

INTA 2220 Syllabus

Spring 2025

Government and Politics of (Western) Europe, 3 Credits

Monday and Wednesday, 12:30-1:45 PM, Ivan Allen College (Habersham G17)

Instructor Information

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Teaching Assistant(s) Jacob Young	Email jyoung336@gatech.edu	Office Hours & Location TBA, Ivan Allen College 155

General Information

Description

This course is designed to familiarize you with the politics of Europe, concentrating on the period since 2000. The fundamental goal of this course is to question how institutions, parties, and governments influence political developments in Europe.

We will do macro-European politics to get a foundation and then do in-depth studies into many of the different European states.

Pre- &/or Co-Requisites

The course has no prerequisites. However, a background in political science or American government might prove helpful.

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Social Sciences area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I understand human experiences and connections?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social, or geographic relationships develop, persist, or change.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Intercultural Competence
- Perspective-Taking
- Persuasion

Course Requirements & Grading

Assignment	Date	Weight (Percentage, points, etc)
Quiz One	Jan 27	10%
Midterm	Mar 5	40%
Quiz Two	Mar 31	10%
Final	Apr 28	40%

Class Format

This class will meet two times a week for 75 minutes each. A list of general discussion questions appears with the reading assignment for each session during the lecture portion of the semester. I expect all students to come to class having done the reading and ready to comment and/or ask questions. Remember, no question is too small or too obvious. Chances are your classmates will be wondering the same thing.

Extra Credit and Grade Dispute Policies and Procedures

No extra credit will be offered in this course (bonus questions on the examinations is possible). If you have a grade dispute, please discuss your concerns with the Teaching Assistant.

Description of Graded Components

Quizzes (20%)

There will be two quizzes over the semester, given on Mondays. The quizzes will not last more than 15 minutes but will be mainly to make sure you are keeping up with the lectures.

Exams (80%)

There will be two exams during the semester – The midterm (worth 40%) will cover material from the first part of class and the final (worth 40%) will be cumulative. Each of these exams will consist of a series of short answer, matching and identification questions. We will review for each exam in class. The midterm exam will be held

February 26th in class and the final exam is scheduled for April 25th (Friday) from 11:20a-2:10p.

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be assigned as a letter grade according to the following scale:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

Course Materials

Course Texts

This course has no textbook. I will post readings to Canvas and also discuss current events in our countries as we study. I HIGHLY recommend you find 2-3 sources like Euronews, BBC, Le Monde, La Libre, El Pais, etc so that you can keep up with the current events.

Course Website and Other Classroom Management Tools

The Canvas site will also contain other important material for the course, including assignments, study guides for exams, and so on.

Course Expectations & Guidelines

Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. For information on Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code, please visit <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/policies/honor-code/> or <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/>.

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarizing on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, without hesitation, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services at (404) 894-2563 or <http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/>, as soon as possible, to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also schedule an appointment as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Collaboration & Group Work

Honesty and transparency are important features of good scholarship. On the flip side, plagiarism and cheating are serious academic offenses with serious consequences. If you are discovered engaging in either behavior in this course, you will earn a failing grade on the assignment in question, and further disciplinary action may be taken.

For a clear description of what counts as plagiarism, cheating, and/or the use of unauthorized sources, please see the Student Code of Conduct:

<http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/19>.

If you have questions about my integration of the university's honor code into this course, please do not hesitate to ask: my aim is to foster an environment where you can learn and grow, while ensuring that the work we all do is honest and fair.

For more information about Georgia Tech's standards with respect to academic integrity, you can also check out the following link: <http://honor.gatech.edu/>

Extensions, Late Assignments, & Re-Scheduled/Missed Exams

Make-up exams will be given only for documented reasons of illness, family emergency, or participation in approved Institute activities (such as field trips and athletic events, see <http://catalog.gatech.edu/rules/12/> for more information). Final exams will be re-scheduled in accordance with Georgia Tech's policy, also found at <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/12/>.

Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement

At Georgia Tech we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. See <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/22/> for an articulation of some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.

Student Use of Mobile Devices in the Classroom

As research on learning shows, unexpected noises, and movement automatically divert and capture people's attention, which means you are affecting everyone's learning experience if your cell phone, pager, laptop, etc. makes noise or is visually distracting during class.

For this reason, I ask you to turn off your mobile devices and close your laptops during class.

Additional Course Policies

This is a class where opinions will be solicited and offered. Your grade will not ever depend on your opinion or that of the instructor. It will be based solely on your ability to

state facts and use facts to back up any arguments you may be making. Disagreeing with the instructor or other students is not penalized.

Final Caveat

This syllabus is to be considered a living document and therefore subject to change. Any major changes (such as moving a due date) will be discussed with the class and posted to Canvas. If you have any questions about what you see on the syllabus, please see me to discuss.

Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Reading, Notes, due dates, and more
Jan 6-8	Intro	
Jan 13-15	Systems, Parties, Elections	
Jan 22, 27-29	Macro European/EU Politics	MLK Holiday Jan 20, Quiz Jan 27
Feb 3-5	United Kingdom	
Feb 10-12	France	
Feb 17-19	The Low Countries	
Feb 24-26	Germany	
Mar 3-5	Midterm	Review Mon, Exam Wed
Mar 10-12	The Scandinavians	
Mar 17-19	SPRING BREAK	
Mar 24-26	Italy	
Mar 31 – Apr 2	The Neutrals	Quiz Mar 31
Apr 7-9	The Central Europeans	
Apr 14-16	The European Union	
Apr 21	Final Review	Final Exam Apr 25