

## **POL 363E US – European Relations since World War II**

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**Office:** Building 10, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Office 21

**Course structure:** 1<sup>st</sup> part (January 25<sup>th</sup> – February 25<sup>th</sup>) *online*  
2<sup>nd</sup> part (March 4<sup>th</sup> – April 15<sup>th</sup>) *face-to-face/online*

**Class timetable:** 1<sup>st</sup> part: Monday 09:00-10:45  
2<sup>nd</sup> part: Monday/Wednesday 09:00-10:45

### **Course Description**

This course analyses the evolution and changing dynamic of transatlantic relations between the United States and Europe since World War II, providing students with the historical and institutional context, and the necessary conceptual and theoretical tools, to better comprehend the complexity of their economic, political, military and cultural interconnections, not to mention place within the wider world.

### **Learning Objectives**

Through this course, students will:

- Understand the main IR theories and how to apply them to the international system.
- Explore how the evolution of historical events has consolidated American and European attitudes to each other and third parties.
- Comprehend the structure and functioning of EU institutions and how decision-making takes place
- Appreciate the importance of contemporary international challenges and how they shape and constrain American and European responses.
- Gain analytical and critical skills.

### **Class Schedule** (*This is only a general guide and may be subject to change*)

#### **WEEK 1: January 25<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup>**

*Presentation of course*

TOPIC 1: INTRODUCTION TO IR THEORY

*Realism/Liberalism*

*Marxism/Constructivism*

#### **WEEK 2: February 1<sup>st</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>**

IR Theory consolidation

TOPIC 2: HISTORICAL CONTEXT

*Establishing a New World Order*

*Dynamics of the Cold War*

#### **WEEK 3: February 8<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>**

*Evolution of the EU*

TOPIC 3: EUROPEAN & INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

*Structure & Functioning of EU institutions*

*Law-making in the EU*

#### **WEEK 4: February 15<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup>**

NATO

*European Defence & Security Institutions*

*Other common international institutions*

**WEEK 5: February 22<sup>nd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup>**

MIDTERM EXAM

TOPIC 4: CURRENT ISSUES & CHALLENGES

*Transatlantic Political Relations*

**WEEK 6: March 1<sup>st</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>**

NO CLASS (March 1<sup>st</sup>)

*Transatlantic Economic Relations*

**WEEK 7: March 8<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>**

*EU Enlargement*

*EU Immigration & Refugee Crisis*

**WEEK 8: March 15<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup>**

*Brexit*

**WEEK 9: March 22<sup>nd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup>**

*Climate Change*

*Russia*

**WEEK 10: April 5<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>**

*China*

- Final Exams: April 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>

**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 (presentations, reading materials, worksheets, announcements, links etc.) on Blackboard. However, the contents of the course draws on the following texts:

- Baylis J. et al: *The Globalization of World Politics*, Oxford University Press, 2020.
- CRS In Focus IF10931, *U.S.-EU Trade and Economic Issues*, August 1<sup>st</sup> 2018
- CRS In Focus IF10930, *U.S.-EU Trade and Investment Ties: Magnitude and Scope*, July 20<sup>th</sup> 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*, 8th Edition, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2020
- 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

### **Course Requirements and Grading**

Assessment for the course consists of two short papers and two exams (all written), an oral presentation and participation. Students will be required to complete assigned readings and tasks outside the 'class' and actively participate in debates, both in 'class' and via the Discussion Board, which will be reflected in the above 'participation' grade. The distribution of the final grade is the following:

Midterm Exam	20%	Short Paper (x2)	15%
Presentation	15%	Final Exam (TBA)	25%
Participation	25%		

- The dates for exams and presentation cannot be changed under any circumstances.
- Spanish grades run: 10-9.0 (A), 8.9-7.0 (B), 6.9-5.0 (C), 4.9-0 (F)

### **Technical Requirements**

This course requires that students have/bring their own laptop, since tablets, Chromebook or cell phones may not meet our virtual platform requirements. Also, students are expected to have a high-speed Internet Service Provider. A webcam and a headset (preferred) or microphone for your computer is also required. You should be proficient in the following:

- basic computer skills
- email management
- sending and receiving attachments via email
- using a web browser
- finding resources through search engines
- using productivity applications such as Googledocs and Google Slides
- using educational technology such as: Kahoot, Blackboard Collaborate, or Zoom
- familiarity with creating PDF files and submit them on Blackboard
- the ability to be self-directed in learning new technology skills (e.g. access to support to learn necessary skills for Blackboard, or a step-by-step video tutorial)

For technical problems with Blackboard, please contact Jorge Pascual ([jpasdia@acu.upo.es](mailto:jpasdia@acu.upo.es)).

### **Attendance**

Attendance is mandatory at all classes, both online and on-site. All absences must be justified by a doctor's note (signed, stamped and dated). More than one unjustified absence will adversely affect your final grade. Professors will keep track of each student's attendance and active participation during the course. Students are expected to have their webcams turned on during the online sessions.

### **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 send your documentation to Rubén Díaz ([rdialop@acu.upo.es](mailto:rdialop@acu.upo.es)) or confirm that our office has received it. The deadline is January 29th. Your instructor 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.

### **Calendar**

- Midterm Exam: February 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Presentation: TBA
- Final Exam: April 13<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup>

### **Holidays**

- March 1<sup>st</sup> "Día de Andalucía"
- March 28<sup>th</sup> to April 4<sup>th</sup> "Semana Santa" (Holy Week).