

POL 363E US – EUROPEAN RELATIONS SINCE WORLD WAR II

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Office Hours: Thursdays 11:00 – 12:00

Course Information

Spring 2019

Tuesdays & Thursdays

12:00 till 13:20

Course Description

The course will analyze the transatlantic relations between Europe and the United States at different levels since the Second World War.

Course Goals and Methodology

The main goal of this course is to provide the student with the appropriate googles to analyse the relation between the United States and Europe. In order to do so we will depart from providing the theoretical, historical and institutional context that affects the relation, to later focus on different current issues. Classes will consist of lectures and class discussions. Students are encouraged to use a Blackboard site, where the professor will post slides, lecture notes, journal articles, assignment instructions, announcements and additional resources. Ultimately, the goal of this course is to help students understand the current events of international politics and how the US and the EU react to them.

Learning Objectives

Through this course, students will:

- Understand the main IR theories and how to use them to analyze current events.
- Examine the main historical events that have led to the current international context and determine American and European international attitudes.
- Approach to EU institutions and understand how they affect decision making in Europe.
- Address the main international current issues and the American and European responses.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the international dynamics and the constrains faced by Americans and Europeans.
- Gain analytical and critical skills.

Required Texts

There is no textbook required for this course. Therefore, students are not expected to purchase any material. The instructor will post the class material (Google Slides, case

studies handouts, in-class worksheets, announcements, links, and any additional reading) on Blackboard, which is accessible both on campus and off campus. To log in, you need to sign in on <https://campusvirtual.upo.es> using the username and password you received in your orientation folder.

However, the contents of the course are mainly but not only based on the following texts:

- Baylis J. et al: *The Globalization of World Politics*, Oxford University Press, 2016.
- CRS In Focus IF10931, *U.S.-EU Trade and Economic Issues*, August 1st 2018
- CRS In Focus IF10930, *U.S.-EU Trade and Investment Ties: Magnitude and Scope*, July 20th 2018
- Derek E. Mix: *The United States and Europe: Current Issues*, Washington DC: Congressional Research Service, 2017.
- Derek E. Mix: *Spain and its relations with the United States: in brief*, Washington DC: Congressional Research Office, 2015.
- Derek E. Mix: *The European Union: Foreign & Security Policy*, Washington DC: Congressional Research Service, 2013.
- Elspeth Guild et al.: *The 2015 Refugee Crisis in the European Union*, CEPS Policy Brief no. 332 (September 2015).
- Hix, S. and Høyland, B.: *The Political System of the European Union*, Macmillan, 2011.
- John McCormick: *Understanding the European Union: a Concise Introduction*, 7th Edition, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017.
- Joyce P. Kaufman: "The US Perspective on NATO under Trump: lessons of the past and prospects for the future," *International Affairs*, 93, 2017
- Kagan, R. (2004) *Of Paradise and Power*. Vintage
- Kristin Archick: *The European Union: Current Challenges and Future Prospects* CRS-R44249, Washington DC, Congressional Research Service, 2017.
- McGlinchey et al, *International Relations Theory*, E-International Relations Publishing, 2017.
- Patricia Lewis et al, "The Future of United States and Europe: An Irreplaceable Partnership", *Chatham House*, April 2018
- Robin Niblett: *What should Europe's policy be towards Russia?* Policy Paper no. 349, Brussels: Robert Schuman Foundation, 2015.
- Stephen McGlinchey et al (eds.): *International Relations Theory*, Bristol: E-International Relations Publishing, 2017
- Warren S. Payne, *North American Free Trade Association: An Overview*, Bipartisan Policy Center, 2017

General Course Policies

Each student is expected to be familiar with the course syllabus. Students are expected to focus their full attention on the class, arrive on time, and stay until class ends. Leaving the

classroom on repeated occasions is disturbing to both your professor and your classmates and may adversely affect your participation grade. Please make use of the 10-minute breaks in between classes to fill up your water bottle, use the restroom, etc.

