Introduction:

A long title for this course might be "European Politics: Development, Continuity, and Change." We will begin by examining the origins and development of political institutions in Europe. We will consider why nation states in Europe developed as they did and, in turn, why some became stable democracies and others reverted to (interludes of) authoritarianism. In this and some additional sections, we will focus on Europe as a whole. In many topic areas, however, we will concentrate primarily on Western Europe. This specialization is necessary as it is virtually impossible in one semester to consider in any detail the politics of both the stable, post-WW II democracies of the West as well as the communist/post-communist systems of Central and Eastern Europe. That said, much if not all of the theory we discuss can be applied to East-Central Europe, and we will specifically consider East-Central European nations in some topic areas.

Next, we will examine the origins and development of electoral and party systems as well as the development and operation of varieties of democratic political institutions, European welfare states, modes of interest representation, and patterns of state-economy relations (varieties of capitalism) that emerged in Europe after democratization and with the maturation of industrial capitalism. Then, we will examine the impacts of post-industrialization – both de-industrialization and globalization – on European institutions and politics. Finally, we will examine Europeanization through an analysis of the causes of politico-economic integration and the development of a common security and defense policy as well as the impact of the EU on politics and policies of member states.

For this survey of European politics, we will draw upon the disciplines of political science, sociology, history, and economics and upon varied theoretical perspectives within these disciplines for insights. The goals of this course are twofold. First, the course is designed to provide an understanding of the continuing development and operation of democratic processes and institutions in Europe in the context of post-industrial socio-cultural change, of advanced capitalism, and of continued regional integration. In this regard, we will often consider Europe in the context of theory and empirical research on advanced democratic societies as a whole. That said, we will often consider the question of how distinctive Europe really is (for instance, as a model of social capitalism or as a coherent political area with normative power in world affairs). Second, the course is structured to allow intensive research on a particular question in European politics. The focus of research can be any topic within the purview of the seminar and will constitute a healthy part of the work for the semester.
Course Requirements and Grading:

Seminar participants should attend each seminar meeting and be prepared to discuss the material assigned for that session. Informed class participation will constitute 10% of the final grade. Students are also required to select one of the course's weekly based topics for specialized study. The first two sessions -- the introductory session (August 27) and Week II, "the Rise of the European Nation State" (September 3), as well as Week 9 (October 22) are excluded. For those topics chosen, students will prepare a critical review essay on the required reading as well as the recommended reading, where the recommended reading usually consists of one important article or chapter on the focal topic. In addition to the essays, seminar participants are also expected to provide a formal presentation (review and critique) of the recommended reading in class. The critical review-presentation assignment is worth 30% of the final grade. (More on this with a special handout.)

The final class assignment is to complete a seminar-quality paper on any topic in the field of European politics. A prospectus of this paper, including a preliminary bibliography, is due by October 22 (and is worth 10% of the final grade). On the 22nd, each seminar participant will present their prospectus to the whole seminar. The final paper is due by Friday, December 6 and is worth 50% of the final grade. (More about the research paper assignment via a class handout.)

In sum:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seminar Participation</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Review/Presentation</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar Paper</td>
<td>60 (10% for prospectus, 50 % for final paper)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Topics, Books and Schedule of Readings

For each topic, readings are grouped into three sections -- required, recommended, and “for further reading,” including “special background material.” Seminar participants should complete all required readings by class and, ideally, engage the recommended reading as time allows. The large bulk of required reading is in books suggested for purchase; required and recommended readings not in the books are either available in electronic journals (go to the publication through MARQCAT) or on reserve physically(hard copy), electronically in the Raynor Library’s ARES reserve system (password is Europe), or electronically on D2L for the course.

Some Preliminaries (Those without any background in European history and politics might benefit from the following; also see the final section of this syllabus for more recommendations):


**Required Books (at the Bookmarq or Amazon):**


**Optional.** I also recommend a number of chapters from John McCormick’s survey of the EU (on reserve); for those without any background on the EU, I would recommend reading recommended sections.


