Course Title: The European Union between Supranational Integration and National Sovereignty

Category: Social Sciences, Politics & Education

Class Time: Session 2, July 20th – August 14th 2020
Track C
Weekly schedule (two exceptions highlighted in red)
Tuesday: 1.30 pm – 3 pm & 3.30 pm – 5 pm
Wednesday: 1.30 pm – 3 pm & 3.30 pm – 5 pm
Friday: 9 am – 10.30 am & 11.00 am – 11.45 am

Course Level & Target Group: Undergraduate students of all relevant subjects with a strong interest in the course topic.

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

ECTS: 5 ECTS (45 contact hours)

Instructor: Dr. Timo Lochocki

Course Description & Learning Outcome
The course will reflect upon the history and the current challenges of the European Union as the most ambitious project of supranational integration. While the project of integration was based on the quest for peace in its beginnings, it became clear over the years, that the economic benefits for members were beginning to be the main incentive for further integration. But today, facing a financial and institutional crisis, the European Union is beginning to question its roots and aims. Thus, the course will explore the development of the EU as a political entity, will try to understand the reasons for the current crises and will finally also try to look ahead – what future for the European integration?

Since Berlin is one of the hearts of Europe, we will focus on Germany’s role in particular. Making use of the venue of the class, we will also take the opportunity to get first-hand information through excursion to the heart of political Berlin.

We will study answers mainly from political science and sociology, but will also take a look at some economists’ and historians’ arguments. Finally, participants will also be asked to interview ordinary citizens in order to gain a perspective outside of academia.

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

Course Schedule & Readings (will be updated prior to the beginning of the course)

July 21, Tuesday 1.30-5pm
Organization of class – No input presentations

July 22, Wednesday 1.30-5pm: Mapping politics in a globalized world
Input presentation 1: History and patterns of European Integration

Readings:

Input presentation 2: Mapping the actors in European Integration
Readings:
Fontaine, Pascal (2010): Europe in 12 lessons (Brussels: EC.), 22-30

**July 24, Friday 9-12pm: The new variable national party politics**

Input presentation 3: The new variable national party politics

Readings:

**July 28, Tuesday 1.30-5pm: Mapping politics in a globalized world**

Interview two English-speaking Germans and two English-speaking Europeans and ask them politely to respond to the following questions (be aware that you should record four interviews within a good hour and detailed notes are necessary):

1. How do you evaluate the situation in contemporary Europe?
2. What do you want to change in Europe?
3. How do you think the European Union will look like in 10 years?
4. What do you think about the conduct and the standing of your own country in European affairs?

Showing of interviews in class (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CcSmGxseq&feature=youtu.be)

**July 30, Thursday 1.30 – 5pm: The impact of changing national identities**

City Tour through Political Berlin, meeting point tba

**July 31, Friday: No 9-12pm: The German Hegemon?**

Input Presentation 4: Germany and Europe in the not so distant past

Readings:

**Input Presentation 5: Germany and Europe today**

Readings:
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/
August 4, Tuesday 1 – 5pm: Germany Identity
Movie: Generation War
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_jZKzqKIYnU

August 5, Wednesday 1 – 5pm: Germany Identity
Movie: Generation War

August 7, Friday: No class

August 11, Tuesday 1-5pm: The Migration Crisis
Debate about Generation War

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

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%2E%2B%20refugee-and-euro-crisis-are-linked

http://www.echr.eu/article/commentary_the_german_problem_6026


Traynor, Ian (2015): Europe splits over refugee deal as Germany leads breakaway coalition. The Guardian, 11/30/2015

August 12, Wednesday 1 – 5pm: Brexit
Input presentation 7: Brexit

Readings:
https://www.theguardian.com/business/2016/jun/26/brexit-is-a-rejection-of-globalisation


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-politician-the-rise-a-1099802.html

http://www.politico.eu/article/how-david-cameron-blew-it/06/25/16

Spence, Alex 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

August 14, Friday 9-12pm: The Euro Crisis
Input presentation 8: The origins of the euro crisis

Readings:

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2012/sep/17/angela-merkel-shape-europe-german-image


Kolwele, 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-backbonenoeconomy


Young, Brigitte/Semmler, Willy (2011): The European sovereign debt crisis. Is Germany to blame? German Politics and Society, 29, 1, 1-24
August 14, Friday 1-4pm (additional class to make up for August 9): What now?
Meeting with the Young European Movement Berlin (http://jeb-bb.de), possibly tbc.

What future for Germany and Europe?
Readings:

Assignments
In order to gain 5 ECTS, you are required to attend class regularly, read all assigned texts, hold a brief presentation (20 min) and most importantly: to participate actively in our discussions. In addition, you ought to hand in an essay of at least 1.000 words on the question: ‘How should the crisis be resolved best in your very own opinion, and how do you assume it will be handled and why?’ The deadline for the essay will be discussed in class.

