PO325 AN INTRODUCTION TO EUROPEAN INTEGRATION: HISTORY, INSTITUTIONS, AND POLICIES
IES Abroad London

DESCRIPTION:
This course is designed to provide students with a thorough understanding of European integration from the post-war period to the present. The course is divided into three parts. Part one explores the history, ideas, and rationale behind EU integration over the past 50 years, including the most recent EU enlargement. Part two examines the institutions of the European Union, their origins, functions, and organization. The third and final part of the course will explore a number of key issues facing the European Union at present, including the problematic relationship between the EU and Britain, in the year of Britain's presidency of the European Union, EU-USA relations, reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, and the future of the European Constitution.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: None

ADDITIONAL COST: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:
• Lectures (including video documentaries)
• Seminar discussions
• Student presentations

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:
• Course Participation - 10%
• Midterm Exam - 20%
• Final Exam - 30%
• One Assessed Essay (3-4,000 words/approx. 10-15 pages - due Week 11) on any topic relating to the European Union (a list of possible topics, with select readings, is appended to this syllabus) - 30%
• One Seminar Presentation, which should be an oral version of your final essay. You will receive written feedback on your presentations, which should be used to improve any weaknesses in your research paper - 10%

Weekly readings are compulsory and constitute a large component of your participation grade. Students must also read a newspaper each day, especially The Financial Times and The International Herald Tribune, Le Monde (the English version is on-line), & Le Monde Diplomatique, which are very good on European news. Newspapers are available in the IES library and online. Students are advised to read the monthly news journal Prospect (particularly good on European affairs). Other media, such as television and radio should be followed. BBC Radio Four and World Service are available online and select programs can be downloaded as MP3 files. Students should also consult the EU’s website - http://europa.eu.int for more information than would fill your wildest dreams (nightmares?!).

