University of Edinburgh
Politics and International Relations
MA Honours Course

SYLLABUS
European Union as Global Actor (PLIT10062)
Semester 1, 2013-14

*PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS COURSE IS TEAM-TAUGHT*

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**Please note that all others teaching on the course are available to meet via appointment.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:
• Understand the significance of the European Union (EU) as an actor in international affairs;
• Identify the various theoretical approaches to explaining the EU in international affairs;
• Determine the most important obstacles to the EU’s exercise and enhancement of its external authority;
● Identify the domestic political and legal institutions that provide the basis for the EU’s authority as an international actor;
● Understand the role of EU member states and non-Union third parties in the development and exercise of the EU’s external authority;
● Compare the EU’s external authority across several substantive areas, including economic, environmental, development and humanitarian assistance, security and defence, and relations with its peripheries.

ORGANISATION AND TEACHING
This is an MA (Honours) Politics and IR option course lasting one semester only. Participants are expected to attend one lecture and one seminar each week. Lectures and seminars are scheduled to last for one hour each.

Lecture: Thursday 11:10-12:00 Lecture Theatre 2, Appleton Tower

Seminar 1: 7.01, DHT Thu 1610-1700
Seminar 2: 6.11, DHT Thu 1710-1800
Seminar 3: 7.18, DHT Fri 1000-1050
Seminar 4: 13.07, DHT Fri 111-1200
Seminar 5: 11.01, DHT Fri 1210-1300

Please note that seminars will be held in Week 1. Participants should sign up for seminar groups via the course LEARN page.

Initial reading lists and online material are detailed below for each week of the course. Required readings are highlighted in bold. Required readings will serve as the basis for presentations when students are ‘in the spotlight’ (see below). Further readings are provided for participants to explore issues to be discussed in seminar in more details and to prepare their essays and examinations. Particularly useful further readings are also highlighted in bold. The reading lists should not be considered exhaustive.

For seminars, all participants are expected to prepare the assigned required readings, think about the questions/issues AND contribute to the discussion.

SEMINARS - ‘IN THE SPOTLIGHT’
Each week (starting week 2), 1-2 students will be selected to be ‘in the spotlight’ in seminars and lead the discussion. When it is your week to be ‘in the spotlight’, you should:

● plan to read beyond the required readings;
● prepare a short (5-10 minute) opening presentation that:
  ○ identifies the main issues and points of debate for the topic;
  ○ evaluates critically the theoretical and empirical approaches deployed in leading works on their topic;
  ○ includes a judgment about how effective EU policy is;
  ○ ends with 3 (or so) questions for debate.

Participants who are ‘in the spotlight’ are not expected to prepare a visual (Powerpoint or Prezi) presentation, but rather are asked to give the group a cogent, coherent oral presentation. After their presentation, participants who are in the spotlight should be prepared to answer questions from the rest of the group.
If you are sharing a slot in the spotlight with another participant, you should be sure to meet with them well in advance to agree a division of labour (in terms of readings, topics to speak on, and so on). One possible mode for a shared presentation is to present it in the form of a debate, with each presenter taking a rival position on a question concerning the topic at hand.

Do not hesitate arrange to meet in advance with the lecturer(s) who is/are leading/lecturing on the topic to which you are assigned. John is always available to meet with you during his weekly office hours.

*Your spotlight slot*

All participants are asked to bring to seminar week one (1) a list of 3 ranked choices of weeks when they would like to make their ‘spotlight’ appearance. All lists must include at least 1 week from weeks 2-5. Spotlight assignments will be posted on the course LEARN page on **Friday 20th September** by 5pm.

The ideal seminar will find most or all participants introducing their own arguments that challenge and build on the readings and encourage discussion. Likewise, the ideal seminar requires *all* participants to complete the required readings!

**ASSESSMENT**

The course will be assessed by one essay weighted at 40%, one examination weighted at 50%, and a seminar participation mark weighted at 10%. Seminar participation marks will be based largely (not exclusively) on participants’ performance when they are ‘in the spotlight’.

**Essay:** The essay will be 2000 words in length and is due at the end of Week 8 on **Friday 8 November at 12pm**.

2000 words is the *maximum* length, including end/footnotes but excluding the bibliography. Please provide a word count on your cover sheet, and note that essays longer than 2000 words will be penalized.

A list of essay topics, submission requirements and additional information will be provided during the early weeks of the course. Generic feedback will be provided on the course LEARN page no later than Monday 18 November 2013.

For information on marking descriptors, please consult the SPS website:

All course work must be submitted *electronically*.

**Electronic Submission**

Course work will be submitted online using our submission system – ELMA. You will not be required to submit a paper copy.

Marked course work, grades and feedback will be returned online – you will not receive a paper of your marked course work or feedback.

