any material covered in class in their absence.

If missing a class during which a test, exam, the student’s presentation or other graded class assignments are administered, **make-up assignment will only be allowed in approved circumstances**, such as serious medical issues. In this case, the student must submit a local doctor’s note within 24 hours of his/her absence to the PC, who will decide whether the student qualifies for a make-up assignment. Doctor’s notes may be submitted via e-mail or phone (a scan or a photograph are acceptable), however **the student must ensure that the note is delivered to the PC.**

Should a truly **extraordinary situation** arise, the student must contact the PC immediately concerning permission for a make-up assignment. Make-up assignments are not granted automatically! The PC decides the course of action for all absence cases that are not



straightforward. **Always contact the PC with any inquiry about potential absence(s) and the nature thereof.**

Personal travel (including flight delays and cancelled flights), handling passport and other document replacements, interviews, volunteering and other similar situations are not considered justifiable reasons for missing class or getting permission for make-up assignments.

For class conflicts (irregularities in the class schedule, including field trips, make-up classes and other instances), **always contact the Academic Assistant** to decide the appropriate course of action.

Course attendance is recorded on individual Canvas Course Sites. **Students are responsible for checking their attendance regularly to ensure the correctness of the records.** In case of discrepancies, students are required to contact the Academic Assistant **within one week of the discrepancy date** to have it corrected. Later claims **will not** be considered.

CIEE staff does not directly manage absences at FAMU and ECES, but they have similar attendance policies and attendance is monitored there. Grade penalties may result from excessive absences.

CIEE Academic Honesty Policy

CIEE subscribes to standard U.S. norms requiring that students exhibit the highest standards regarding academic honesty. Cheating and plagiarism in any course assignment or exam will not be tolerated and may result in a student failing the course or being expelled from the program. Standards of honesty and norms governing originality of work differ significantly from country to country. We expect students to adhere to both the American norms and the local norms, and in the case of conflict between the two, the more stringent of the two will preside. Three important principles are considered when defining and demanding academic honesty. These are related to the fundamental tenet that one should not present the work of another person as one's own.

The first principle is that final examinations, quizzes and other tests must be done without assistance from another person, without looking at or otherwise consulting the work of another person, and without access to notes, books, or other pertinent information (unless the professor has explicitly announced that a particular test is to be taken on an "open book" basis).

The second principle applies specifically to course work: the same written paper may not be submitted in two classes. Nor may a paper for which you have already received credit at your home institution be submitted to satisfy a paper requirement while studying overseas.

The third principle is that any use of the work of another person must be documented in any written papers, oral presentations, or other assignments carried out in connection with a course. This usually is done when quoting directly from another's work or including information told to you by another person. The general rule is that if you have to look something up, or if you learned it recently either by reading or hearing something, you have to document it.



The penalty ranges from an F grade on the assignment, failure in the course to dismissal from the program. The Academic Director is consulted and involved in decision making in every case of a possible violation of academic honesty.

Weekly Schedule

<p>Week 1</p>	<p>Class 1 Introduction to the course. The relation between European studies and the studies of the EU. International organizations and the theories of integration.</p> <p>Class 2 European geopolitics. Terminology and bibliography. The history of the idea of Europe. The importance to study political maps and statistics.</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p><i>Homework assignment:</i> Political map of Europe.</p>
<p>Week 2</p>	<p>Class 1 The history of European integration process 1945-1989.</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> Pagden (2002), 33-54. European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p>Class 2 Economic reconstruction and cooperation. The fathers of Europe. Security and the Cold War in Europe.</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p><i>Assignment:</i> EU Country Report 1</p>
<p>Week 3</p>	<p>Class 1 The road from Rome to Maastricht 1991/92. – Part 1</p>

	<p><i>Required readings:</i></p> <p>Gillingham (2003), 294-312. European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p>Class 2 The road from Rome to Maastricht 1991/92. – Part 2</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p><i>Assignment:</i> EU Country Report 2</p>
Week 4	<p>Class 1 The Maastricht Treaty. The challenges of 1989.</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> Broker and North (2003), 427-452. European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p>Class 2 The decision to enlarge towards Central and Eastern Europe and the consequences: The discussion on the "finality" of the EU. The controversy between the Eurooptimists and Europessimists.</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p><i>Assignment:</i> EU Country Report 3</p>
Week 5	<p>Class 1 The institutional framework of the EU and its history: the European Council, the European Commission, the European Parliament, the European Court of Justice, the Council of Ministers. – Part 1</p>