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
By the end of the course students will have:
• Developed a thorough knowledge of the development of European Integration from its origins to the present.
• Acquired a thorough knowledge of the institutions of the European Union, including the European Council, European Commission, European Parliament and Courts of Justice.
• Developed an understanding of European monetary union and the challenges it is currently facing.
• Developed independent research skills.
• Developed effective presentation skills and proficiency in presentation media.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Week 1 | 'What is Europe? What is the European Union?'                          | • Desmond Dinan, *Ever Closer Union? An Introduction to the European Community*, pp.1-11  
| Week 2 | 'The past is Europe': West European integration: a history              | • A. Pagden (ed.), *The Idea of Europe*, pp.1-32.                             
|        | • Examination of the earliest attempts at European unification. This session will focus first on eighteenth and nineteenth century attempts to achieve a unified Europe, and then on twentieth-century endeavors. Particular attention will be paid to Europe’s post-Second World War history, and to the competing plans for European unification. | • Desmond Dinan, *Ever Closer Union?: An Introduction to the European Community*, pp.9-28  
|        | • Exploration of the role of the Franco-German Axis in the development of the institutions of the European Community. The class will examine the important issue of Intergovernmentalism vs. Supranationalism, and of the first phase of European enlargement in 1972. | • Desmond Dinan, *Ever Closer Union?: An Introduction to the European Community*, pp.29-51  
| Week 4 | 'That European Feeling' or the logic of institutional development from the early | • Desmond Dinan, *Ever Closer Union?: An Introduction to the European Community*, pp.53-102  
<p>|        | • 1970s to European integration in the mid-1980s Examination of the first economic tests of European community institutions. Special attention will be paid to the effects of the Oil crisis on EC institutions, in particular on the Commission. The class will also continue with the theme of intergovernmentalism vs. Supranationalism by exploring the vexed relationship between the Commission and the Council. The problems of enlargement (Britain, Ireland, Denmark, and later Greece, Spain, and Portugal) will also be explored. | • Tony Judt, <em>Postwar</em>, pp.422-83, 504-58. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Week 5** | 'Glasnost means the Cold War is on Ice: from E.C. to EU' European integration and the end of the Cold War | • Desmond Dinan, *Ever Closer Union?: An Introduction to the European Community*, pp.103-31.  
|  | • This class will examine the impact that German unification had on the EC. The class will analyze the developments behind the Maastricht Treaty of European Union and explore how that treaty altered the relationship between member states. |  |
| **Week 6** | 'Here I am at Home' or 'the mission and the design of a United Europe' | • Desmond Dinan, *Ever Closer Union?: An Introduction to the European Community*, pp.133-56.  
• Tony Judt, *Postwar*, pp.749-76. |
|  | • The class will explore how the EU began preparing for the 21st century with the passage of the Amsterdam and Nice Treaties. These treatises will be examined in detail. |  |
| **Midterm Exam** |  |  |
• Desmond Dinan, *Ever Closer Union?: An Introduction to the European Community*, pp.359-413. |
<p>|  | • Examination of the development of the Euro. The class will review the previous attempts at monetary union in the 1960s and 1970s, and it will explore in detail the economic arguments for and against monetary union. |  |
| <strong>Week 8</strong> | 'Executives make decisions': The Commission, the Council of Ministers, the Presidency and the European Council | • Desmond Dinan, <em>Ever Closer Union?: An Introduction to the European Community</em>, pp.171-264. |
|  | • This session will examine the core institutions of the European executive. Special attention will be paid to their structure and internal and external dynamics. The class will also focus on how these executive institutions interact with other non-executive institutions of the European Union. |  |
| <strong>Week 9</strong> | 'We the People Under the Rule of Law'. The European Parliament, the European Court of Justice, and democracy in the EU | • Desmond Dinan, <em>Ever Closer Union?: An Introduction to the European Community</em>, pp.235-79. |
|  | • The role of the parliament and the court will be explored in detail. Special attention will be paid to the development of parliaments in the first institutions of the EC to their consolidation into a single European parliament. The class will analyze the importance of the European parliament and examine how the populations of member states view its legitimacy. The class will also explore the nature and structure of the European Court of Human Rights. The class will also examine how the role of human rights has shaped the institutions of the EU. |  |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 10</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Desmond Dinan, *Ever Closer Union?: An Introduction to European Integration*, 156-170.  
FINAL ESSAY DUE |
|        | This session will examine the impact of the Great Recession on the European Union. Particular attention will be paid to the financial crises in Ireland, Greece, Italy, Portugal, and Spain. We will also examine wider implications of the Great Recession on the EU. | |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 11</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|        | ‘Brexit!’ Britain’s Troubled Relations with Europe, and its exit from the EU. | Roger Liddle, *The Europe Dilemma: Britain and the drama of EU integration*, xix-xli.  
Ian Dunt, *Brexit: What the Hell Happens Now?* |
|        | This session will explore Britain’s troubled relations with the EU and its exit from the Union. | |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 12</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|        | Does Europe have a future? | Reading:  
Desmond Dinan, *Ever Closer Union?: An Introduction to European Integration*, 567-588.  
|        | This session will explore the challenges facing Europe today and into the future. Specific attention will be paid to whether the current institutions of the EU are sufficiently robust to meet the challenges of globalization and those posed by newly developed economies. | |

**REQUIRED READINGS:**

**RECOMMENDED READINGS:**
• Larry Siedentop, Democracy in Europe (Harmondsworth: Penguin, 2000).
• Alex Warleigh, European Union: the basics (London: Routledge, 2004).

OTHER RESOURCES - POSSIBLE TITLES FOR THE ASSESSED ESSAY:
Origins of West European Integration
• What was the role of the Marshall Plan in launching European integration?
• Why was the European Economic Community established?

Readings:
• Desmond Dinan, Ever Closer Union? An Introduction to European Integration chapter 1.

First phases of European Integration
• Do the events of the 60’s show that the European Community was nothing but an intergovernmental body?
• Why did the decisions of the 1969 Hague Summit, aimed at “relaunching” European integration, fail?

