

Georgia Institute of Technology
Sam Nunn School of International Affairs

INTA 2803: The European Union as a Global Actor
Fall 2012

T & TH 8:05-9:25am
Howey Physics S105A

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There will be no peace in Europe, if the states are reconstituted on the basis of national sovereignty.... The countries of Europe are too small to guarantee their peoples the necessary prosperity and social development. The European states must constitute themselves into a federation. --Jean Monnet

Europe will not be made all at once, or according to a single plan. It will be built through concrete achievements which first create a de facto solidarity.—Robert Schuman

If the ambitious project of European integration fails, the entire world will pay the consequences. --Moisés Naim

Course description and objectives:

The key objective of this course is to examine the nature of the European Union as a global actor and critically assess the extent to which the EU has the institutional capacity, the diplomatic vision and the political will to exercise an independent and unified role in international affairs. With the Lisbon Treaty now in effect, the EU has gained new legal personality and acquired expanded institutional mechanisms, including the nascent European level diplomatic corps--the European External Action Service-- to formulate a more effective and coherent set of external policies. The course will trace

the evolution of this development through an overview of the treaties, the power and functions of the key institutions and actors, as well as survey the scope and content of the EU's external policies in the following broad areas: (1) trade and global economic governance; (2) conflict management, peacekeeping and international security; (3) human rights, democratization and development; and (4) energy and the environment. Both scholarly and policy debates will be studied to empirically and normatively assess the EU's ability to act, wield influence, and project power in the world. A final part of the course explores the consequences of the EU's emergence as a global actor for the United States and the changing nature of transatlantic relations in an increasingly multi-polar, "post-American" world.

Required Textbooks:

- *International Relations and the European Union* (2011) edited by Christopher Hill and Michael Smith
- *Europe Recast: A History of European Union* (2004) by Desmond Dinan
- *The European Superpower* (2007) by John McCormick

*Books are available at the Engineer's Bookstore on Marietta St.

Supplementary Readings:

Additional readings will be assigned throughout the semester and posted on the course website, T-Square. Also, to enhance the quality of classroom discussions it will be helpful to follow current events and the news related to developments in EU and world politics. The best sources for staying informed about current issues in the EU are *The Financial Times* and *The Economist* (with caution or a critical eye toward their editorial and political biases), both of which offer discounts for student subscriptions.

Important websites: For a vast array of information on the institutions, Member States and current policies of the EU, consult the EU's official website, EUROPA @ <http://europa.eu>

Useful information from the European Union's Delegation to the United States can be found at: www.eurunion.org

Course Requirements and Grade Distribution:

Attendance and participation are essential to doing well in the course. Participation comprises 10% of the total grade for the course. Each unexcused absence beyond two allowable cuts will result in a letter grade deduction for the participation portion of the course grade. Readings should be completed prior to class meetings and you should be prepared for active and engaged discussion. All exams are essay and short answer format. Guidelines for the group projects and in-class presentations, and simulation exercise will be handed out separately and posted on T-Square.

Exam 1	20%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Final	20%
Group Projects/Presentations	15%
Simulation	15%
Participation	10%

Academic Honesty:

All work must be entirely your own and must be produced in accordance with the Georgia Tech Honor code. Please read the Academic Honor Code carefully (<http://www.honor.gatech.edu/honorcode.html>) and familiarize yourself with your rights and responsibilities under Institute regulations. Any suspected cases of plagiarism, cheating on the exams or any other form of academic dishonesty will be turned over immediately to the Office of Student Integrity for investigation. If you have any further queries on this topic, please visit the website of the Dean of Students: www.deanofstudents.gatech.edu/integrity.

Classroom Compartment:

Cell phone use (including texting) is prohibited in the classroom. Laptops or tablets are permitted for taking notes. However, if it is apparent that the device is being used for other purposes, you will be asked to leave the classroom and counted as absent that day. Save yourself and the instructor the embarrassment by refraining from any activities that interfere with the teaching and learning environment.

