

San José State University
Political Science Department
Political Science 153: European Union

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Danijela Dudley
Office Location:	virtual via zoom, link available on Canvas (course home page)
Office Hours:	Thursdays 10:30am-12:30pm
Email:	danijela.dudley@sjsu.edu
Class Days/Time:	online
Classroom:	online
Prerequisites:	POLS 2 and POLS 4 recommended

Course Description

From the catalog: Surveys and analyzes the historical evolution, the institutions, as well as the process of policy making in the European Union. Examines key policy areas: agricultural, social, economic, environmental, and foreign policy.

Integration of European countries, which started shortly after World War II, has over time evolved into a complex union of 27 states known today as the European Union. This organization has played a central part in Europe's political and economic development. What started out as an attempt to avoid another war and to rebuild the economies of Western Europe now constitutes one of the most complex and intriguing political systems in the world which is neither a traditional sovereign state nor a typical international organization.

This course will survey the historical development of the European Union, its institutional structure, and policy making within the organization. In addition, the course will examine key policy areas, such as economic, social, environmental, and foreign policy, and challenges the Union has faced, such as the Euro crisis, the refugee crisis, Brexit, and expansion to the East.

Course Format

This course is an asynchronous online course delivered through the Canvas learning management system—all readings, lectures, and assignments are delivered and will be completed online. Students must have access to a computer and reliable internet connection to be successful in this course.

While this course does not have a zoom component, students will need an electronic device with a webcam for office hours and for groups activities on zoom. For office hours and group activities, students are required to turn on their video. SJSU has a free [equipment loan program](https://www.sjsu.edu/learnanywhere/equipment/index.php) available for students (<https://www.sjsu.edu/learnanywhere/equipment/index.php>).

Canvas Course Page

Course materials such as syllabus, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course website](http://sjsu.instructure.com) (<http://sjsu.instructure.com>). **You are responsible for regularly accessing the Canvas course website to read any required materials and complete assignments. You are also responsible for regularly checking Canvas for any announcements.** Make sure that Canvas has your current email address. For help with using Canvas see [Canvas Student Resources page](http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student_resources) (http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student_resources). For technical problems with Canvas, please contact [eCampus](https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/support/) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/support/>).

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

CLO 1: Demonstrate knowledge of theoretical and historical antecedents of European integration and the development and evolution of the European Union (assessed in exams and quizzes);

CLO 2: Identify and distinguish key institutional structures of the European Union and their role in shaping political and economic developments of the European Union and member states (assessed in exams, quizzes, and group activities);

CLO 3: Evaluate and critically analyze the European Union's accomplishments and limitations in different policy areas such as economic and monetary policy, the environment, cohesion, and foreign policy, and its responses to recent challenges such as the migrant crisis, Brexit, and similar (assessed in exams, quizzes, research paper, and group activities);

CLO 4: Conduct original research, critically analyze the literature on European Union, and propose original solutions to contemporary problems in regional integration (assessed in discussions, group activities, and research paper);

CLO 5: Discuss and debate major issues related to the European Union and regional integration in a collaborative manner (assessed in group activities and discussions).

Political Science Program Learning Outcomes (PSPLO)

Upon completion of the Political Science major program, students should be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

PSPLO 1 Breadth: Students should possess a broad knowledge of the theory and methods of the various branches of the discipline.

PSPLO 2 Application and Disciplinary Methods: Students should be able to formulate research questions, engage in systematic literature searches using primary and secondary sources, evaluate research studies, and critically analyze and interpret influential political texts. Students should be able to apply these techniques to identify, understand, and analyze domestic and international political issues and organizations.

PSPLO 3 Communication Skills: Students should master basic competencies in oral and written communication skills and be able to apply these skills in the context of political science. This means communicating effectively about politics and/or public administration, public policy, and law.

PSPLO 4 Citizenship: Students should acquire an understanding of the role of the citizen in local, state, national, and global contexts and appreciate the importance of lifelong participation in political processes.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Olsen, Jonathan. (2020). *The European Union Politics and Policies* (7th edition). New York: Routledge. ISBN: 9781138340329.

The text is available for purchase from the Spartan Bookstore or from various online retailers. Other readings and videos will be available through Canvas.

