

ITRN 761 European Political and Economic Union

Syllabus

Spring 2002

The European Union (EU) is the most advanced regional political and economic entity in the world. It is more than a traditional international organization but less than a traditional nation state. It has some of the attributes of a federation—such as a central bank—but lacks sovereignty in the “high politics” areas of internal and external security, including defense. Nevertheless the EU is central to the lives of its 375 million citizens because of its extensive regulatory authority. This course will examine the history, politics, and policies of the EU, focusing on selected policy areas and on such critical issues as institutional reform and enlargement. The purpose of the course is to familiarize students with key aspects and elements of the EU, a major player in the global system and a close partner of the United States.

Instructor: Desmond Dinan, Jean Monnet Professor of Public Policy, GMU
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Class Time: Wednesdays, 7:05-9:30pm

Classroom: Arlington Campus 246

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 5:45-6:45pm (Arlington Campus 264)

Methodology: The class will be conducted as a seminar, with discussion based on the assigned reading (see below).

Assessment: Assessment will consist of two reports on country- or sector-specific aspects of European political and economic union. Specific assignments, and their format and deadlines, will be decided early in the semester.

Core Texts: The core texts for the course are Desmond Dinan, *Ever Closer Union: An Introduction to European Integration*, 2nd edition (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 1999), and Wallace, Helen, and Wallace, William, *Policy-Making in the European Union*, 4th edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000.

Recommended Texts: The following texts, on reserve in the library, are recommended for the course:

Baun, M., *A Wider Europe*, Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield, 2000.

Cram, L., Dinan, D., and Nugent, N., *Developments in the European Union*, London: Macmillan, 1999.

Frieden, J., Gros, D., and Jones, E., *The New Political Economy of EMU*, Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield, 1998.

Laffan, B., O'Donnell, R., and Smith, Michael, *Europe's Experimental Union*, London: Routledge, 2000.

Slomp, H., *European Politics into the Twenty-First Century*, Westport : Praeger, 2000.

Van Oudenaren, J., *Uniting Europe*, Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield, 2000.

Additional Reading: There is a voluminous literature on the EU, consisting of reference books, monographs, journal articles, dedicated newspapers and newsletters. The EU also publishes its own material, ranging from information leaflets, to academic studies, to legally binding regulations and directives. As an EU documentation center, GMU has a collection of EU official documentation (in the Arlington campus library). The EU has a large, authoritative website (http://europa.eu.int/index_en.htm). Students should use the website and other sources to update the material in the core text and to keep abreast of current developments in the EU.

Schedule of classes (with relevant core text readings in parenthesis):

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| Jan. 23 | Introduction: the EU and its member states |
| Jan. 30 | Issues in European Integration: 1945-1989
(Dinan, Chapters 1-5) |
| Feb. 6 | Issues in European Integration: 1989-2002
(Dinan, Chapters 6-7) |
| Feb. 13 | <u>Note: There will be no classes this week</u> |
| Feb. 20 | Institutions and Decision-Making
(Dinan, Part 2; Wallace and Wallace, Part 1) |
| Feb 27 | Market integration
(Dinan, Chapters 12 and 13; Wallace and Wallace, Chapters 4, 7 and 13) |
| Mar. 6 | Competition, enterprise, employment and social policy
(Dinan, Chapters 14 and 15; Wallace and Wallace, Chapters 5 and 10) |
| Mar. 13 | <u>Note: Spring Break</u> |
| Mar. 20 | Biotechnology and the environment
(Wallace and Wallace, Chapters 11 and 12) |
| Mar. 27 | Cohesion policy and the budget
(Dinan, Chapter 15; Wallace and Wallace, Chapters 8 and 9) |
| Apr. 3 | External relations
(Dinan, Chapter 17; Wallace and Wallace, Chapters 14 and 15) |

- Apr. 10 Economic and Monetary Union
(Dinan, Chapter 16; Wallace and Wallace, Chapter 6)
- Apr. 17 Internal security
(Dinan, Chapter 15; Wallace and Wallace, Chapter 18)
- Apr. 24 Enlargement
(Wallace and Wallace, Chapters 16)
- May 1 Relations with the United States
(Dinan, Chapter 18)

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