Themes, Schedule of Classes, and Reading Assignments

Part I. Historical and Conceptual Foundations and Key Institutional Actors of the European Union

- August 21 Introduction and Overview of Course
Reading Assignment: Syllabus and Naim and Nye articles posted to T-Square/sent via e-mail
- August 23 The Historical Context of European Integration
Reading Assignment: Dinan, pp. 1-44 and Hill and Smith, pp. 3-20, *Note: this second reading lays out the analytical framework for understanding the nature and role of the EU within the international system that will guide the course. The lecture will incorporate some of the themes the authors present, but we will need to return to it in the subsequent class as well.
- August 28 Contending Theories and Conceptual Approaches to the Study of the EU
Reading Assignment: Hill and Smith, 21-72
- August 30 Transforming European History: From Conflict to Creating the Communities
Reading Assignment: Dinan, pp. 45-123
- September 4 From the First Enlargement to 'Eurosclerosis'
Reading Assignment: Dinan, pp.125-204
- September 6 The Delors Era and Monetary Union
Reading Assignment: Dinan, pp. 205-264
- September 11 EU-27 and major developments in the Post- Lisbon Era

Reading Assignment: Dinan, pp. 265-326 and “Your Guide to the Lisbon Treaty, posted on T-square

September 13 Key Institutions and Decision Making Processes of the EU: The Twin Challenges of Coherence and Democratic Legitimacy
Reading Assignment: Hill and Smith, pp. 75-148

September 18 **EXAM 1**

Part II. External Policies and Power Projection in the European Union

September 20 Europeanization of Foreign Policy: Conceptual and Political Implications; Implementation and Effectiveness
Reading Assignment: Hill and Smith, pp. 149-193

September 25 Rethinking Power in the 21st Century: The EU as a New Model?
Reading Assignment: McCormick, pp.1-58

September 27 Civilian Power versus Normative Power
Reading Assignment: McCormick, pp. 59-83 and Hill and Smith, 435-457

October 2 The EU as an Economic Superpower: International trade and Global Economic Governance
Reading Assignment: McCormick, pp. 84-109 and Hill and Smith, pp. 246-298

Group Presentation #1

October 4 From CFSP to ESDP and Beyond: Conflict Management, Peacekeeping and International Security
Reading Assignment: Hill and Smith, pp. 197-225

Group Presentation #2

October 9 The EU as a Promoter of Democracy and Development: (Human rights, democratization, election monitoring, foreign aid, humanitarian assistance and economic development)
Reading Assignment: Hill and Smith, pp. 324-349 and Birchfield article posted to T-Square.

Group Presentation #3

October 11 The EU as a Global Leader in Energy and Environmental Policy
Reading Assignment: Hill and Smith, pp. 349-379

Group Presentation #4

October 16 Fall Recess/ NO CLASS

October 18 Catch-Up and Review for Exam

October 23 **Midterm Exam**

Part III. Values, Action and Global Leadership: Prospects for Europe, Challenges for Transatlantic Relations and the International System

October 25 The EU and the emerging new world order
Reading Assignment: Hill and Smith, pp. 380-403

- October 30 EU-US Relations and the Transatlantic Values Debates
Reading Assignment: Birchfield article on T-Square; Hill and Smith, 404-431
- November 1 Transatlantic relations continued.....
Reading Assignment: Kopstein and Steinmo (Excerpts from *Growing Apart? America and Europe in the Twenty-First Century* (2008) edited by Jeffrey Kopstein and Sven Steinmo) posted on T-Square
- November 6 Convergence and Diffusion in the International System
Reading Assignment: Kopstein and Steinmo pp. 109-169, posted to T-Square; Hill and Smith, pp. 435-457
- November 8 The EU as Political Leader?
Reading Assignment: McCormick, pp. 110-159
- November 13 The Meaning of Europe in 21st Century World Politics
Reading Assignment: McCormick, 160-174 and Hill and Smith, pp. 458-480
- November 15 Current debates: Re-assessing the European project in light of the Euro crisis
Reading Assignment: TBA (Students will be responsible for finding current media reports, interesting op-eds, articles from the *NYT*, *FT* and *Wall Street Journal*, etc.... --more details forthcoming in class.
- November 20 Current debates continued.....
Reading Assignment: TBA (See above)
- November 22 Thanksgiving Holiday/NO CLASS
- November 27 Group work and preparation for simulation (Guidelines and further details provided on T-Square)
- November 29 Simulation Exercise

December 4 Simulation Exercise

December 6 **LAST DAY OF CLASS** (De-briefing of simulation and
course review)

*Final Exam: December 11, 8:00 a.m.