POL 363E US – European Relations since World War II

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Office Hours: Mondays 12:00 – 13:00

Course Information  
Fall 2019  
Mondays & Wednesdays  
9:00 till 10:20

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.

The methodology of the course will be based on 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:

- 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
- Patricia Lewis *et al.*, “The Future of United States and Europe: An Irreplaceable Partnership”, *Chatham House*, April 2018

**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, a group presentation on a topic of their choice, 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 (25%)
- Pop quizzes (20%)
- Final Exam (25%)
- Participation (20%)
- Group Presentation (10%)

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.

**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 ≠ 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:

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

**Leaving the classroom:** 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.

**Punctuality and tardiness:** Arriving late to class is disruptive to both the professor and your classmates. Please be punctual as your professor may count your late arrival as half of an absence or simply close the door, not let any late students in and consider it as one full absence.

**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.

**Attendance and Absentee Policy**

Attendance is mandatory at all classes. As we understand that you might fall ill or be unable to come to class (e.g. due to a religious holiday, a flight delay, a family wedding/reunion, a graduation, a job interview, etc.) at some point during the semester, you are allowed up to 4 absences. You will be responsible for the material covered and any work missed. You will not need to justify your absences (up to 4) in any way unless you miss an exam, a presentation, a quiz, etc. In this case, you must present a doctor’s note (signed, stamped and dated) to be able to reschedule the exam, etc. It will still count as an absence but you will be allowed to retake the exam, etc. We don’t encourage you to use all 4 days unless you really need them as your participation grade may suffer if you are not in class. If used unwisely and you get sick late in the semester, the following penalties will apply:
On your 5th absence, 1 point will be taken off of your final Spanish grade
On your 6th absence, 3 points will be taken off of your final Spanish grade
On your 7th absence, 5 points will be taken off of your final Spanish grade

For classes that meet once a week, each absence counts as two. For classes that meet daily, the penalties outlined above apply if you go over 6 absences (7th absence=5th absence above). Exams missed due to an excused absence must be made up within a week of returning to classes. Talk to your professor immediately after your return.

**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: rdialop@acu.upo.es) to either turn in your documentation or to confirm that our office has received it. The deadline is September 26th. 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. Cell phone use is not allowed and animals (except seeing-eye dogs) are not permitted in the classrooms.

**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**
   - **11th September** – Presentation of course/Introduction to IR
   - **16th September** – Realism/Liberalism
   - **18th September** – Constructivism/Marxism

2. **HISTORICAL CONTEXT**
   - **23rd September** – Establishing a New World Order
     Class hand-outs
   - **25th September** – Dynamics of the Cold War
     Class hand-outs
   - **30th September** – Evolution of the EU I
     Archick (2017)
   - **2nd October** – Evolution of the EU II: United in diversity?
     Archick (2017)

3. **EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**
   - **7th October** – Structure & Functioning of the EU I
     Simon Hix & Høyland (2011) pp. 9-14; McCormick (2017) pp.73-95
   - **9th October** – Structure & Functioning of the EU II
     McCormick (2017) pp.73-95
   - **14th October** – NATO and European Defence & Security Institutions
     Kaufman (2017); Mix (2013)
   - **16th October** – Other common international organizations
     Class hand-outs
   - **21st October** – MIDTERM EXAM
4. CURRENT ISSUES & CHALLENGES

23rd October – Exam review & introduction to current issues and challenges

28th October – Transatlantic Relations: Overview
Mix (2017)

30th October – Europe and the US: Divided by Culture?
Class hand-outs

4th November – Brexit? The British Connection
Archick (2017)

6th November – Transatlantic Economic Relations (NAFTA)
CRS IF10931 (2018); CRS IF10930 (2018); Payne (2017)

11th November – Immigration & Refugee Crisis
Guild (2015)

13th November – US–Spanish Relations: Then and Now
Mix (2015)

18th November – Campaigning & elections in a comparative perspective
Class hand-outs

20th November – China
European Parliament Briefing (2017), class hand-outs

25th November – Russia post-Cold War (I)
Niblett (2015)

27th November – Russia post-Cold War: War on Terror (II)
Mironova (2019)

2nd December – European Union Enlargement: Turkey & the Balkans
Class hand-outs

4th December – Presentations

11th December - Presentations
20th – 23rd May – FINALS

Holidays

- Friday, November 1: All Saint’s Day.
- Monday, December 9: Bank holiday. No classes will be held.