3
POSEC 6501: European Politics

Duane Swank

Schedule: Overview

Introduction

Week 1 (August 27): Introduction to Course, Syllabus Distribution.

Part A: The Political Development of Europe States

Week 2 (September 3) The Rise of the European Nation State System.
Week 3 (September 10) Democratization: 20th Century Paths to and from Stable Democracy, Fascism, and Communism.


Part C: Development and Operation of Political-Economic Institutions in Europe in the 20th Century

Week 6 (October 1): Why Are Some European States So Big? The Development of the Public Sector and Welfare State.
Week 7 (October 8): Varieties of Democratic Institutions in Europe: Consensus or Majoritarian Democracy?
Week 8 (October 15): Varieties of Democratic Capitalism in Europe.

Part D: Change and Continuity in Post-Industrial European Politics

Week 9 (October 22): Post-Industrial Challenges to Electoral and Party Systems, Part I. (Research Paper prospectus due with brief in-class presentation)
Week 10 (Oct. 29): Post-Industrial Challenges to Electoral and Party Systems, Part II.
Week 11 (November 5): Post-Industrial Challenges to Equity and Efficiency in Contemporary Europe, Part I.
Week 12 (November 12): Post-Industrial Challenges to Equity and Efficiency in Contemporary Europe, Part II.

Part E: Europeanization and European Politics

Week 13 (November 19): The Politics of European Integration, I: Economic Integration.
Week 15 (December 3): The Domestic Impacts of European Integration.
Week 1 (August 27) Introduction, Syllabus Distribution
(Begin Tilly, *Coercion, Capital, and European States*)

Part A: The Political Development of Europe States

Week 2 (September 3) The Rise of the European Nation State System.

Required:  
Charles Tilly, *Coercion, Capital, and European States*. (Esp. Chs. 1 through 4, and 6)

For Further Reading:
Special background: Chs. 1-2 in McCormick, *Understanding the European Union*

Remainder (Chs. 5 and 7) of Tilly, *Coercion, Capital, and European States*.


Week 3 (September 10) Democratization: 20th Century Paths to and from Stable Democracy, Fascism, and Communism.

Required:

Jeffrey Kopstein and Jason Wittenberg, “Beyond Dictatorship and Democracy: Rethinking National Minority Inclusion and Regime Type in Interwar Eastern Europe.” *Comparative Political Studies* 43 (No. 8/9, September 2010), pp. 1089-1118. (Electronic journal)

**Recommended:**


**For Further Reading:**


Giovanni Capoccia and Daniel Ziblatt, editors, “Special Issue: The Historical Turn in Democratization Studies.” *Comparative Political Studies* 43 (No. 8/9, September 2010).

**Part B: Origins and Development of West European Electoral and Party Systems.**
Required:

Recommended:

For Further Reading: (see next section)

Week 5 (September 24): The Evolution of Ideology and Party Systems in 20th Century Europe
Required:
Sheri Berman, The Primacy of Politics: Social Democracy and the Making of Europe’s Twentieth Century.

Recommended:

For Further Reading (origins and development of electoral and party systems):
Parts II and III in Lipset and Rokkan, Party Systems and Voter Alignments.


**Part C: Development and Operation of Political-Economic Institutions in Europe in the 20th Century**

**Week 6 (October 1):** Why Are Some European States So Big? The Development of the Public Sector and National Welfare States.

**Required:**

**Recommended:**

**For Further Reading (also see Week 11):**
POSC 6501: European Politics

Duane Swank


**Week 7 (October 8)**: Varieties of Democratic Institutions in Europe: Consensus or Majoritarian Democracy?

Required:
- Chs. 1-14 in Arend Lijphart, *Patterns of Democracy*

Recommended:
- Chs. 15-17 in Arend Lijphart, *Patterns of Democracy*

For Further Reading:

On the Classic Debate between Parliamentarism versus Presidentialism:

On the Institutional Approach to Politics:

- Peter Hall and Rosemary Taylor, 1996. “Political Science and the Three Institutionalisms.” *Political Studies* 44 (December).