Readings:
• Stanley Hoffmann, ‘Obstinate or Obsolete? The Fate of the Nation State and the Case of Western Europe’, Daedalus, no. 95, 1966. (an excerpt of this article is also in the Nelsen and Stubb reader)
• Paul Taylor, The Limits of European Integration (London: Croom Helm, 1983), chapter 3.

Later Stages of Integration
• Why did European integration pick up again in the 1980?
• How did the Single European Act change the European Community?
• What major changes in the working arrangements of the European Community were introduced by the Maastricht Treaty?
• What impact did the end of the Cold War have on the negotiations that led to the Maastricht Treaty of the European Union?
Readings:

- Desmond Dinan, Ever Closer Union? An Introduction to European Integration, chapters 4-6.
- Jeffrey Anderson, German Unification and the Union of Europe: The Domestic Politics of Integration Policy (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999).

Preparing the EU for the 21st Century

- What were the major reforms introduced by the Amsterdam Treaty?
- What are the ‘Amsterdam leftovers’ and how easy have they been to resolve?
- How does the current financial crisis jeopardize the future of the EU?

Readings:

- Desmond Dinan, Ever Closer Union? An Introduction to European Integration, chapter 7 and conclusions.

Monetary Union and the Euro

- Why has Britain resisted adopting the Euro?
- Does monetary union lead inevitably to political union?
- Will the Euro survive?

Readings:

- Simon Hix, The Political System of the European Union, ch.3.
The Commission, the Council of Ministers, the Presidency, and the European Council

- What are the powers of the Commission?
- Is the Council the ‘government’ of the EU?

Readings:
- Desmond Dinan, Ever Closer Union? An Introduction to European Integration, chapter 8-9.

The European Parliament and democracy in the EU

- How do the co-decision, cooperation, consultation, and assent procedures work?
- Will increasing the European Parliament’s powers overcome the democratic deficit?

Readings:
- Simon Hix, The Political System of the European Union, chapter 3

European Law and the EU’s Courts

- Do the judicial institutions of the European Union impede on the legislative and executive branches of the EU and its member countries?
- Does the European Convention on Human Rights hinder European Security?

Readings:
- Simon Hix, The Political System of the European Union.
- G. Smith, The ECJ: Judges or Policy Makers? (Bruges Group, 1990)

The EU and the USA
• Are the EU and the USA drifting apart?
• Is discord between US and EU foreign policy inevitable?

Readings:
• Will Hutton, The World We Are In (London: Little, Brown, 2002).

The Future of the EU
• What is the European constitution?
• Does Europe need a constitution?

Readings:
• Desmond Dinan, Europe recast: a history of European Union.
• David R. Cameron, “The Stalemate in the Constitutional IGC over the Definition of a Qualified Majority”, European Union Politics 5 (3):373-91, 2004
• Stefano Bartolini, Restructuring Europe: Centre formation, system building, and political structuring between the nation state and the European Union (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005).

Brexit: The UK and Europe
• Why did Brexit happen?
• What will be Brexit’s effect on Europe?

Readings:
• The UK in a Changing Europe & Political Studies Association of the UK, Brexit And Beyond How The United Kingdom Might Leave The European Union (London: Political Studies Association, 2016).

OTHER POSSIBLE ESSAY TITLES
• What was the impetus behind European Integration?
• Was the Luxembourg crisis of 1965-6 a turning point in the development of European Integration?
• What were the most important factors which led to the successful launching of the Single European Market initiative in 1985-1986?
• What were the major factors behind the member states agreement to hold the two intergovernmental conferences of 1990 that led to the Maastricht Treaty?
Why has it been necessary to convene two further intergovernmental conferences since the completion of the Treaty of European Union in 1991-1992?

Is the Council of Ministers (Council of the European Union) the Government of the EU?

Does Europe have a democratic deficit?

Evaluate the costs and benefits of eastward enlargement of the EU.

Does European Integration threaten British Sovereignty?

Are the USA and the EU partners or adversaries? Discuss with reference to the entire post war period.