Course Requirements and Assignments

This course is divided into 9 modules, grouped by topics. Please note that the first module and exam modules are 1 week long each, while all other modules are 2 weeks long. For exact breakdown of modules and dates see the schedule at the end of this syllabus and “Modules” section on Canvas. Most modules contain assigned readings and videos, recorded lecture videos, a discussion board thread, a quiz, and/or activity. Please note that some modules will have both a quiz and an activity and some will have only one of these.

Discussion board posts and replies (15% of the course grade)

You will participate in 6 graded discussions throughout the semester (there may other non-graded discussions). In each graded discussion you will be expected to make 3 posts: your initial post (minimum 200 words) and replies to at least two of your classmates (minimum 100 words each).

The nature of discussion topics will vary. You may be asked to analyze a concept from assigned readings, to watch a video and comment on it, to find contemporary examples of concepts discussed in class, to find a specific country’s approach to an issue, and similar. Please note that many discussion topics will require some prep work; as a result, I recommend checking discussion thread instructions as soon as they are available (generally a week before your initial post is due).

Your posts should be well written and directly answer the question(s) being asked. Each initial post should have: **1) a clear thesis (start your post with this)** that summarizes your answer to the question; **2) a detailed explanation of your thesis supported by evidence** (such as examples); and **3) proper APA citation of any sources used**, whether from assigned readings, lectures, or from additional research (please note that all sources must be cited both in text and in references and that plagiarized posts will be penalized). Please make sure that long posts are separated into logical paragraphs (in other words, do not post a wall of text).

Posts and replies are graded based on their **1) content** (originality of the posts and the extent to which they answer the question(s) being asked and provide detailed and relevant explanation and examples); **2) formatting** (posts are broken down into sensible paragraphs; all sources are cited properly both in text and in references); **3) civility** (posts are written in language appropriate for academic discussions and don’t use profanities, offensive remarks, personal attacks, and similar; replies to classmates are respectful); and **4) timeliness** (after one-day grace period, all late initial posts are penalized 25% for each started 24-hour period; late replies to classmates can be submitted up to 24 hours late but after that no posts or makeups will be allowed).

Deadlines and detailed instructions for each discussion thread will be available on Canvas. **Please note that I may reply to your posts if I have questions, comments, or concerns. My responses are intended to improve your thread, and as such should not be taken as personal attacks.**

Activities (20% of the course grade)

There will be 4 online activities which will vary in their nature and will consist of the following:

Plagiarism tutorial and quiz: you will complete a plagiarism tutorial and will take a plagiarism quiz.

First group project: working in groups of 4 or 5, you will find/propose a solution to an issue the EU is facing. You will have two options on how you wish to complete and submit this first group project: 1) you can choose to have a recorded meeting on zoom which you will upload to canvas; or 2) you can complete the project in writing, where you will write the solutions you considered and agreements you reached.

Second group project: working in the same group that you worked with in the first group project, you will meet on zoom, discuss a specific topic, and find/propose a solution to a problem. You will record the meeting and submit it on Canvas. Please note that unlike the first group assignment, the second group project must be recorded (you don't have the option of submitting this one in writing).

Peer review: you will submit a draft of your paper, read drafts of research papers written by two of your classmates, and provide detailed feedback.

For each activity detailed instructions will be posted on Canvas one to two weeks before they are due. **It is essential that you read carefully guidelines for each assignment once they are posted on Canvas.**

Exams (30% of the course grade)

There will be 2 exams which will consist of a variety of question types and may include multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blanks, short-answer, and/or essay questions. Exam 1 will be administered during module 5 and will cover the material from modules 1-4. Exam 2 will be held during the assigned final exam period and will cover the material from modules 6-8.

Both exams will be administered on Canvas. They will be open-notes and open-book exams, but you will not be allowed to collaborate with other students in completing them. Both exams will be timed.

Quizzes (15% of the course grade)

There will be 4 quizzes which will vary in format and may include short answer, fill-in-the-blanks, multiple choice, and essay questions.

Specifics on the format and the material to be covered will be provided one week before each quiz. Quizzes are open-notes and open-book, but you are not allowed to collaborate with classmates in completing them. Quizzes will be timed.

Research Paper (20% of the course grade)

You will write a 1,500-1,700 words research paper on a topic examining one aspect of the European Union. Students will be given 2-3 possible topics to choose from but may also choose other topics. Detailed instructions will be provided in a separate handout available on Canvas.

Students will have an option to submit a draft of the paper to receive feedback from the instructor. They will also participate in a peer-review of paper draft.