	<p><i>Required readings:</i></p> <p>Agraa (2011), 38-55. European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p>Class 2 The institutional framework of the EU and its history: the European Council, the European Commission, the European Parliament, the European Court of Justice, the Council of Ministers. – Part 2</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p><i>Assignment:</i> EU Country Report 4</p>
<p>Week 6 Midterm Exam Period</p>	<p>Class 1 The elections to European Parliament in May 2014 and resulting questions. The last general elections in selected member states having impact on the integration process. Refendums concerning the integration process. Trends towards autonomy and separatism.</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p>Class 2 Midterm test.</p>
<p>Week 7 Midterm Exam Period</p>	<p>Class 1 Evaluation of the midterm test. Economic policies of the EU: the EU budget, Single market and Single currency.</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> Glencross (2014), 285-304. European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p>Class 2 Agricultural policy. Regional Policy. Association agreements with the countries applying for the membership.</p>

	<p><i>Required readings:</i> European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p><i>Assignment:</i> EU Country Report 5</p>
Week 8	<p>Class 1 Foreign and security policy of the European Union. External relations. Relations with the United States of America: TTIP.</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> Brzezinski (1997), 194-215. European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p>Class 2 Challenges: Ukrainian-Russian crisis. Immigration issues.</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p><i>Assignment:</i> EU Country Report 6</p>
Week 9	<p>Class 1 The Treaty of Lisbon.</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> The Treaty on the Functioning of the EU: selected articles. European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p>Class 2 The ratification process of the Treaty. The case of Ireland.</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p><i>Assignment:</i></p>

	EU Country Report 7
Week 10	<p>Class 1 The Treaty of Lisbon. European citizenship and identity? Opinions of some prominent European thinkers. <i>Required readings:</i> The Treaty on the Functioning of the EU: selected articles.</p> <p>Class 2 The debate on the future membership of Turkey. The question of Cyprus.</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p><i>Assignment:</i> EU Country Report 8</p>
Week 11	<p>Class 1 Current political problems in the EU: Politics: e.g. EU-Russian Federation, Illegal immigration, EU-Middle East and others.</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> selected articles in international press European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p>Class 2 Current political problems in the EU: Economics: Public debt of selected countries and the proposed solutions.</p> <p><i>Required readings:</i> selected articles in international press European news servers as specified by the instructor</p> <p><i>Assignment:</i> EU Country Portfolio due</p>
Week 12	Class 1

	<p><i>Review before the Final Test.</i></p> <p>Class 2 <i>Final Written Test.</i></p>
<p>Week 13 Final Exam Week</p>	<p>Class 1 <i>Evaluation of the Final test.</i> <i>Final Paper due before class 1</i></p> <p>Class 2 <i>Presentations of Final Papers and discussion.</i> <i>Evaluation of the course.</i></p>

Course Materials

Readings

Pagden, Anthony. *The Idea of Europe*. Cambridge University Press, 2002, 33-54.

Gillingham, John. *European integration 1950–2003*. Cambridge University Press, 2003, 294-312.

Booker, Christopher and Richard North. *The Great Deception*. New York: Bloomsbury, 2003, 427-452.

Agraa, Ali M. *The European Politics*, Cambridge Uni. Press, 2011, 38-55.

Glencross, Andrew. *The Politics of European Integration*. Chichester: Wiley, 2014, 285-304.

Brzezinski, Zbigniew. *The Grand Chessboard*. New York: Basic Books, 1997, 194-215.

The Treaty on the Functioning of the EU: selected articles.

Recommended books (in the CIEE library)

Ash, Timothy Garton. *Free World*. Penguin Books, 2004.

Baldwin, L.-Wyplosz, C. *The Economics of European Integration*. UK, 2009.

Bongiovanni, Francesco. *The Decline and Fall of Europe*. UK, 2012.

Gillingham, John. *European Integration 1950-2003*.

Glencross, Andrew. *The Politics of European Integration*. UK, 2014.

Pagden, Anthony (edit.). *The Idea of Europe*. Cambridge University Press, 2002.

The Treaty of Lisbon



Recommended journals

Perspectives. Published by the Institute of International Relations, Prague.

Prague Business Journal.

The Prague Post. Prague, online edition.

Different EU websites, e.g. Robert Schuman Research Institute.