Students are expected to listen and respect other points of view. Phone calls, social media, email, or Internet browsing at any time during class are not acceptable during class except for specific class-related activity expressly approved by your instructor. You are responsible for any and all course material covered in class, announcements, and/or handouts if you are not present for any reason. Students will be held responsible to be up to date by attending to class regularly and checking both email and the Blackboard site of the course frequently (monitor your email and Blackboard announcements at least once every 24 hours).

Communicating with instructor: Please allow at least 48 hours for your instructor to respond to your emails. The weekend is not included in this timeframe. If you have an urgent request or question for your professor, be sure to send it during the week.

Course Requirements and Grading

Assessment for the course consists of a mid-term written exam and a final exam. The final exam will relate to all the materials covered in the course. In addition, students will be required to complete assigned readings outside class, which will be tested through five unannounced "pop" quizzes throughout the semester and active participation in class discussions, which will be reflected in their 'participation' grade. (N.B.: 'being there' does not = 'participation').

The distribution of the final grade is the following:

Midterm Exam	30%	Pop quizzes	20%
Final Exam	30%	Participation	20%

Final Grade Expectations: The instructor will use the Spanish 10-point grading scale. The grades that will appear on your final transcript are also Spanish grades.

- Grade A/A- (9-10) — Outstanding performance showing a thorough knowledge and understanding of the topics of the course. The best possible grade.
- Grade B+/B (8-9) — Remarkable performance with general knowledge and understanding of the topics. Next highest.
- Grade B/B- (7-8) — Good performance with general knowledge and understanding of the topics. Indicates high average performance.
- Grade C+/C (6-7) — Fairly good performance showing an understanding of the course on a basic level. Indicates low average performance.
- Grade C/C- (5-6) — Passable performance showing a general and superficial understanding of the course's topics. Lowest passing grade
- Grade F (0-5) – Unsatisfactory performance in all assessed criteria. Failing grade.

Please be aware that anything below a 5 (i.e. a C- on the U.S. scale) is a failing grade. There is no pass/fail option at UPO. If you do not officially withdraw from a class by the withdrawal deadline, a failing grade will appear next to the course name. Check out the Student Handbook for the grade conversion table (some universities may use a slightly

different scale).

Participation

In-class discussions will be encouraged at all sessions. Class participation will therefore be graded according to the students' previous work and reflections about the provided material. Active participation means not only attendance (being there \neq participation) but discussion with relevant basis (text-based and not just random personal experience and background), asking and answering questions in class, engaging in class discussions and conversations with class mates, questioning information presented and discussed. Students are also expected to actively participate in in-class exercises and to do some homework. Participation points will be assigned based on the following criteria:

	Exemplary (9-10)	Proficient (8-9)	Developing (7-8)	Unacceptable (0-7)
Frequency of participation in class	Student initiates contributions more than once in each class.	Student initiates contribution once in each class.	Student initiates contribution at least in half of the classes.	Student does not initiate contribution & needs instructor to solicit input
Quality of comments	Comments always insightful & constructive; uses appropriate terminology. Comments balanced between general impressions, opinions & specific, thoughtful criticisms or contributions.	Comments mostly insightful & constructive; mostly uses appropriate terminology. Occasionally comments are too general or not relevant to the discussion.	Comments are sometimes constructive, with occasional signs of insight. Student does not use appropriate terminology; comments not always relevant to the discussion.	Comments are uninformative, lacking in appropriate terminology. Heavy reliance on opinion & personal taste, e.g., "I love it", "I hate it", "It's bad" etc.
Listening Skills	Student listens attentively when others present materials, perspectives, as indicated by comments that build on others' remarks, i.e., student hears what others say & contributes to the dialogue.	Student is mostly attentive when others present ideas, materials, as indicated by comments that reflect & build on others' remarks. Occasionally needs encouragement or reminder from T.A of focus of comment.	Student is often inattentive and needs reminder of focus of class. Occasionally makes disruptive comments while others are speaking.	Does not listen to others; regularly talks while others speak or does not pay attention while others speak; detracts from discussion; sleeps, etc.