Final Examination or Evaluation

[University policy S17-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf>) states that “Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.” The culminating activity in this course is Exam #2 which will be held during the assigned final exam period.

University Policy Regarding Workload

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.” Because this is a four-unit course, you can expect to spend a minimum of 12 hours per week on scheduled tutorials, assignments, and/or activities. This additional unit will allow for more in-depth investigation and engagement with course topics. Careful time management will help you keep up with readings and assignments and enable you to be successful in all your courses.

Assignment weights and due dates (dates subject to change with fair notice)

Note on deadlines: all assignments are due by 5:00pm on the day they are assigned.

Assignment	% of grade	Due date(s)	CLOs
Discussion board posts and replies	15% total	February 10 (post), February 12 (replies) February 24 (post), February 26 (replies) March 10 (post), March 12 (replies) April 7 (post), April 9 (replies) April 21 (post), April 23 (replies) May 5 (post), May 7 (replies)	4-5
Activities	20% total	February 15 March 19 April 12 May 10 paper draft; May 14 peer review	2-5
Exams	30% total	March 26 May 21	1-3
Quizzes	15% total	February 19 March 5 April 16 April 30	1-3
Research paper	20% total	April 26 draft May 17 final paper	3-4

Late Work

Please read carefully as late policies vary by assignment type. Some assignments can be submitted late, while some cannot be submitted late under any circumstances.

Exams and quizzes: exam and quiz make-ups are only given in cases of medical or family emergencies, in accordance with the university's policy on excused absences. In these cases, proper documentation must be provided. Please note that if you are making up an exam or a quiz, it will be different from the exam taken by the rest of the class. As a result, you must notify me immediately if you have an emergency because I will need additional time to write a new exam for you.

Discussion board (initial posts): initial posts can be submitted up to 24 hours late without penalty. After the initial 24 hours, late posts will incur a 25% penalty for each started 24-hour period (starting at 5:01pm).

Discussion board (replies to classmates): replies to classmates can be submitted up to 24 hours late without penalty. After the 24-hour grace period, no replies to classmates are allowed. The thread will close at 5:01pm the day after replies are due and no further submissions will be allowed.

Plagiarism quiz: late plagiarism quiz can be submitted up to 24 hours late without penalty. After the initial 24 hours, late submissions will incur a 25% penalty for each started 24-hour period (starting at 5:01pm).

Group projects and peer review: because of the nature of these assignments, **group discussions and peer reviews cannot be submitted late under any circumstances. They also cannot be made up**, regardless of the reason.

Research paper: research paper can be submitted up to 24 hours late without penalty. After the initial 24-hour grace period, late papers will incur a 25% penalty for each started 24-hour period (starting at 5:01pm the day after the paper is due).

Grading Information

All assignments are graded based upon a percentage system, which can be converted to letter grades. For example, if an assignment is out of 100 points, 97-100 is an A+, 93-96.9 is an A, 90-92.9 is an A-, and so on. All assignments and exams total 100% of the course grade. The same letter grade distribution applies to the final course grade as it does for each assignment.

Grade	Percentage
A plus	97 to 100%
A	93 to 96.9%
A minus	90 to 92.9%
B plus	87 to 89.9 %
B	83 to 86.9%
B minus	80 to 82.9%
C plus	77 to 79.9%
C	73 to 76.9%
C minus	70 to 72.9%
D plus	67 to 69.9%
D	63 to 66.9%
D minus	60 to 62.9%

Discussion Board and Group Activities Protocol

The purpose of discussion in this course is to provide a forum in which students can safely and supportively ask questions, present and debate their ideas, receive and interpret new information and perspectives, and develop and clarify their thinking. While you will likely be passionate about some issues discussed in class, it is essential to be respectful to others and their opinions. Offensive remarks or attacks of personal nature will not be tolerated.

Recorded Lectures

Recorded lectures for each module will be posted on the first day of the module (depending on the content, there will be between 1 and 3 lectures per module). Please make sure to watch all recorded lectures and take notes. Lectures are essential because they emphasize the most important points, help you make sense of the readings, and contain information on issues/concepts that did not receive adequate attention in the readings. **While they will address some themes presented in the course readings, they will also include additional information that you may not find in the readings but which you will be expected to know for exams, quizzes, and assignments.**

Public Sharing of Instructor Material

Students are prohibited from distributing, sharing, or posting class lectures, slides, exams, or any other instructional materials. Materials created by the instructor for the course (syllabi, lectures and lecture notes, presentations, exams, etc.) are copyrighted by the instructor. [University policy S12-7](#) is in place to protect the privacy of students in the course, as well as to maintain academic integrity through reducing the instances of cheating. Students who record, distribute, or post these materials will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office. Unauthorized recording may violate university and state law. It is the responsibility of students that require special accommodations or assistive technology due to a disability to notify the instructor.

