

Crisis and Future of the European Union

28 June – 9 July 2021

CATEGORY Social Sciences, Politics & Education

COURSE STRUCTURE

The course offers 40 contact hours, the equivalent to an on-site course. The study time is comprised of:

- virtual classroom lessons with the lecturer and the fellow students (50%)
- group exercises (25%)
- assignments and self-study (25%)

TRACK C – WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF VIRTUAL CLASSROOM LESSONS

- Course days: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
- Time: 12.30 pm – 3.00 pm (Berlin time, UTC+2)
6.30 pm – 9.00 pm (Beijing time, UTC+8)
8.30 pm – 11.00 pm (Sydney time, UTC+10)
5.30 am – 8.00 am (Chicago time, UTC-5)

COURSE LANGUAGE

This course is taught in English, including the readings. For the understanding of the texts and the discussions in class, language-level B2 (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) is required.

TARGET GROUP

Master students and advanced undergraduate students (final year) of all subjects with an academic background and a strong interest in European studies, contemporary history, sociology, and politics.

CREDITS = 5 ECTS

All courses are accredited according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Fully functional device (laptop, tablet, PC)
- Stable internet connection
- Software: Zoom (video/audio)

- Registration on Moodle (HU's e-learning platform)
- Recommended hardware: external headset for better sound quality

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Learning extends beyond your virtual course! As a participant in HUWISU, you are invited to join cultural, social, and academic programs. Cultural activities are designed to help students meet fellow international students, learn more about Berlin, and practice German language abilities. Apply what you learn in class, share your extracurricular interests, and expand your social network beyond your course through these programs!



VIRTUAL ACTIVITIES

With the support of the online format, HUWISU introduces new cultural and social activities. The cultural activities will be both synchronous and asynchronous.

Our scheduled live meetings might include games, cooking/baking together, or a trivia night. You still have the unique opportunity to build community across time zones and meet your fellow international students through synchronous programming. More information about the specifics is TBA.

Learn and read about Berlin history or German culture in between classes! No matter your field of study or interests, Berlin has artistic, political, and cultural significance. Take a look at the eBook "Perspectives on Berlin". It will include an extensive collection of digital resources about Berlin. Although you may be oceans away from Germany, connecting ourselves to Humboldt-Universität's culturally and historically rich location is still incredibly valuable.

EXPECTATIONS & POLICIES

Preparation for lively discussions in the virtual classroom: be on time, have at least the required readings completed, and points in mind for discussion or clarification.

Assignments: complete all assignments according to the specified requirements on the schedule including handing them over to the lecturer.

Commitment in online-class: pay particular attention to the lecturer and respect differences of opinions (classmates', lecturers).

Academic guidelines: Comply with academic integrity policies (such as no plagiarism or cheating, nothing unethical) especially the academic honor code and the student code of conduct.

Attendance policy: No unexcused absences are permitted. Students must contact their class teachers to catch up on missed work – to excuse absence please contact the HUWISU office.

COURSE DESCRIPTION & LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course will deal with the current state of the European Union. A political entity hit by various challenges over the last years: the euro crisis in the late 2000s, the migration crisis in 2015, Brexit in 2016 and the current Covid-19 crisis. This class aims for unveiling the roots and possible solutions to these challenges. It will seek answers to questions commonly posed outside Europe: Why did Europe react so slowly to the crisis? Why does European crisis management seem so complicated? Why don't they just take firm decisions? The course will not offer definite answers but will try to explain how the EU works and why it works as it does. We will study answers mainly from political science and sociology but will also take a look at some economists' and historians' arguments. By doing so, the course will highlight the specific role Germany plays in the European game.

This is **not an introduction to European politics**. Participating requires substantial knowledge in European Integration and European History.

The primary aim of the course is to give participants some understanding of why the European crisis seems so difficult to resolve and of the role **Germany** plays in this scenario. We will use the financial and migration crises as case studies to illustrate the **major mechanisms** at work in European decision making.