For information, help and advice on submitting coursework and accessing feedback, please see the ELMA wiki at
https://www.wiki.ed.ac.uk/display/SPSITWiki/ELMA

**Penalties for late submission:**
• Five marks per working day (i.e. excluding weekends) for up to 5 days;
• Coursework handed in more than 5 days late will receive a zero

If you have further questions on the rules for late submission, please consult your Politics and Internationals Relations Honours Handbooks.
http://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/undergrad/subject_and_programme_specific_information/pir/honours

Exam
The exact date and time of the examination will be determined by Registry and will be communicated to participants as soon as possible. The examination will take place sometime during the exam period, 9-20 December 2013. Please note that all marks must be considered provisional until ratified by the Board of Examiners in June.

General feedback on the Dec 2013 exam will be available on Learn in January 2014. For more useful information on exam marking procedures (how it’s done; who does it), appeals, getting the most feedback, etc., please see the IR or Politics honours handbook.

Participants with learning disabilities: Advice, guidance and a range of support materials is available to participants with learning disabilities (such as dyslexia). These participants should contact - in advance of coursework deadlines - the Disability Office for further information. See the Disability Office’s website:
http://www.disability-office.ed.ac.uk/

Further information on policies and procedures: Please see the Politics and IR Honours Handbooks for further information on submission of coursework; Late Penalty Waivers; plagiarism; learning disabilities, special circumstances; common marking descriptors, re-marking procedures and appeals.
http://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/undergrad/subject_and_programme_specific_information/pir/honours

RESEARCH and ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STANDARDS
Standard university policies on academic integrity (plagiarism and cheating) will be fully applied in this course. Plagiarism can be deliberate or accidental: neither is acceptable practice and both can result in penalties. Deliberate plagiarism occurs if you intentionally copy passages verbatim from books or articles without properly acknowledging the source. Unintentional plagiarism is usually the result of sloppy note-taking. Be sure to write down your sources carefully when taking notes and then cite that source in your essay, using quotation marks where appropriate.

Copying other student’s essays is cheating and also counts as plagiarism. Although discussion between participants is encouraged, all coursework is accepted for assessment on the understanding that it is your own work. Serious cases of plagiarism will normally lead to automatic failure of the whole course and may also lead to action under the University’s Code of Discipline.

E-COMMUNICATION
The course organisers will only use participants’ official university email addresses for electronic communication relevant to the course. If a student chooses to use an email account other than their university account, that student is responsible for any non-transmission—due to overcapacity or any other technical errors—in that account.
LEARN
This course is conducted online via LEARN, which participants can access through their personal university accounts. Participants are encouraged to access LEARN as soon as possible. LEARN also provides a number of essential resources for this course, including seminar notes, links to online readings, discussion/seminar groupings and essay questions. Further information on LEARN will be provided during the first lecture.

This course requires participants to access numerous Internet resources from official sources. A number of unofficial sources with content relevant to this course do exist online. Please be very cautious when using information from these unofficial sources as it may not have been subjected to a rigorous peer review process. Specific official sources and quality online readings are noted below in the weekly programme. Participants should NOT rely exclusively on Internet resources for their weekly preparation nor for their essay writing.

READINGS

Participants are expected to read a LOT in this course. Books, articles and other materials in the reading lists below may be found in the Main Library in George Square and the Law Library in Old College. These sources are on standard loan, short loan, reference status and/or reserved for 3-hour reading. Particularly useful, further readings are listed for each week in bold.

Participants are also advised to seek out, read, prepare and incorporate into seminar discussions and coursework relevant journal articles and other materials beyond the reading lists below. While not an exhaustive list, participants may begin their independent research with the following scholarly journals, in alphabetical order:
- European Foreign Affairs Review
- European Journal of International Relations
- European Politics
- European Security
- Journal of Common Market Studies
- Journal of European Public Policy
- International Organization
- International Security
- International Studies Quarterly
- Review of International Studies

Participants will find an active link to all electronic journals available through the University Library at http://www.lib.ed.ac.uk. The catalogues of a number of UK and Irish university libraries can be searched through www.copac.ac.uk/copac/. Participants should also take advantage of the National Library of Scotland (Tel: 226 4531). All books published in the United Kingdom can be found at the National Library of Scotland.

All participants must purchase the course textbook:
The text will be available at Blackwell’s booksellers, opposite Old College (51-63 South Bridge Street, EH1 1YS, Tel.: 556-6743).

Other texts that will be frequently referenced throughout the course are:


**Background Reading**

This course assumes a considerable amount of knowledge about the politics (including international organisations, actors and policies) of international relations. Those participants wishing to improve their background knowledge in this area are encouraged to consult:


This course also assumes a significant degree of knowledge about the institutions and policies of the European Union. Participants seeking additional general background on the EU should consult:


**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS COURSE HAND-OUT IS A ‘LIVING DOCUMENT’, THAT WILL BE UPDATED AND ALTERED THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF NEW AND USEFUL READINGS THAT ARE PUBLISHED OR COME TO LIGHT DURING THE SEMESTER**
### COURSE PROGRAMME

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### Week 1: Introduction (19/09/13) - John Peterson + course team
Themes and Topics
- Why study the EU as a Global Actor?
- Basics of the EU’s external policy
- Superpower or small power?

