



Universidad de Sevilla/Facultad de Geografía e Historia

Curso GA-05 THE POLITICAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

(45 class hours)

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OBJECTIVES

To make students aware of the historical milestones within the process of European construction. As the Course develops, reflexion upon the idea of Europe will be encouraged, as well as upon how to approach this same historical process from the perspective of the Social Sciences and Historiography, upon its evolution, upon the study of its institutional make-up, and upon the existing links between Spain and Europe.

With this basis in mind, the aim is to enable students: to reflect critically upon the key issues involved in the process of European construction; to acquire an understanding of, and be capable of analyzing, with rigor, the circumstances affecting this same process at the present time; to become aware of the values upon which the foundations of European construction are based.

METHODOLOGY

Class sessions will be based on two-hour modules, during the first of which lecturers will explore the key aspects of one of the units of syllabus content, while during the second hour, documentaries will be screened, text commentaries will be carried out, and workshops will be held, based on the readings prepared by students beforehand on a weekly basis.

SYLLABUS

Unit I: The Birth of Contemporary Europe.

1.1 Liberalism and Romanticism: Europe as a Total Compendium of Identities and as a Channel for Political Transformation.

1.2 The Europe of Nationalisms and Imperialism.

Unit II: Europe and the Inter-War Years: The Undermining of the Continent's Leadership (1919-1939).

2.1 The Break-up of an Age-Old Political Model. The Great War and its Consequences. The League of Nations.

2.2 Europe and the Inter-War Years: Coudenhove-Kalergi, Stresemann, Briand.

2.3 The Crash of 1929 and its Political Consequences.



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Unit III: Europe as the Answer to Totalitarianism: European Construction during World War II (1939- 1945).

3.1 The Franco-British Union (1940): A Project involving Supranational Integration.

3.2 Nazi Europe: Von Ribbentrop's Confederacy Project (1943).

3.3 The Europe of the Resistance. Benelux.

Unit IV: European Reconstruction.

4.1 The Criteria put forward by the United States: The 'Marshall Plan'. The Organization for European Economic Cooperation (OECE).

4.2 Europe according to Europe.

4.3 The Impact of the Cold War. The Council of Europe. The Birth of the German Federal Republic.

Unit V: The Economic Community of Coal and Steel (CECA).

5.1 From Monnet to Schuman.

5.2 The Failure of the European Defence Community and of the European Political Union (1954).

Unit VI: The Creation of the European Economic Community.

6.1 The Treaties of Rome.

6.2 The New Institutions.

6.3 The British Response to the EEC: the European Association for Free Trade (EFTA)

Unit VII: The Critical Decade (1959-1968).

7.1 De Gaulle's Europe.

7.2 France and the United States: The Struggle for Hegemony in Europe.

7.3 The Treaty of Fusion.

Unit VIII: The Expansion of the European Communities (1968-1979).

8.1 The Entry of Great Britain into the EEC.

8.2 The Economic and Monetary Union.

8.3 The Conference for European Security and Cooperation in Helsinki (1975).

8.4 The Birth of the European Monetary System (1978).

8.5 An European Parliament Elected by Direct Universal Suffrage (1979).



Unit IX: The Single Europe Act (1980-1986).

9.1 The Committee of Experts' Report.

9.2 Discrepancies among Member Countries.

9.3 The Schengen Agreements.

Unit X: The Transformation of Europe's Political Space (1986-1991).

10.1 The Collapse of the Soviet Block.

10.2 The Reunification of Germany.

10.3 The Transformation of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe and of the Council of Europe.

Unit XI: 'The Treaty of European Union' (Maastricht 1992).

11.1 The European Union and its Three Pillars.

11.2 Economic and Monetary Union.

11.3 Foreign Policy and a Common Security Policy.

11.4 Matters concerning the System of Justice and Home Affairs.

11.5 Institutional Reforms.

Unit XII: The European Union (1992-2002).

12.1 The Europe of the Fifteen.

12.2 The First Revision of the Treaty of Union: The Treaty of Amsterdam, 1997.

12.3 The Second Revision of the Treaty of Union: The Treaty of Nice, 2000.

12.4 The European Union's Charter of Rights.

12.5 The Process of Enlargement toward Central and Eastern Europe.

Unit XIII: The Treaty of Lisbon (2007).

13.1 The Europe of the Twenty-Seven.

13.2 Institutional Reform.

13.3 The European Constitution.

13.4 New Issues for Europe.

Unit XIV: The EU and the United States.

14.1 The Transatlantic Declaration (1990).

14.2 The New Transatlantic Agenda, NAT (1995).

14.3 The Enlargement of NAT (1999).

14.4 Europe and the United States in the Twenty-First Century.



BIBLIOGRAPHY

a) General

- CASANOVA, J.: Europa contra Europa 1914-1945, Barcelona, Crítica, 2011.
- GARY, R.: Europa, Barcelona, Galaxia Gutenberg, 2010.
- MARTÍN DE LA GUARDIA, R. M.-PÉREZ SÁNCHEZ, G.A. Historia de la integración europea. Barcelona: Ariel, 2001.
- NIETO SOLIS, J.A. Fundamentos y políticas de la Unión Europea. Madrid: Siglo XXI, 1995.
- PEREIRA, J.C. MORENO, A. «España ante el proyecto de integración europea desde una perspectiva histórica: panorama historiográfico y líneas de investigación». Studia Histórica, 9 (1991), 129-152.

b) Complementary

- AHIJADO, M. Historia de la unidad europea. Desde los precedentes a la ampliación al Este. Madrid: Pirámide, 2000.
- ALDECOA LUZURRAGA, F. La integración europea. Análisis histórico-institucional contextos y documentos. Madrid: Tecnos, 2002, 2 vols.
- BASSOLS, R. España en Europa. Historia de la adhesión a la CE (1957-1985). Madrid: Política Exterior, 1995.
- BOSSUAT, G. Histoire de la construction européenne au XXè siècle. Bern: Peter Lang, 1994.
- COMISIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE HISTORIA DE LAS RELACIONES INTERNACIONALES (ed.) Cincuentenario de la Declaración Schuman (9 de mayo de 1950). El impulso de la idea de Europa y el proceso de integración, (II Jornadas de la Comisión Española de Historia de las Relaciones Internacionales). Madrid: CEHRI, 2002.
- DE LA CAL BARERO, M. L.: La nueva estrategia Europa 2020: una apuesta clave para la UE en el s. XXI, Álava, Eurobask, D.L, 2011
- FERNÁNDEZ NAVARRETE, D. Historia y economía de la Unión Europea. Madrid: Centro de Estudios Ramón Areces, 1999, 1-175.
- FOLGUERA, P. Historia de la Unidad Europea. Madrid: UAM, 1998.
- GERBET, P. La construction de l'Europe. Paris: Imprimerie National, 1983 (3a ed. rev. Y puesta al día en 1999).
- PÉREZ-BUSTAMANTE, R. Historia de la Unión Europea. Madrid: Dykinson, 1997.
- SEMPRUM, J.: Pensar en Europa, Barcelona, Tusquest 2011.



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ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

- a) Two exams will be set, one mid-way through the Course and the other at the close of the semester.
- b) The undertaking of an assignment consisting of the exploration of any of the points dealt with as syllabus subject-matter during class sessions.