This course requires advanced knowledge about European Integration and European History. This is a specialized class reaching far beyond an introduction to European politics.

ASSIGNMENT INFO

In order to gain 5 ECTS, you are required to

- 1) attend class regularly and participate actively in our discussions
- 2) read all assigned texts and write a one-pager summary for all texts for each session based on the proposed structure on Moodle
- 3) hold a presentation based on the assigned key questions in Moodle
- 4) In addition, you ought to hand in an essay of at least 1,000 words.

The final grade will be composed of weekly assignments and active participation in class (33%), your presentation (33%) and the final essay (33%).

YOUR INSTRUCTORS

Dr. Timo Lochocki is executive staff with German Federal Ministry of Health; before, he was the Batten Professor for Public Policy at Davidson College, NC and transatlantic fellow with the Europe Program where he directed the research activities of The German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF) on European diversity and party politics. He studied social psychology and international politics in Germany, Norway, and the United States and holds a Ph.D. in comparative politics from the Humboldt University Berlin, where he is a lecturer for European Politics.

His doctoral thesis explains varying electoral advances of right-wing populist parties in Europe and was graded as summa cum laude. He has published work on European integration, migration, and comparative politics with a focus on left- and right-wing populist parties in academic journals, national newspapers, and for various think tanks. In addition to his native German, Lochocki speaks fluent English and Norwegian, and has a working knowledge of French and Swedish.

COURSE SCHEDULE & READINGS

June 28th, 12.30 to 3.00 pm (Berlin time)

Introduction

Organization of class: Grading, readings/one-pagers, presentations

Input Presentation 1: Mapping politics in a globalized world (1/2)

Readings:

Leonard, Dick (2010): Guide to the European Union, (9th ed., published by The Economist), 1-43

Parsons, Craig (2002): Showing Ideas as Causes: The Origins of the European Union, *International Organization* 56:1, 47-84

Leonard, D. (2010): Guide to the European Union, (9th ed., published by The Economist). Ch.1: The origins, 51-83

Fontaine, Pascal (2010): Europe in 12 lessons (Brussels: EC.), 22-30

June 30th, 12.30 to 3.00pm (Berlin time)

Input Presentation 2: Mapping politics in a globalized world (2/2)

Readings:

Balfour, R. (2016): Europe's Troublemakers – The populist challenge to foreign policy, EPC February 2016.

http://www.epc.eu/pub_details.php?cat_id=17&pub_id=6377

Lochocki, T. (2014): The Unstoppable Far Right? GMF Europe Policy Paper 4/2014.

<http://www.gmfus.org/publications/unstoppable-far-right>

Smale, A. (2013): German Campaign, Amid Fiery Debate Abroad, Shuffles Towards Consensus, *The New York Times*, 09/21/2013

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/22/world/europe/unlike-bitter-campaignselsewhere-germanys-gravitates-towardcenter.html?mtrref=query.nytimes.com&mtrref=www.nytimes.com>

Traynor, I. (2013): Eurozone crisis sees Franco-German axis crumbling. *The Guardian* 05/14/2013

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2013/may/14/eurozone-crisisgermany-france>

Until class of July 2nd: Homework Watch Movie

Watch Movie Generation War (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_jZKzqKIYnU)

July 2nd, 12.30 to 3.00pm (Berlin time)

Input Presentation 3: The German Hegemon?

Discussion of Movie Generation War

Readings:

Garton Ash, Timothy (2013): The New German Question, The New York Review of Books, 15th of August 2013.

Katzenstein, Peter (1997): United Germany in an integrating Europe, Current History, 96, 608, 116-123.

Simms, Brandon (2013): Cracked Heart of the Old World, The New Statesman, 14th of March 2013.