Academic Dishonesty

Students who plagiarize or who are suspected of cheating during an exam/quiz/assignment will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office and depending on the severity of the conduct, will receive a zero on the assignment or a grade of F in the course. Grade Forgiveness does not apply to courses for which the original grade was the result of a finding of academic dishonesty.

Library Liaison

The library liaison for Political Science is available to answer questions and provide one-on-one help using the library for research. His name is Paul Kauppila and his email is paul.kauppila@sjsu.edu.

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policies concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc., and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [University's Syllabus Information web page](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>), which

is hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Education. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Course Communication and Help

If you have questions or need help with class, don't hesitate to talk to me. Here are several ways to contact me:

Office hours: the best way to communicate with me is during my office hours. I will have drop-in office hours via zoom on Thursdays 10:30am-12:30pm. You don't need an appointment to see me during these hours. The link will be posted on the Canvas course home page. When you click on the link, you will be placed in a virtual waiting room. If I am not already talking to another student, you will be immediately allowed into the meeting. If I am in a meeting with another student, you will be in the waiting room until I am done and can let you into the "office." When logging into the office hours, make sure your zoom name is your actual name as it appears on the class roster.

I recommend using office hours for most issues, as this is the best way to get the most complete answers to your questions. If you are not available during my office hours, let me know what your schedule looks like and we'll figure out an alternative time to meet.

Email: email should be used only for quick inquiries. I will generally reply to your emails within 24 hours, except on weekends and holidays (please remember that I don't check my email on weekends or holidays—make sure to contact me early if there are any pressing issues). Please note that email should not be used for substantive issues where extensive communication is needed (such as discussing paper topics or explaining concepts from the material) or for confidential issues (such as discussing grades, personal issues, and similar, because email is not considered a confidential form of communication).

Q&A discussion thread: I will keep a Q&A discussion board on canvas for the entirety of the semester. Any questions that might also be of concern to the entire class should be posted there (nothing confidential please). For example, questions about paper format, structure/requirements of different assignments, deadlines, and similar, would be beneficial to other students as well and should be posted on the Q&A tread. I will check the Q&A discussion board several times per week (on weekdays). If you know the answer to a question posed by another student, feel free to reply.

Casual hour: on several occasions throughout the semester, I will host a "casual hour" on zoom. These will be less formal office hours that will be open to all students at the same time (you will not be placed in a waiting room and can simply join and leave as you please). This time can be used to discuss anything you want, such as review the material, discuss current events, explain assignments, or just vent. Dates and times of each casual hour will be posted on Canvas.

The Fine Print

Information in this syllabus can be changed with fair notice. Any changes will be announced through Canvas. It is your responsibility to sign into Canvas regularly and check for any important announcements and updates.

POLS 153/European Union

Spring 2021 Course Schedule

Notes on course reading assignments:

“Olsen” refers to the main course textbook. Other readings either have links which you can use to access them or have been uploaded to the Canvas course page.

The best way to keep track of assigned readings and graded assignments is to **follow the modules on Canvas**. Everything is uploaded/listed in the appropriate module.

Please note page numbers for assigned readings: if no page numbers are listed, you are required to read the entire chapter/article. If page numbers are listed, you are only required to read those pages.

I recommend you complete the readings in the order they are listed.

Note on assignment submission deadlines:

All assignments in this class are due by 5:00pm on the day they are assigned. Late penalties (for assignments which can be submitted late) apply to submissions starting at 5:01pm.