On the Effectiveness of Democratic Institutions


**Week 8 (October 15): Varieties of Democratic Capitalism in Europe.**

**Required:**


**Recommended:**

**For Further Reading (see also Week 12):**


Part D: Change and Continuity in Post-Industrial European Politics

Week 9 (October 22): Post-Industrial Challenges to Electoral and Party Systems, Part I

Required:


(Research Paper prospectus due with brief in-class presentation)

Week 10 (October 29): Post-Industrial Challenges to Electoral and Party Systems, Part II

Required:


Recommended:

For Further Reading:


**Week 11 (November 5):** Post-Industrial Challenges to Equity and Efficiency in Contemporary European, Part I. The Triumph of Neoliberal Policy?

**Required:**

Chs. 3-9 in Pontusson, *Inequality and Prosperity: Social Europe vs. Liberal American*.

**Recommended:**


**For Further Reading:**

Week 12 (November 12): Post-Industrial Challenges to Equity and Efficiency in Contemporary European, Part II

Required:
Wolfgang Streeck, Re-Forming Capitalism: Institutional Change in the German Political Economy.

Recommended:
For Further Reading:


**Part E: Europeanization and European Politics**

**Week 13 (November 19):** The Politics of European Economic and Political Integration I: Economic Integration

**Required:**

Kathleen McNamara, *The Currency of Ideas*.

**Recommended:**


For Further Reading (See end of EU sections)

Special background: Chs. 3-4 in McCormick, *Understanding the European Union*

**Week 14 (November 26):** The Politics of European Economic and Political Integration II: A Common Security and Defense Policy

**Required:**

Michael Merlingen, *EU Security Policy* (esp. Chs. 1 through 9, and Ch. 12)
POSC 6501: European Politics

Duane Swank

Recommended:

For Further Reading (See end of next section):
  Special background: Ch. 9 in McCormick, Understanding the European Union

Week 15 (December 3): The Impacts of European Integration: Policy and Politics.

Required:
  Paulette Kurzer, Markets and Moral Regulation: Cultural Change in the European Union

Recommended:

For Further Reading:
  Special background: Chs. 4-8 in McCormick, Understanding the European Union

On the Politics and Economics of Deepening and Broadening:


On the Policy Impacts of European Integration:


On the Political Impacts of European Integration:


**Research Papers Due: 12:00 p.m., Friday, December 6**
Additional Background and General Suggestions:


For recent scholarly research and writing about European politics, a number of good (English language) social science journals exist, including:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>West European Politics</th>
<th>European Journal of Political Research</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European Journal of Political Economy</td>
<td>Scandinavian Political Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acta Sociologica</td>
<td>European Economic Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal of Common Market Studies</td>
<td>Journal of European Public Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative European Politics</td>
<td>Journal of European Social Policy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following political science journals, among others, also have a fair portion of articles of interest to Europeanists and fellow travelers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>British Journal of Political Science</th>
<th>World Politics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Political Studies</td>
<td>Comparative Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative Political Studies</td>
<td>Politics and Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government and Opposition</td>
<td>Electoral Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Organization</td>
<td>Socio-Economic Review</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Beyond these journals, I recommend that students who wish to develop expertise in a particular nation read at least two or three country-specific periodicals on a regular basis. For instance, the student interested in Sweden may stay apprised of economic performance, policy, and politics by reading *OECD Economic Survey: Sweden* and *Current Sweden*.

In addition, one should read the better country-specific political science and public affairs journals. For example, for France, regular reading of *French Politics and Society, Revue francaise de science politique, Revue politique et parlementaire*, and *Revue de droit public et de science politique* is advised; for Germany, one might look regularly at *German Politics, Das Parlament*, and *Aus Politik und Zeitgeschichte*. 