Applebaum, Anne (2015): The risks of putting Germany front and center in Europe's crisis. The Washington Post, 02/20/2015.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/germanys-centralrole/2015/02/20/d1119cd4-b8f8-11e4-aa05-1ce812b3fdd2_story.html

Borger, Julian (2012): Germany slowly comes to terms with sending armed forces abroad, The Guardian, 09/18/2012

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2012/sep/18/germany-military-moderniseforeign-intervention>

Cohen, R. (2015): The German Question Redux. The New York Times Opinion Pages, 07/13/2015

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/07/14/opinion/roger-cohen-the-germanquestion-redux.html?mtrref=query.nytimes.com&assetType=opinion>

Karnitschigg, M. (2014): Angela Merkel's year of living dangerously, Politico Europe, 12/31/2015.

<http://www.politico.eu/article/angela-merkels-year-of-living-dangerously/>

Kundnani, Hans (2011): Germany as a Geo-Economic Power. The Washington Quarterly, November 2011.

<https://www.ciaonet.org/attachments/18832/uploads>

Schwarzer, Daniela (2015): Learning on the Job. The EU is battling three major crises – with Germany in the lead in every case. But so far Berlin has not been able to create momentum for building a stronger Europe. Berlin Policy Journal, 11/10/2015

<http://berlinpolicyjournal.com/learning-on-the-job/>

Simms, B. (2015): Germany's triumph: from the ruins of war, how a new German empire was built. New Statesman, 07/30/2015

<http://www.newstatesman.com/politics/2015/07/germany-s-triumph-ruins-warhow-new-european-empire-was-built>

Steinmeier, Frank-Walter (2016): Germany's New Role. Berlin steps up. Foreign Affairs, July/August 2016.

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/europe/2016-06-13/germany-s-newglobal-role>

July 5th, 12.30 to 3.00 pm (Berlin time)

Input Presentation 4: The Euro crisis

Readings:

Bulmer, Simon (2014): Germany and the Eurozone Crisis: Between Hegemony and Domestic Politics. West European Politics, Volume 37, Issue 6.

Elliot, Larry (2012): Why Angela Merkel wants to make the rest of Europe more like Germany. The Guardian, 09/17/2012.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2012/sep/17/angela-merkel-shapeeurope-german-image>

Hall, Peter. A. (2012): The Economics and Politics of the Euro Crisis, German Politics, 21:4, 355-371

Kollewe, Julia (2012): How Germany's south became the backbone of a vibrant economy. The Guardian, 09/17/2012

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2012/sep/17/germany-south-backboneeconomy>

Letters to the Editors (2015): Structural Crisis in the Eurozone. The New York Times Opinion Pages 08/11/2015

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/12/opinion/structural-crisis-in-theeurozone.html?mtrref=query.nytimes.com&assetType=opinion>

Young, Brigitte/Semmler, Willy (2011): The European sovereign debt crisis. Is Germany to blame? German Politics and Society, 29, 1, 1-24

Input Presentation 5: The migration crisis

Readings:

Barigazzi, Jacopo (2016): Commission's Road Map to Save Schengen. Politico, 02/03/2016

<http://www.politico.eu/article/commission-roadmap-to-save-schengen-arearefugees-migrants/>

Kundnani, Hans (2016): How Europe's Refugee and Euro Crisis are Linked. GMF Transatlantic Take, 02/16/16

<http://www.gmfus.org/blog/2016/02/16/how-europe%E2%80%99s-refugeeand-euro-crisis-are-linked>

Leonard, Marc (2016): The German Problem. http://www.ecfr.eu/article/commentary_the_german_problem_6026

Smale, Alison (2016): Angela Merkel, Accused of Betraying Core Values, Facing a Balancing Act with Turkey, The New York Times 04/14/2016. <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/15/world/europe/angela-merkel-germanyturkey-erdogan-censorship.html?mtrref=query.nytimes.com>

Traynor, Ian (2015): Europe splits over refugee deal as Germany leads breakaway coalition. The Guardian, 11/30/2015 <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/nov/29/germanys-plan-to-strike-euwide-refugee-sharing-deal-stalls>

July 7th, 12.30 to 3pm (Berlin time)

Input Presentation 6: Brexit

Readings:

Elliot, Larry (2016): Brexit is a rejection of Globalization. The Guardian, 06/26/2016

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2016/jun/26/brexit-is-the-rejection-ofglobalisation>

Goodwin, Matthew (2016): Inequalities not personalities drove Britain to Brexit. Politico, 06/28/2016

<http://www.politico.eu/article/inequality-not-personalities-drove-britain-tobrexit/>

Huetlin, Thomas (2016): Benefiting from Brexit: Boris Johnson's Folly. Der Spiegel, 06/26/16

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/europe/boris-johnson-a-talented-populiston-the-rise-a-1099802.html>

Lochocki, T. (2014): The Unstoppable Far Right? GMF Europe Policy Paper 4/2014.

<http://www.gmfus.org/publications/unstoppable-far-right>

Scheuermann, Christop, et al. (2016): Don't leave us! Why Germany needs the British. 06/22/2016

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/europe/spiegel-brexit-cover-story-pleasedon-t-go-a-1099070.html>

Spence, Alex et al. (2016): How David Cameron blew it. Politico, 06/25/16

<http://www.politico.eu/article/how-david-cameron-lost-brexit-eu-referendumprime-minister-campaign-remain-boris-craig-oliver-jim-messina-obama/>

Spiegel staff (2016): Europe is dead. Long live Europe? Der Spiegel, 06/26/2016

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/europe/black-thursday-for-uk-and-europeas-britain-votes-to-leave-eu-a-1099726.html>

Input Presentation 7: The Covid-19 crisis

Readings:

Bergsen, Pepijn (2020): Why the Pandemic and Populism still work together. Chatham House online.

<https://www.chathamhouse.org/2020/11/why-pandemic-and-populism-still-work-together>

Brands, Hal (2021): America is overtaking China in Vaccine Diplomacy. Bloomberg Opinion.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2021-03-23/america-is-overtaking-china-in-covid-19-vaccine-diplomacy>

Guttenberg, Lucas et al. (2021): Everything will be different. How the pandemic is changing EU economic governance.

https://www.delorscentre.eu/en/publications/detail/publication/everything-will-be-different-how-the-pandemic-is-changing-eu-economic-governance?_ga=2.55561826.850214640.1615660662-

[661930606.1615660662&cHash=4064cd73280409f6427b5d1285ae5599](https://www.ecfr.eu/article/germany-at-the-helm-how-berlin-kept-europe-together-in-2020/)

Hein, Andre (2021): Germany at the helm: How Berlin kept Europe together in 2020. ECFR online.

<https://ecfr.eu/article/germany-at-the-helm-how-berlin-kept-europe-together-in-2020/>

The Economist (2021): Tracking Covid-19 excess deaths across countries. Online.

<https://www.economist.com/graphic-detail/coronavirus-excess-deaths-tracker>

July 9th, 12.30 to 3pm (Berlin time)

What now? (No input-presentation)

Readings:

Hvidsten, Andreas and Hovi, Jon (2015): Why no two-track Europe? Unity, discontent and differentiation in European Integration. European Union Politics, March 2015, Volume 16, Issue 1, pp. 3-22).

Karnitschig, Matthew (2016): A new union of 27 split along old lines. Politico, 06/26/2016

<http://www.politico.eu/article/new-union-of-27-split-along-old-lines-europebrexit-referendum-brussels-summit/>

Leonard, Mark (2011): Four Scenarios for the Re-Invention of Europe.

Reisenbichler, Alexander and Morgan J. Kimberley (2013): How Germany won the euro-crisis, Foreign Affairs, 20th of June 2013.

Schimmelfpennig, Frank et. al. (2015): The European Union as a system of differentiated integration: interdependence, politicization and differentiation. Journal of European Public Policy. Volume 22, Issue 6, pp 764-782).

Taylor, Tom (2016): A Union Divided by Multiple Crises. The New York Times, 02/01/2016

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/02/business/international/a-union-divided-by-multiple-crises.html?_r=0

The course and its syllabus are subject to change. Last update: 27 May 2021