INST 205
European Studies
Spring 2017
Section 1
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-2:15 pm
Room: Croft 107

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Email: avelitch@olemiss.edu
Office: 525 Lamar Hall
Office Hours: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 11-11:45 or by appointment

Course description
This course offers a thematic approach to the study of European culture, economics, and politics. We will review major areas of sociological research on Europe while drawing insights from other disciplines, such as anthropology, history, and political science. The selection of case studies aims at providing a contextualized understanding of contemporary issues through historical, comparative, and global lenses.

In terms of skill development, in this course, students will learn how to search for, read, understand, summarize, critique, and present their reviews of scholarly literature on topics pertaining to Europe. In the process, students will acquire substantive knowledge about the challenges facing contemporary Europe and will develop some grasp of key social science concepts and theoretical traditions. These skills are necessary to form informed opinions on world matters and to take the initial steps of conducting research projects, such as writing a senior thesis.

Course requirements and grades

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graded element</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Due date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and participation</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading journal</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Daily</td>
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<tr>
<td>Map quiz</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Week 2, 2/2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annotated bibliography</td>
<td>30 (3*10)</td>
<td>Week 6, 9, 12, 3/2, 3/28, 4/20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Literature review</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Week 13, 4/27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Week 14, 5/2</td>
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<td>Final exam</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Finals week, 5/11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>200</td>
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Final grade (total points)

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>186-200</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>180-185</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>174-179</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>166-173</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>160-165</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>154-159</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
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<td>C-</td>
<td>140-145</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>120-139</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;120</td>
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A grade lower than "C" will not count towards the international studies major.

Readings
This course is based on the review of scholarly literature on Europe. No lecture or summary can convey all the information contained in the readings. Therefore, you are expected to do all the required readings. Required readings will be made available on Blackboard. You are responsible for the readings listed under each class period. For some topics, additional readings are listed under “Further reading.” These are to serve as future references. You are not required to read them for this course.

Attendance and participation (28 points)
Attendance and participation are more important than the points they count toward your grade. Students who come to class regularly, who keep up with readings and with journal entries, and who take an active part in their learning by contributing questions and observations to class discussions tend to know the course material better, and therefore tend to get better grades on assignments. Class attendance and participation are therefore mandatory. Because life happens, you can miss two class periods without questions asked and without penalty. With each additional absence, you lose two (2) attendance and participation points. Exceptions can be made only in catastrophic circumstances.

Reading journal (60 points)
Students learn better when they engage with the material. To ensure such engagement as well as to ensure reading comprehension and retention, you are asked to keep a reading journal. The reading journal will also help you prepare for the final exam. Each reading journal entry is worth 2.5 points and should include the following parts: 1) summary of the reading, 2) graphical representation of the argument conveyed in the reading, and 3) personal reaction to the reading (questions, doubts, etc.). 1) and 3) combined should be between 250 and 400 words and are due the night before, 11:59pm, on Blackboard, so that I have a chance to see what we need to focus on in
Map quiz (12 points)
Knowing where a country is and some basic facts are necessary to understand the development of any country or region. We will, therefore, start the course with a map quiz in which you will have to identify the countries of Europe. You will receive a copy of the map that you can study in advance of the quiz.

Annotated bibliography (30 points)
You will have the opportunity to conduct individual research on a topic of your interest, so that you can take ownership of your own learning. In a nutshell, you will be asked to search for, identify relevant sources for, compile, read, and summarize scholarly works pertaining to your topic. We will dedicate the entire Week 4 to how to do this. You will prepare an annotated bibliography consisting of summaries of at least fifteen (15) works broken down into three parts, due by the end of Weeks 6, 9, and 12.

Literature review (20 points)
Once you have come up with a list of scholarly works on your topic, you can move to the next level and prepare a literature review. The literature review is a more creative exercise, which allows you to process the information you have collected and write a report on your findings. You will provide an overview of your topic and organize scholarly works according to emerging themes and arguments. You can make inferences, discuss strengths and limitations of the studies you review, and give recommendations for future research. I will provide you with more details about the nature of the genre later in the semester. Many entry-level research positions in the NGO sector and in government involve this kind of work.

Presentation (20 points)
You will be asked to present the findings of your research during class. The format of the presentation will be the 3-minute elevator pitch. The goal is to be able to tell anyone (presumably a potential employer you meet in an elevator) about the most exciting aspects of your research. For the class presentation, you can also provide a one-slide PowerPoint/figure sent to me the night before (11:59pm), so that I can prepare a coherent program for the entire class.
Final exam (30 points)
A comprehensive exam will be given on the university-designated final exam date and time as noted in the Course Schedule. The exam will likely consist of short answer and essay questions. The purpose of the exam is to test your grasp of important concepts and theories, your specific knowledge of Europe and the cases we cover, and your ability to draw comparisons between the cases. Keeping a good reading journal will help you prepare for the final exam.

