The evolution of a European polity is already well researched and understood. But to what extent is there a European society in the making? The nation state – in spite of being challenged from above as well as from below – is still the common unit of sociological analysis. This is true also for comparative studies where, e.g., the issue of a “European societal model” usually refers to a specifically European type of national society.

The seminar asks whether we can already speak of the evolution of a European society in a meaningful sense. This of course presupposes an answer to the basic question “What is a society?”. We will then go through some of the main societal differentiations – population, institutions, socio-economic structure, culture – to examine the evidence for (or against) societal Europeanization.

Each participant will be required to critically present one of the readings and lead the discussion on how it contributes to the key question of the seminar.

Session 1 (6 October 2011)

**Introduction I: What is a society?**

**Core readings**


Additional readings


Session 2 (13 October 2011)

Introduction II: Towards a European society?

Core readings


Additional readings

Session 3 (20 October 2011)

Population I: Family

Core readings


Additional readings


Session 4 (27 October 2011)
Institutions I: Ethnicity and citizenship

Core readings


Additional readings

Balibar, É. 2004. We, the People of Europe? Reflections on Transnational Citizenship. LIB323.6094BAL


Session 5 (3 November 2011)

Population II: Migration

Presentation by Andrew Geddes (Braudel Fellow)

Core readings


Additional readings


Session 6 (10 November 2011)

Institutions II: Gender

Core readings


Additional readings


Session 7 (24 November 2011)
Socio–economic space I: Inequality and stratification

Core readings

Additional readings
Session 8 (1 December 2011)
Socio–economic space II: A European social model?

Core readings

Additional readings

Session 9 (7 December 2011) - please note in Room 2
Cultural and communication space II: Is there a European identity?

Core readings
Bruter, M. 2005. Citizens of Europe? The Emergence of a Mass European Identity. Houndsmills: Palgrave Macmillan (Ch. 1, Chs. 5-7). LIB 306.094 BRU
Additional readings


Session 10 (8 December 2011)
Cultural and communication space I: The European public sphere

Core readings


Additional readings

De Vreese, C.H. & H. Schmitt. 2007. *A European Public Sphere: How Much of it Do We Have and How Much Do We Need?* Mannheim: Connex. **LIB 306.2094 DEU**