### Readings
**Required**

**Further**
Week 2: Conceptualising the EU in International Affairs - Nicole Koenig

Themes and Topics
- Different ways to think about the EU in international affairs
- IR theories and the EU
- Central concepts
- Civilian power? Normative power? Market power?

Readings

Required

Further

• Sjostedt, Gunnar (1977), *The External Role of the European Community*, Farnborough, Saxon House.

**Week 3: Institutions and Processes - Niklas Helwig**

Themes and Topics
- EU basics
- Institutional basis of EU in international affairs
- Policies, processes and potential problems
- Institutional innovations of the Lisbon Treaty

**Readings**

**Required**

**Further**
• Keukeleire, Stephan, and Jennifer MacNaughtan (2008), The Foreign Policy of the European Union, Houndmills, Basingstoke: Palgrave, Chapter 3-5.

Week 4: Trade and Development Policy - John Peterson and Marlene Gottwald
Themes and Topics
• Historical development of EU’s common commercial policy
• EU and the GATT/WTO system
• Cooperation and conflict in EU economic relations
• The EU’s use of the WTO’s dispute settlement mechanism
• International regulatory issues/relations
• Doha Round, Cancun and beyond
- Development and the EU
- Yaoundé, Lomé and Cotonou
- EU and humanitarian assistance

**Readings**

**Required**


**Further**

**Trade**


**Development**

- ACP General Secretariat: includes links to all ACP Agreements, [http://www.acpsec.org](http://www.acpsec.org).


• Lister, Marjorie, and Maurizio Carbone, eds. (2006), *New Pathways in International Development: Gender and Civil Society in EU Policy*, Ashgate.


**Week 5: The Common Foreign and Security Policy/Common Security and Defence Policy - Marlene Gottwald**

Themes and Topics

• Evolution and main actors of the CFSP/CSDP
• The European Security Strategy and cooperation with NATO and the UN
• CFSP and CSDP in practice: diplomacy, sanctions, civilian and military missions
• Civilian, military or non-power EU?

**Readings**

**Required**


Further:

- Koutrakos, Panos (2013), The EU Common Security and Defence Policy, Oxford: Oxford University Press, chapters 1, 2 and 3.


**Week 6: Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement - Nicole Koenig**

**Themes and Topics**
- EU enlargement
- European Neighbourhood Policy
- Euro-Mediterranean relations and the Arab Spring
- Eastern Partnership

**Readings**

**Required**


**Further**


• *European Foreign Affairs Review* 10: 1, 2 (2005).—These issues have multiple articles on the European Neighbourhood Policy.
• Sedelmeier, Ulrich (2005), *Constructing the Path to Eastern Enlargement: The Uneven Policy Impact of EU Identity*, Manchester: Manchester University Press.
Week 7: External Impact of Internal Policies — Andrew Byrne.

Themes and Topics

- EU in Justice and Home Affairs issues
- The Single Market
- Euro

Readings

Required


Further


**NB:** Essays are due at the end of this week, on Friday 8 November by 12 noon.

**Week 8: Transatlantic Relations - Andrew Byrne**

**Themes and Topics**
- Building an Atlantic Alliance after World War Two.
- Trade Relations.
- Security Cooperation.
- Theoretical Perspectives.

**Readings**

**Required**

**Further**

**Historical Accounts:**

Theoretical Perspectives

Policy Analysis:
• Baylis, John, and Jon Roper (2006), The United States and Europe: Beyond the Neo-Conservative Divide?, London: Routledge.
• Ibid, ed. (2010), Shoulder to Shoulder: Forging a Strategic U.S.-EU Partnership, Washington, Center for Transatlantic Relations.
• Mowle, Thomas (2004), Allies at Odds? The United States and the European Union, Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave.
• Peterson, John, and Mark A. Pollack, eds. (2003), Europe, America, Bush, Routledge.
• Steffenson, Rebecca (2005), Managing EU-US Relations: Actors, Institutions and the New Transatlantic Agenda, Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Week 9: The EU and Russia - Marco Siddi

Themes and Topics
• Russia as strategic partner for the EU in the 21st century
• EU-Russia energy relations
• Economic, political and cultural issues in EU-Russia relations
• The bilateral dimension of EU-Russia relations: the role of EU member states

Readings

Required

Further

**Week 10: The EU and Asia - Marco Siddi**

Themes and Topics
- The EU and rising powers in the 21st century
- EU-China relations
- EU-BRICS: strategic partnerships?

**Readings**

**Required**


**Further**

• Grevi, Giovanni and Alvaro de Vasconcelos, eds. (2008), Partnerships for effective multilateralism: EU relations with Brazil, China, India and Russia. Paris: EU Institute for Security Studies.
• Keukeleire, Stephan and Hooijmaaijers, Bas (2013), “EU-India relations and multilateral governance: where is the “strategic partnership”?”, Foreign Policy Research Centre Journal 1: 118-123.

Examination Period (9-20 Dec 2013)
• Details of the examination date, time and location will be announced when available.