Purpose: This seminar reviews the central political and theoretical issues in contemporary European international affairs. The course locates the study of international politics in Europe within the general study of international relations, international security, and political science. The readings of the weekly topics are organized around the main intellectual debates in thinking about international relations in Europe today. The seminar syllabus combines a number of particularly influential “classic” pieces on European international affairs with some of the most interesting theoretically informed recent statements and a number of the most pertinent original documents and texts. The seminar begins with scrutinizing the most important classic and recent statements in the history, theory, and politics of European post-WWII affairs. Subsequently it considers Europe in the North Atlantic world, transatlantic relations, and questions related to the future of the West; various issues of European actorhood and strategy; and the rise of a European foreign, security, and defense policy. It concludes by reflecting upon matters of European identity, the state of European affairs today, and the possible roles that Europe may or may not play in the twenty-first century world politics to come.

Thumbnail: Reviews central issues in European international affairs and security from a variety of theoretical and analytic perspectives. Substantive issues considered include the politics of European integration; the state of the European project today; “Europeanization,” Europe as part of the North Atlantic world and transatlantic relations; European foreign and security policy; issues of European identity; and Europe in the world to come.

Requirements: 1. Students are expected to come to class fully prepared and to have thoroughly completed the assigned readings before each week’s meeting, and actively to participate in class discussions. Regular seminar attendance goes without saying. Required readings will be discussed in class. The “Recommended Supplementary Readings” will not be discussed in class. They function as a guide for students who want to learn more about a given topic, or who wish to undertake independent research on the issue at hand. When appropriate, the course provider or a participant will present to the seminar a brief summary of work listed under “Recommended Supplementary Readings.”

2. Course participants are asked to write three or more literature critiques of around five pages each (say around 2000 words or so). These “reaction papers” will introduce key readings and will be discussed in class together with the readings themselves. The authors of these reviews need to send them via e-mail attachment to the other course participants no later than 24 hours before the seminar meetings. Authors will very briefly present their critique papers in seminar, followed by questions and discussion.
Other requirements to be specified according to students’ interests and course enrollment.

**Prerequisites:** No formal prerequisites. However, the course design presumes that participants have a solid background in international relations, and European history and politics, or are willing to make up deficits through independent reading as the course proceeds.

**Course Outline**

0. Introduction and Overview, Course Goals, Course Organization, Discussion of Syllabus
1. Political Positions and Theoretical Formulations: Classic Statements and Basic Orientations
2. European Politics and Social Science Theorizing
3. Debating the Sources and Prospects of the European Project
4. Europeanization!?
5. Europe in the North Atlantic World, Transatlantic Relations, NATO
6. Transatlantic Relations and the Future of the West
8. Europe in the World: Rise of European Foreign, Security, and Defense Policy
9. European Identity: Who Are We? (And What Do We Want?)
10. Crisis-Ridden Europe in the World to Come

**Recommended for Purchase**


Very useful, well done selection of key statements.


Very useful overall overview of theorizing on European politics.


Well done overview of history, institutional frame, and major policy domains of European integration and EU politics. Very useful to brush up or fill gaps in these areas in case you feel there might be some.

Feel encouraged to purchase further books, such as Jones, *Rise and Laqueur, Fall.*
Week 1
Political Positions and Theoretical Formulations: Classic Statements and Basic Orientations

a. Classic Statements in Politics and History

Winston Churchill, *The Tragedy of Europe* (pp. 7-11);
Robert Schuman, *The Schuman Declaration* (pp. 13-14);
Preambles to the Treaties Establishing the European Communities (Treaties of Paris and Rome) (pp. 15-17);
Jean Monnet, *A Ferment of Change* (pp. 19-26);
Charles de Gaulle, *A Concert of European States* (pp. 27-44);
Preamble to the Single European Act (pp. 45-47);
Margaret Thatcher, *A Family of Nations* (pp. 49-54);
Preamble to the Treaty on European Union (The Maastricht Treaty) (pp. 65-66);
Preamble to the Treaty of Nice Amending the Treaty on European Union (The Nice Treaty) (pp. 67-68).

*Read* the reprints (some excerpted) of the above in Brent F. Nelsen and Alexander Stubb, eds., *The European Union: Readings on the Theory and Practice of European Integration* (Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2003), Part I (“Visions of a United Europe”).

b. Classic Statements in Theory

Read excerpts as reprinted in Nelsen/Stubb (pp. 145-149).

