

PO SC 371  
FALL 2009  
COURSE SYLLABUS

Classes: 11:00-12:15 TTh  
211 Brackett Hall

VLADIMIR MATIC  
Office: 230 Brackett Hall  
Hours: 12:30-2:00 TTh  
or by appointment  
Tel. 864 656-6125  
Email vmatic@clermson.edu

#### DESCRIPTION:

The course EUROPEAN POLITICS will provide an overview of the government institutions and their history in the United Kingdom, France and Germany. It will also survey the activities of their governments and in particular their interaction in the long process of building a new Europe. Traditional role of these governments and their national institutions will be reviewed along with politics and functioning of the European Union. Repercussions of the process of further integration as well as enlargement of the EU will be examined.

The ongoing changes and formation of a new system of common institutions and forms of cooperation as well as security and overall relations in Europe will be reviewed. They will be also examined in the larger framework of the transatlantic cooperation and assessed from the perspective of the American democracy and the impact on the U.S. position and role in the world.

#### REQUIRED READINGS:

European Politics in Transition by M. Kesselman, J. Krieger and group of authors and a course packet. Since the subject of the course are current events and ongoing processes will be analyzed students will be required to follow the news and read related articles from major European sources. A list of suggested websites is attached.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY SUGGESTED READINGS:

Use of the Clemson library is recommended since many new books on Great Britain, France and Germany as well as European Union have been acquired in the past few years. A list of reference books and electronic resources with useful links is attached. Subscription to The Economist is highly recommended.

## ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:

A mid-term examination – a test/quiz and questions (Thursday, September 24) will be evaluated on the basis of demonstrated comprehensive knowledge of the related chapters in the text book, articles in the course packet and the lectures.

The final exam will consist of a test and an essay or questions.

The final grade will be based on the following formula:

Mid-term exam 20%

Tests/quizzes and/or short papers 50%

Final exam 30%

Regular attendance and participation in all class activities will be required. Unexcused or excessive absence (more than two) may adversely affect the final grade (one point deduction for each missed class after the first two excused). All excuses should be communicated (email) in advance. Students may be allowed to make up the work missed only after the reason of absence has been reviewed.

First class attendance policy will be strictly enforced.

IClicker will be required.

## COURSE OUTLINE:

### Introduction (August 25 & 27 and September 1):

1. History of the State, Institutions & Law
  2. Political Economy
  3. Political Culture
  4. Development of Democracy
- Textbook Part 1
  - The Context of Comparative Politics by M. Palmer
  - Countries and Concepts by M. Roskin  
(Course packet)

### United Kingdom (September 3-22):

1. History of Institutions
  2. Institutions Today
  3. Politics
  4. Northern Ireland
- Textbook Part 2 Britain
  - Video British Parliament
  - A Constitutional Revolution in Britain  
(Course packet)

France (September 29 and October 1-15):

1. History of Institutions
  2. Institutions Today
  3. Politics
- Textbook Part 3 France

Germany (October 20-29 and November 3):

1. History of Institutions
  2. Institutions Today
  3. Politics
- Textbook Part 4 Germany

European Union (November 5-24):

1. Early Ideas of Integration
  2. Post World War 2 Developments & Marshall Plan
  3. Cold War Divisions and Alliances
  4. Single Market & European Monetary Union
  5. Maastricht Treaty
  6. The Architecture of EU – Three Pillars
  7. Common Foreign and Security Policy
  8. Enlargement and “Deepening” and The Constitution
  9. Council of the EU
  10. EU Commission
  11. European Parliament
  12. Court of Justice
- Text book Part 8 & 9
- Video European Union

The United States and Europe (December 1 & 3):

1. Elements of Cooperation and Competition
  2. NATO and Partnership for Peace
  3. OSCE
- Readings to be assigned