POLS 153 Spring 2021 Course Schedule Subject to change with fair notice		
Module	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
0	Jan 27-29	<p>Course introduction</p> <p><u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read course syllabus, welcome messages, and “start here” module on Canvas
1	Feb 1-5	<p>Roots of the European Union: what is the EU, why was it created, and how did the process of European integration start</p> <p><u>Required readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olsen, chapter 1 • Olsen, chapter 2 pages 33-38 • Birchfield, V. L., Krige, J., & Young, A. R. (2017). European integration as a peace project. <i>British Journal of Politics & International Relations</i>, 19(1), 3-12. Read pages 3-6 (on Canvas) <p><u>Note:</u> No assignments this week, but the material from this module will be included in Module 2 quiz and discussion</p>

POLS 153 Spring 2021 Course Schedule
Subject to change with fair notice

Module	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
2	Feb 8-19	<p>Evolution of the European Union: integration and enlargement</p> <p><u>Required readings and videos:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olsen, chapter 3 and chapter 4 • Brexit: What you need to know about the UK leaving the EU. (2020, December 30). BBC News. • Video: How Brexit is changing the EU. (2019). The Economist. • Video: Brexit going forward: Who are the winners and losers? (2020). DW News. <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <p>Discussion #1: initial posts due Wednesday February 10, replies due Friday February 12</p> <p>Activity #1 (plagiarism quiz): plagiarism quiz due Monday February 15</p> <p>Quiz #1: Friday February 19</p>
3	Feb 22-Mar 5	<p>Institutional structure of the European Union: core decision-making institutions</p> <p><u>Required readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olsen, chapter 5 and chapter 6 pages 97-106 • Olsen, chapter 7 and chapter 10 pages 166-175 <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <p>Discussion #2: posts due Wednesday February 24, replies Friday February 26</p> <p>Quiz #2: Friday March 5</p>
4	Mar 8-19	<p>Institutional structure of the European Union: other EU bodies</p> <p><u>Required readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olsen, chapter 6 pages 106-112 • Olsen, chapter 8 and chapter 9 <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <p>Discussion #3: posts due Wednesday March 10, replies due Friday March 12</p> <p>Activity #2 (first group project): written or recorded discussion due Friday March 19</p>

POLS 153 Spring 2021 Course Schedule
Subject to change with fair notice

Module	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
5	Mar 22-26	<p>Exam review and exam 1</p> <p>Exam 1 due Friday March 26</p>
	Mar 29-Apr 2	<p>Spring break</p>
6	Apr 5-16	<p>EU policies & challenges: the single market, regulation, & economic crises</p> <p><u>Required readings and videos:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olsen, chapter 11, pages 192-196 • Olsen, chapter 12 and chapter 13 • Alessi, C. & McBride, J. (2015). The Eurozone in crisis. Council on Foreign Relations. • Video: Europe on the Brink (2012). Wall Street Journal. <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <p>Discussion #4: initial posts due Wednesday April 7, replies due Friday April 9</p> <p>Activity #3 (second group project): recording of group discussion due Monday April 12</p> <p>Quiz #3: due Friday April 16</p>
7	Apr 19-30	<p>EU policies & challenges: internal policies</p> <p><u>Requires readings and videos:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olsen, chapter 14 • Monar, J. (2016). Justice and home affairs. <i>Journal of Common Market Studies</i>, 54, 134-149. (on Canvas) • Nedergaard, P. (2019). Borders and the EU legitimacy problem: the 2015-16 European Refugee Crisis. <i>Policy Studies</i>, 40(1), 80-91. (on Canvas) • Video: Desperate journey: Europe's refugee crisis. (2015). Human Rights Watch. <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <p>Discussion #5: initial posts due Wednesday April 21, replies due Friday April 23</p> <p>Paper draft: due Monday April 26</p> <p>Quiz #4: Friday April 30</p>

POLS 153 Spring 2021 Course Schedule
Subject to change with fair notice

Module	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
8	May 3-14	<p>EU policies & challenges: security, foreign policy, and EU's position in the world</p> <p><u>Required readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olsen, chapter 15 and chapter 16 • Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) Factsheet. (November 2020). (on Canvas) • Moravcsik, A. (2017, Apr 13). Europe is still a superpower. And it's going to remain one for decades to come. <i>Foreign Policy</i>. (on Canvas) • Kirchick, James. (2018, May 22). Europeans want to break up with America. Deep down, they should know that they can't. <i>The Washington Post</i>. (on Canvas) <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <p>Discussion #6: initial posts due Wednesday May 5, replies due Friday May 7</p> <p>Activity #4 (peer review): paper draft due Monday May 10, peer review due Friday May 14</p>
9	May 17-21	<p>Wrapping up the semester</p> <p>Research paper: due Monday May 17 (last day of classes)</p> <p>Exam #2 (final exam): due Friday May 21</p>