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance and punctuality are required. Arriving late to class is disruptive to both the professor and your classmates. Please be punctual, as your professor will count your late arrival as half of an absence. Under no circumstances may a student miss more than 6 classes (or 9 for classes that meet daily), even with a medical excuse. An excused absence is one that is accompanied by a doctor's note: signed, stamped and dated - travelling or missing a flight/train/bus/ferry, etc. is not an excuse. The note should be shown to your professor and must be handed in to the staff at the International Center office within one week of returning to class. After 3 unexcused absences your final grade will be lowered by $\frac{1}{2}$ a point (Spanish grade) for each day missed (starting with the 4th absence). If you have 6 unexcused absences, you will automatically fail the class. It is each student's responsibility to be informed of exam dates, paper due dates, required excursions, etc. before planning any absences (e.g. relatives visiting, traveling, etc.) during the semester.

Academic Honesty

Academic integrity is a guiding principle for all academic activity at Pablo de Olavide University. Cheating on exams and plagiarism (which includes copying from the Internet) are clear violations of academic honesty. A student is guilty of plagiarism when he or she presents another person's intellectual property as his or her own. The penalty for plagiarism and cheating is a failing grade for the assignment/exam and a failing grade for the course. Avoid plagiarism by citing sources properly, using footnotes and a bibliography, and not cutting and pasting information from various websites when writing assignments.

Learning accommodations

If you require special accommodations, you must stop by the International Center to speak to Rubén (the Faculty coordinator) to either turn in your documentation or to confirm that our office has received it. The deadline is February 22nd. Rubén will explain the options available to you.

Behavior Policy

Students are expected to show integrity and act in a professional and respectful manner at all times. A student's attitude in class may influence his/her participation grade. The professor has a right to ask a student to leave the classroom if the student is unruly or appears intoxicated. If a student is asked to leave the classroom, that day will count as an absence regardless of how long the student has been in class.

Course contents

1. INTRODUCTION TO IR THEORY
2. HISTORICAL CONTEXT
3. EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
4. CURRENT ISSUES & CHALLENGES

Class Schedule

1. INTRODUCTION TO IR THEORY

31st January – Presentation of course/Introduction to IR

5th February – Realism/Liberalism

McGlinchey *et al* (2017) pp.15-21; pp.22-27

7th February – Constructivism/Marxism

McGlinchey *et al* (2017) pp.36-41; pp.42-48

2. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

12th February – Establishing a New World Order

Class hand-outs

14th February – Dynamics of the Cold War

Class hand-outs

19th February – Evolution of the EU I

Archick (2017)

21st February – Evolution of the EU II: United in diversity?

Archick (2017)

3. EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

5th March – Structure & Functioning of the EU I

Simon Hix & Høyland (2011) pp. 9-14; McCormick (2017) pp.73-95

7th March – Structure & Functioning of the EU II

McCormick (2017) pp.73-95

12th March – NATO and European Defence & Security Institutions

Kaufman (2017); Mix (2013)

14th March – Other common international organizations

Class hand-outs

19th March – MIDTERM EXAM

4. CURRENT ISSUES & CHALLENGES

2nd April – Transatlantic Relations: Overview

Mix (2017)

4th April – Europe and the US: Divided by Culture?

Class hand-outs

9th April – Transatlantic Economic Relations (NAFTA)

CRS IF10931 (2018); CRS IF10930 (2018); Payne (2017)

11th April – US–Spanish Relations: Then and Now

Mix (2015)

23rd April – Brexit?

Archick (2017)

25th April – European Union Enlargement: Turkey & the Balkans

Class hand-outs

30th April – China

European Parliament Briefing (2017), class hand-outs

2nd May – Russia post-Cold War

Niblett (2015)

14th May – Immigration & Refugee Crisis

Guild (2015)

16th May – European Parliament Elections

20th – 23rd May – FINALS

Holidays

Thursday, February 28 – Día de Andalucía

Sunday, April 14 – Sunday, April 21 - Semana Santa (Holy Week)

Wednesday, May 1 - Labor Day

Saturday, May 4 - Saturday, May 11 – Feria de Abril (Seville's April Fair)