Assessment Components
The final grade will be composed of the presentation and final essay and active participation in the class discussion. A minimum of 80% class attendance is required. Failure to fulfil one of the mentioned components results in failure of the class.

Expectations & Policies
Preparation for lively discussions in the 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 schedule including handing over to the lecturer.

Commitment in class: pay particular attention to the lecturer and respect differences of opinions (classmates’, lecturers, local constituents engaged with on the visits).

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 (see FAQs on www.huwisu.de).

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 (80% class attendance are required).

Field trips: if classes involve a field trip or other external visits, these require attendance as well as appearance in time – transportation difficulties are never valid reasons for an excused absence.

Extra-curricular Activities
HUWISU offers a fine selection of interesting extra-curricular activities and aims to give all participants an unforgettable stay in Berlin. Your program includes excursions, sport activities and social gatherings providing you the opportunity to get to know the city, the university and your classmates better and to meet students from all parts of the world. The costs for these offers are included in the program fee.

Below you will find examples of previously offered cultural activities. You will be informed about the respective cultural program after your enrolment via email as well as during the course period.

Political and historical guided tours:
• **Federal Chancellery (Bundeskanzleramt):** It’s the central coordination point for the entire government policy. The office is in constant contact to departments and other authorities.
• **German Parliament (Bundestag):** As the highest organ of the legislative in Germany it’s elected by the German people. In practice Germany is governed by a bicameral legislature, of which the
Bundestag serves as the lower house and the Bundesrat equals the upper house.

- **House of Representatives (Abgeordnetenhaus):** It’s the state parliament (Landtag) of Berlin and located in the center of the reunified city. Together with the Martin Gropius Bau, the Topography of Terror and the Bundesrat, it presents an arresting contrast to the flair of the new Potsdamer Platz.

- **Topography of Terror:** A permanent exhibition with focus on the central institutions of the SS and police during the “Third Reich” and the crimes they committed throughout Europe. With the help of mostly photographic material, visitors are led through the major themes of the exhibition’s five main segments.

- **Political Archive:** As the “memory” of the Federal Foreign Office it preserves the files on German diplomacy since 1867, as well as the international treaties signed by the Federal Republic of Germany and its predecessors in title. The records are preserved, processed and made available for academic research.

**Cultural guided tours:**

- **Kreuzberg Tour:** Kreuzberg has emerged from its history as one of the poorest quarters in Berlin in the late 1970s to a cultural center of today’s Berlin. A unique area and one of the hippest neighborhoods in Berlin with many bars, pubs and clubs.

- **Berlin’s Museum Island (Museumsinsel):** was awarded UNESCO World Heritage Status in 1999 and is an ensemble of five museums: Old Museum, New Museum, Old National Gallery, Pergamon Museum and Bode Museum.

- **Berliner Dom:** Berlin’s largest and most important Protestant church is located on the Museum Island.

- **Daytrip to Potsdam:** Be inspired by the illustrious attractions of the UNESCO’s World Heritage while underway through the city of Potsdam. Immerse yourself in the history and present of Potsdam and discover many palaces, gardens, and historic quarters such as the “Holländisches Viertel” or the “Nikolaikirche”.

- **Exhibitions:** Berlin is known for its unique galleries and exhibitions, that is why we will visit at least one during the Winter University.

**Social gatherings**

- **Welcome Get-Together:** We invite you to meet all participants as well as the HUWISU staff in a relaxed atmosphere.

- **Boat trip:** Get to know Berlin from a completely new perspective and see Berlin’s famous sights while floating along the river Spree.

- **Beach Volleyball:** A fun outdoor sport activity on long warm summer evenings for those who love to play and everyone who just want to enjoy watching the others play, lying in the sand, meet friends for some drinks, or simply relax in the middle of Berlin.

- **Farewell Party:** At the end of the Summer University we will come together to celebrate the exciting time with HUWISU.

**Your Instructor**

Dr. Timo Lochocki studied Social Psychology and International Politics in Germany, Norway and the United States. In 2013 he finished his PhD at Humboldt University Berlin explaining why right-wing populist parties in Western Europe - like the German AfD or the French FN - rise or fall. From 2014 to 2017 he worked as a Transatlantic Fellow for The German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF), stationed in Berlin and Paris. He hereby advised federal decision makers in Germany, France and the US on the new nexus between national party politics and international policy planning. In 2018 he worked as James Knox Batten Visiting Professor for European Politics at Bard College, NC. In the same year he published “The Formula of Trust” (“Die Vertrauensformel”) stressing the key role of Political Communication to prevent increasing societal polarization in Germany. Since 2019 he works as Executive Staff for the German Ministry of Health, advising Minister Jens Spahn and being responsible for International Policy Planning and Political Communication.

Please note that the course and its syllabus are subject to change. Last update: January 2020