

EUS 4920/ INR 4931 Topics in INR: European & Eurasian Studies Colloquium

Spring 2019

Tuesday, 11:00AM - 1:45PM

Student Acad Success Center 202

Instructor: Prof. Markus Thiel, Politics & International Relations

SIPA 403, thielm@fiu.edu , 305-348-2323

Office Hours: Tue 10-11am & by appointment Wednesday or Thursday

Course Introduction

Europe has played a pivotal role in world history, and the European Union (EU) today is the contemporary political framework in which European states operate. Yet what exactly does Europe, or being European mean? To what extent do present European identities reflect historical developments such as the World Wars, and to what extent are they influenced by emerging dynamics associated with, for example, the growth and development of the EU's market, "globalization," and the like? In short, how can we understand contemporary Europe, and study its various aspects, from politics to culture/ history, and so on? This course is designed to provide you with an overview of the various facets of Europe, current issue topics, and to introduce you to scholars working on Europe and the EU.

This course combines seminar-style discussions with (guest) lectures and encourages student involvement. It addresses past and present conceptions of Europe and the implications of European integration from a multi-disciplinary perspective. In so doing we investigate the idea of Europe in the political and cultural realms, in philosophy and the arts, and in society and politics.

The colloquium serves as the capstone exit requirement for the European Studies Certificate, <http://europe.fiu.edu/certificate-programs/undergraduate-advising/flyer-european-studies-new.pdf>

Required Reading:

The following materials are required for the course and are available for purchase from the FIU bookstore or online sellers:

Contemporary Europe 1st Edition, by William Outhwaite + various assigned readings from the guest lecturers, to be posted online on Canvas: www.online.fiu.edu.

Make sure to get free access to the New York Times for FIU students: www.nytimes.com/passes (to keep up with current events) and get updates from other relevant sites, such as Euractiv or Politico.EU.

Course Requirements: Attendance, Participation & Questions for guest speakers: 15%

Class attendance is mandatory. Each student is expected to come to class having read the assigned readings (the expectation is to do 2-3 hours of work out of class for every hour in class. Thus, if taking a 3-credit course typically meeting two and a half hours a week, one should expect to do seven or eight hours of reading each week). Please plan your time accordingly, and come prepared to actively participate in class room discussions. At the beginning of each class, we usually have a recap of events occurring in Europe and I want you to contribute. There will be also a few events outside of classroom time related to the EU Center, which I encourage you to attend and in the case of the mid-February conference attendance, will make part of your overall attendance grade

We have a few guest speakers coming in to talk about their research (in bold, below-changes may be possible, but will be announced in class and by email), as well as other events on the day of class. This portion of the class serves to provide you with approaches from different disciplines and viewpoints, and to suggest potential areas for student research. For the few classes with the guest speakers, you want to prepare 2-3 questions that reflect personally on the readings for the Q&A session, based on the assigned readings that are posted on online. You need to submit these questions to me by email at least 1 hr before the guest lecture begins.

If you cannot attend class because of emergencies/special circumstances, let me know about it in advance. Accommodations will be made for students with disabilities, but you need to let me know in the first week of class.

"All students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by FIU to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook."

Quiz: 20%

The Quiz, worth 20%, will consist of multiple-choice questions and a few short-answer ones. Students will be expected to combine assigned readings, class materials, lectures and discussions to answer the questions.

Research Paper (& EUS-Student Presentation): 50% (for EUS certificate students: 40% Paper, 10% for Presentation)

All student are expected to write a research paper on a European politics topic of their choice, which should have a clear research question, demonstrate research and a critical analysis based on the literature and knowledge gained throughout the course. It should be around 5000 words in length (include page no's, +/- 500w), double-spaced and follow standard writing and citation guidelines (APA, MLA, etc.). Include 7-10 academic journal articles and books. Depth of content and analysis, clarity of expression and grammar/style are equally important! For use of sources, see: <http://www.e-ir.info/2016/12/21/student-feature-advice-on-using-sources/>?

A 2-page research proposal/outline, containing 3 bibliographical sources that are annotated with explanatory notes, is due on **February 26 online**. I will check-in with you several times as the submission due date (**April 19**) approaches. Plagiarism (= citing of text without a source or copying from the internet) is unacceptable and online submission to source-check-site 'Turnitin' (www.turnitin.com) is mandatory for both the outline and the final paper, and is integrated in Canvas!

The European & Eurasian Studies Certificate- student presentations occur in the last two class sessions. The Certificate students will be asked to share insights from your research in a 5-minutes (ppt) presentation in class, highlighting the research question, analysis, and conclusions.

Book review: 15%

Students need to write a min. 3 page/800-1000 word book review, on a book related to the topics of the course (see the 'further readings' section of each chapter in the textbook), or on a book related to the topic of their paper. You will need to get the approval of the instructor for the book you are proposing to review at least 1 week in advance. The review should not only summarize the contents, but also critically question the premise, as well as execution, of the author's argument(s), and should contain your evaluation of the work. It is due (on turnitin.com) by **March 19**.

Grading scale:

	B+	87-89	C+	76-79		
A	93-100	B	83-86	C	71-75	F
A-	90-92	B-	80-82	D	70-61	

- Tue, Jan 8: Introduction: the many dimensions of Europe
- Tue, Jan 15: European unity: dream & reality (Reading: Book, Ch. 1)
- Tue, Jan 22: History, territory & governance (Reading: Book, Ch. 3 & 'Between the Borders', The Economist Essay on Europe, June 18, 2016, available online)
- Tue, Jan 29: Institutional Europe/the EU (Reading, Ch. 4)
- Tue, Feb 5: Globalization and the EU economy (Reading: Ch. 2)
- Tue, Feb 12: ***EU-Jean Monnet Center Conference: EU-Asia Relations*** (attend at least 1 panel & sign in: Monday, Feb 13: 5pm keynote lecture by EU expert & Tue, 14: 9-5pm); Reading: Ch. 8
- Tue, Feb 19: Quiz +** _ European Democracy (Book, Ch.5) & lecture by: Jonatan Vseviov, Estonian Amb
- Tue, Feb 26: People's Europe (Book Ch. 6)
- Tue, Mar 5: Europeans against Europe** (Reading: Book, Ch. 7) + **Paper Outline Due**
- Tue, Mar 12: Spring Break-no class*
- Tue, Mar 19: Brexit sessions** (11-noon & 1-2pm) + **Book Review Due!**
- Tue, Mar 26: ***Prof. Randall Halle, University of Pittsburg: Critical European Culture Studies***
- Tue, Apr 2: ***Conference on Poland & Democratization*** (sign-in & attend at least one panel, Reading: Ch.3)
- Tue, Apr 9: Europe in the World (Ch. 8 & noon: **Dr. Roy, UM on EU-Latin American relations**)
- Tue, Apr 16: EUS-Student Presentations &**
- Fri, Apr 19: **Final Paper Due!**