Course Policies

Academic integrity
The University of Mississippi Creed affirms the values of “personal and professional integrity” as well as “academic honesty.” In the context of a class, this refers most specifically to an injunction against cheating and plagiarism. Plagiarism involves taking someone else’s written work and turning it in as your own. This includes taking text from course readings without proper citation. If you have questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please talk to me so I can help clarify this for you. If you are caught cheating or plagiarizing there will be consequences, up to and including failing the course and being reported to the Dean for disciplinary action.

Electronic devices (computers, cell phones, etc.)
Leave them in your bag (cell phones on mute). Students learn better when they take notes by hand and when they engage in one activity (paying attention) at a time. Human brains are not as efficient at multi-tasking as we may want to think. Furthermore, students using electronic devices are distracting to me and to other students. Therefore, if you use electronic devices in class, I will ask you to leave and you will lose your attendance points for the day. Students in special circumstances needing to use computers must provide official documentation.

Accommodations
If you have a disability and would like an accommodation, please let me know so I can help you. Accommodations must be verified by the Office of Student Disability Services (SDS) before they can be provided, so it is a good idea to start the process early in the semester. The SDS website is http://sds.olemiss.edu. They can be reached at (662) 915-7128. Their office is in 234 Martindale.
Course Schedule
(Note: The schedule might change. If it does, I will give you an update)

Week 1: Mapping out the European continent
T  1/24  Introductions
Th  1/26  Cultural spheres

Week 2: The European project and its others
T  1/31  The European project, its origins, and its challenges

Th  2/2  The European others
➢ Map quiz

Week 3: Movements, states, and rights
T  2/7  The French and the British cases
Th  2/9  Inclusion and exclusion in the public sphere


Further reading

Skocpol, Theda. 1979. States and Social Revolutions: A Comparative Analysis of France, Russia, and China. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.


Week 4: Research week: How to find scholarly articles
T     2/14  Citation management software and scholarly literature searching
➢ Bring your computers to class

Th     2/16  Citation styles and individual research
➢ Bring your computers to class

Week 5: Nationalism
T     2/21  History and contemporary manifestations of nationalism

Th  2/23  Eastern European nationalism

Further reading

Week 6: Localism/Clientelism
T  2/28  Social network foundations of politics and power

Th  3/2  Clans and violence
➢ Annotated bibliography Part 1 due

Week 7: Wars and violence
T  3/7  International conflicts and domestic rebellions
Th 3/9  Paths to rebellion and/or terrorism

Further reading
Ravndal, Jacob Aasland. 2016. "Right-Wing Terrorism and Violence in Western Europe: Introducing the RTV Dataset." *Perspectives on Terrorism* 10(3).

Spring break week!

Week 8: Colonialism
T 3/21  Development and underdevelopment

Th 3/23 "Civilization" and brutality

Further reading
Week 9: Multiculturalism and its challenges
T 3/28  Cosmopolitanism and multiculturalism
➢ Annotated bibliography Part 2 due

Th 3/30  Challenges to multiculturalism

Further readings

Week 10: Rise and fall of socialism
T 4/4  Origins of the Soviet leadership
Th  4/6  Fall of state socialism and its aftermath
Szelenyi, Ivan, and Balazs Szelenyi. 1994. “Why Socialism Failed: Toward a Theory of
System Breakdown - Causes of Disintegration of East European State Socialism.”
Verdery, Katherine. 1998. "Transnationalism, Nationalism, Citizenship, and Property:

Further reading
Brubaker, Rogers. 1994. "Nationhood and the National Question in the Soviet Union and
Capitalists: Class Formation and Elite Struggles in Post- Communist Central
Transition, Employment, and Income in Russia, 1991-1995.” American Journal of
Straughn, Jeremy Brooke. 2005. "'Taking the State at Its Word': The Arts of Consentful
Contention in the German Democratic Republic." American Journal of Sociology
110:1598-1650.

Week 11: Welfare state
T  4/11  Poverty and inequality in relation to the welfare state
Bäckman, Olof. 2009. "Institutions, Structures and Poverty—a Comparative Study of 16
Beckfield, Jason. 2006. "European Integration and Income Inequality." American
Th 4/13 Social foundations of the welfare state

Further reading

Week 12: Neoliberalism
T 4/18 The origins of neoliberalism

Th 4/20 Neoliberalism in a comparative perspective
➢ Annotated bibliography Part 3 due

Further reading

Week 13: Rebellious Europeans
T 4/25 Right-wing mobilizations
Th 4/27 Left-wing mobilizations

➢ **Literature review due**


Further reading


Week 14: Wrap-up

T 5/2 Presentations

➢ **3-minute elevator-pitch style presentations**

Th 5/4 Study day

Finals week

Th 5/11 Noon

➢ **Final exam**