Stanley Hoffmann, “Obstinate or Obsolete? The Fate of the Nation-State and the Case of Western Europe,” *Daedalus*, Vol. 95, No. 3 (Summer 1966), pp. 862-915.
Read excerpts reprinted in Nelsen/Stubb (pp. 163-177); however, feel encouraged to spend some time with the full 1966 article (available as PDF).

c. Theory, Integration, Social Science: Theoretical Roots of Contemporary Thought

Ben Rosamond, *Theories of European Integration* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 2000), Preface, chapter 1 (“Introduction”), chapter 2 (“Federalism, Functionalism and Transactionalism”), chapter 3 (“Neofunctionalism”) and chapter 4 (“Backlash, Critique and Contemplation”). Read chapter 1 especially carefully. You might speed up your reading pace in the sections on Federalism (pp. 23-31) and Functionalism (pp. 31-42) as well as in the section Alternative Critiques (pp. 81-85).

RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

Useful for Historical, Political, and Institutional Background

Well done overview of history, institutional frame, and major policy domains of European integration and EU politics. Very useful to brush up or fill gaps in these areas in case you feel there might be some.
Ditto. Gives a readable overview of the history and politics of European integration as well as the various Brussels institutions, their roles, and how they intertwine with one another.

Ditto. Shorter (Although not quite "very short," as the series title has it.)

Ditto. Good overview of history, theorizing, institutions, and policy areas.

Classic study in European international political history; informed by traditional realist thought.

Cold War classic. In some ways a link between Holborn, *Collapse* on the one hand, and post-Cold War overviews on the other.


**Theoretical Overviews and Evolution of Research Practices**


Useful in particular for its comprehensive coverage of the specific political issue areas of European Union politics.
Week 2  
European Politics and Social Science Theorizing

Read introduction chapter (pp. 1-17) of book or its reprint in Nelsen/Stubb (there pp. 239-253).


RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

Functionalism, Neofunctionalism, and Supranational Governance


Realism(s) and Regional Integration

Stanley Hoffmann, “Obstinate or Obsolete? The Fate of the Nation-State and the Case of Western Europe,” *Daedalus*, Vol. 95, No. 3, pp. 862-915.


Examples of Liberalism and Liberal Intergovernmentalism


Types of Historical Institutionalism


Constructivist Examples

Craig Parsons, A Certain Idea of Europe (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2003), especially Introduction (pp.1-33) and Conclusion (pp. 231-242).


Multi-Level Governance


Nature of Europe and N of 1 Issue


Stefano Bartolini, Restructuring Europe: Centre Formation, System Building, and Political Structuring between the Nation State and the European Union (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005).


Week 3
Debating the Sources and Prospects of the European Project


Week 4
Europeanization!?


RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS


Week 5
Europe in the North Atlantic World, Transatlantic Relations, NATO


The North Atlantic Treaty, Washington, DC, 4 April 1949; Available at http://www.nato.int/docu/basictxt/treaty.htm


Robert Kagan, "A Comment on Context," Policy Review, No. 172 (March-April 2012). If you wish, also have a peek at some of the other essays on the symposium on "Power and Weakness" ten years after in this special issue of Policy Review. The issue is accessible on the Hoover Institution’s web pages.


RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS


Week 6
Transatlantic Relations and the Future of the West


RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS


Week 7
Europe in the World: Actorhood, Kind of Actor, Strategy


RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

Do have a look at a few very recent statements on European foreign, security, and defense, as well as Europe’s role in the world on the web (especially from the European Commission, the European Councils, and the Council of Ministers, general council of foreign affairs. Do bring along as PDFs or hard copies or both the most interesting documents and think of explanations for the position(s) they expound.


**Week 8**

**Europe in the World: Rise of European Foreign, Security, and Defense Policy**


Seth G. Jones, The Rise of European Security Cooperation (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007), read Chapters 1 (“Introduction”), 2 (“Power and Security Cooperation”), and 7 (“The Tragedy of US-European Relations”); further read and or skim a good deal of Chapters 3-6 on security institutions, economic sanctions, arms production, and military forces, respectively.


**RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS**


Barry R. Posen, "European Union Security and Defense Policy: Response to Unipolarity?" 


**Week 9**
**European Identity: Who Are We? (And What Do We Want?)**


**RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS**


**Week 10**

**Crisis-Ridden Europe in the World to Come**


“Project Europe 2030: Challenges and Opportunities.” A Report to the European Council by the Reflection Group on the Future of the EU 2030 (46 pp, May 2010). (Skim again.)


RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS


RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

