

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT
PHIL*6600: Social and Political Philosophy
Europe: A Faltering Project?
Fall 2006: Monday 11:30-2:30

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Office hours: Tue. 11:00-12:00

Course Description:

Whether one is an opponent or a proponent of the European Union, one has to admit of its growing role not only in European life but also in the world. The EU was born out of a desire for peace and stability after experiencing the devastation of two World Wars in Europe. It became a more viable option when it took on the form of greater economic cooperation. Toward the end of the last century the rise of globalization propelled the EU beyond its original goals to establish the most noteworthy postnational political community. In this course we will study the philosophical foundation of nation-state in Kant and Hegel, and then examine the theoretical grounding of the postnational constellation as articulated by Habermas, particularly in regard to the EU. The class will take a participatory approach that combines lectures, with student presentations and discussion. Thus, the assigned reading factors in heavily in the course content and students are expected to come to class prepared to engage the material.

Course Objectives:y the end of the course the students should be able to:

- Have a good grasp of the history and theory of the nation-state.
- Identify and critically analyze the impact of globalization on the boundary and jurisdiction of the nation-state.
- Have a good understanding of the history, make up and the challenges of the EU.
- Formulate their own thoughts on the challenges of globalization for political communities.
- Formulate their own thoughts on the future of postnational constellation in Europe and elsewhere.

Required Text:

(A selection from the following texts)

Kant, *Political Writing*, ed. H.S. Reiss, Cambridge University Press, 1970-1991.

Jürgen Habermas, *Europe: The Faltering Project*, Polity, 2009.

_____, *The Divided West*, Polity 2006.

_____, *Postnational Constellation*, MIT Press, 2001.

_____, *The Inclusion of the Other*, MIT Press, 1996.

G.W.F. Hegel, *Elements of the Philosophy of Right*, Edited by Allen W. Wood (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991)

Suggested Readings:

Susan George, *The People of Europe* (Pluto Press, 2008).

John McCormick, *Understanding European Union* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2008).

Glyn Morgan, *The Idea of European Superstate* (Princeton University Press, 2005).

Omid Payrow Shabani, "Constitutional Patriotism as a Model of Postnational Political Association: the Case of the EU", *Philosophy and Social Criticism*, 32/7, 2006, 699-718.

Max Pensky, "Constitutional Solidarity and Constitutional Scope: The Dynamics of Immigration and the Constitutional Project of the European Union," in his *The End of Solidarity* (State University of New York Press, 2008)

Neil Walker, 'European Constitution and European Integration', *Public Law* (2005): 266–90.

Dieter Grimm, 'Does Europe Need a Constitution?', *European Law Journal* 1, November 1995, 282–302.

James Bohman, 'Constitution Making and European Innovation', *European Journal of Political Theory* 3/3, 2004, 315-337.

Thomas Christiansen & Christine Reh, *Constitutionalizing the European Union* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2009)

Evaluation:

1) First presentation:	30%
2) Commentary:	20%
3) Critical Summary:	10%
4) Final paper:	40%

1)The presentations will be assigned on the date of our first class based on students' preference for the course material. The students should aim to present the reading material scheduled for the class as if their audience was being introduced to the text for the first time and describe, explain and convey the material to the class as much as they possibly can. They have between 30 to 45 minutes for their presentation with another 30 minutes for discussion based on the students' questions. **The presenters should make their presentation available to the commentator at least a full day before the class.**

2)Commentary is a five to six page (double spaced) long text where the student aims to facilitate the move from the presentation to a class discussion by formulating questions and comments on important points or on the points that the commentator feels have been omitted.

3) The critical summary assignment is a one-page double space text in which the students capture the gist of the reading. At the end of CS they pose one critical question about the reading. The question will be directed to the student who is presenting the reading on that day. The mark for critical summary is pass/fail mark. In order to qualify for the 10%, out of the possible 11 summaries students need to submit 10 CS. Those who get the pass mark for at least 8 of their 10 summaries get the full mark of 10%; those who get the pass mark for at least 6 of their 10 get the mark of 8%; and those who get a pass mark for 5 or less will get the same percentage as the number of the CS they hand in for their mark. For those who hand in less than 10 CS, I will decide their mark on individual basis.

4) The essay topic will be discussed and decided in the makeup class on Dec. 2nd. A full description of what the essay assignment involves is included in the syllabus.

Other Rules:

Electronic recording of classes is expressly forbidden without prior consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted they are solely for the use of the authorized student and may not be reproduced or transmitted to others without the expressed written consent of the instructor. **Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices while you are in the classroom.** The only acceptable use for a laptop in class is note-taking.

-If you cannot make the stated office hour, please let me know of your availability and I will meet you at a time of your choosing.

-Make up assignments will be allowed **only** after an official certification either from a doctor or your program counselor is provided. (See the Addendum to Course Outline at the end of syllabus).

-This outline is subject to change with sufficient notice.

Class Schedule:

Week I:

Sep. 13: Intro and organizations of presentations.

Week II:

Sep. 20: On the Common Saying, Sec. II & III: Brooke presents & Harold will comment.

Week III:

Sep. 27: Perpetual Peace, (Sec. I & II/ supplements 1 & 2 and appendix): Hassan presents & Casey will comment.

Week IV:

Oct. 4: Kant: Metaphysics of Morals, pp. 130-148: Harold presents and Alex comments.

Week V:

Oct. 11: Thanks Giving Holiday

Week VI:

Oct. 18: Hegel: Philosophy of Right: The State (§257 to §300): Casey presents & Susannah comments.

Week VII:

Oct. 25: Inclusion of the Other: Chap. III.4: The European Nation-state: Alex presents and Brooke comments)

Week VIII:

Nov. 1: Chap. III.6: Does Europe Need a Constitution?: Paul presents & Erin comments.

Week IX:

Nov. 8: *Postnational Constellation*, Chapter 4: Postnational Constellation & the Future of Democracy: Ksenija presents and Paul comments.

Week X:

Nov. 15: *The Divided West*: Part II: Chap. 3, 4, 5 and 6: Erin presents & Ksenija comments.

Week XI:

Nov. 22: Europe: Faltering Project: II, Chap. 4 & 6: The Role of Intellectual & European Politics at an Impasse: Susannah presents & Michelle and Sara comment.

Week XII:

Nov. 29: Faltering Project: III, Chap. 7: The Constitutionalization of International Law: Sara & Michelle present & Hassan comments.

Dec. 2: Make up class: Discussing the essay topic.

Fri. Dec. 10: Final paper due

SEVEN STANDARD STATEMENTS

E-mail Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the university and its students.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement...

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the undergraduate calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration:
<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Drop Date

The last date to drop one-semester Fall 2010 courses, without academic penalty, is **Thursday November 4**. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Undergraduate Calendar:
<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Copies of out-of-class assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and enjoins all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to

do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:
<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Recording of Materials

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded in any electronic media without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer.

Resources

The Undergraduate Calendar is the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate programs. It can be found at:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/>