



POLS-Y 335 (4052), Fall 2017

West European Politics

MW 2:30-3:45 p.m., Cedar Hall-Union Street Center C112



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Office hours: MW 4:15-5:15 p.m. (and by appointment),
Woodburn Hall 330

This class meets with EURO-W 301 (4380) Modern European Politics and Society, to which this syllabus applies as well. The contents of this syllabus may be subject to changes throughout the semester, which will be announced in advance (i.e., before they come into effect).

Course Description

Democracy and the resolution of political conflict are two desirable political outcomes, yet they often occur in each other's absence. Drawing insights from recent and established research within the field of Comparative Politics, this course explores the complex, multifaceted relationship between democracy and conflict resolution from a political science perspective, with a particular focus on how this relationship plays out in the context of West European politics. It does so by first laying out the conceptual groundwork for examining both the conceptual overlap between democracy and conflict resolution, and the causal and empirical links that connect the two (Part I). Next, this course investigates the causal relationships between democracy and conflict resolution by comparing democracies to dictatorships (Part II). It then examines whether and how democracies can balance the need for conflict resolution with political accountability, with a particular focus on the role of domestic political institutions and the European Union. It does so first by comparing West European democracies (Part III), and next by tracing changes in elite and mass behavior over time (Part IV). What are the origins of West European democracies, and why did some of them collapse? What kind of non-democratic regimes replaced them, and what kind of legacies did they leave behind? What are the primary institutional distinctions among modern West European democracies, and do they matter? Are Europeanization and the rise of radical right-wing populism unrelated phenomena, or symptoms of a general trend towards increasingly dysfunctional, 'empty' Western democracies? These are some of the questions this course will explore.

Credit Hours: 3

Required Textbooks

Lijphart, Arend (2012), *Patterns of Democracy: Government Forms and Performance in Thirty-six Countries*, Second Edition, Yale University Press, ISBN: 9780300172027.

Mair, Peter (2013), *Ruling the Void: The Hollowing of Western Democracy*, Verso Books, ISBN: 1781682348.

Course Requirements (percentages indicate weights for your final score):

Class Attendance	5%
Each class, students will be asked to sign an attendance sheet.	
Class Participation	5%
There will be occasional pop quizzes to assess class participation.	
Assignments (3 in total; 10% each)	30%
Choose 3 out of a total of 5 assignments (due in class):	
#1 due on Wednesday (2:30 p.m.) of Week 3 (9/6).	
#2 due on Wednesday (2:30 p.m.) of Week 5 (9/20).	
#3 due on Wednesday (2:30 p.m.) of Week 6 (9/27).	
#4 due on Wednesday (2:30 p.m.) of Week 7 (10/4).	
#5 due on Wednesday (2:30 p.m.) of Week 12 (11/8).	
Midterm Exam	30%
Wednesday, October 11 th , 2:30-3:45 p.m., Cedar Hall C112.	
Final Exam	30%
Monday, December 11 th , 12:30-2:30 p.m., Cedar Hall C112.	

Class Attendance and Class Participation (each worth 5% of final score)

Class attendance is mandatory, affects your grade and will be recorded using in-class sign-in sheets. You can request excused absences for illness, familial situations demanding your immediate attention, religious observances, and official IU business. Each class, you are expected to have read the assigned materials in advance, to have studied the previous lecture, and to participate actively and meaningfully. To assess your class participation, there will be occasional pop quizzes on that day's readings and the material presented in the previous day's lecture.

Assignments (each worth 10% of final score)

Students are required to submit a total of three assignments (printed copies are due in class on the dates listed in the syllabus). There are five assignments to choose from. Only the first three assignments that you submit will be considered. Students should complete these assignments on their own. Late assignments will be heavily penalized. Assignments include opportunities for extra credit to improve your final score, but these opportunities will only be available for the first three assignments that you submit. The assignments are posted on Canvas.

Midterm and Final Exams (each worth 30% of final score)

The midterm exam will cover the assigned readings and lectures from Weeks 1-8. The final exam is non-cumulative and will cover the material from Weeks 9-15. On each exam, students will be asked to answer 20 multiple choice questions (worth $\frac{1}{3}$ of exam points) and several short essay questions (worth $\frac{2}{3}$ of exam points). Essay questions are similar to assignment questions. During the mid-term exam and the final exam, each student is allowed to consult his or her submitted version(s) of Assignments 1-4 and Assignment 5, respectively. Please note that it is the student's responsibility to check the final examination schedule to determine the date and time of the final exam.

Reading Requirements

The assigned readings are listed in the course outline presented below and are indicated by citations, which refer to the full list of references presented at the end of this syllabus. Some citations only assign particular chapters or pages. For instance, "Tilly (1992, Chapter 2)" only assigns Chapter 2 of "Tilly, Charles (1992), *Coercion, Capital, and European States, AD 990-1992*, Oxford: Blackwell, ISBN: 1557863687" for that particular class date. All assigned readings can be accessed via Canvas, except Lijphart (2012) and Mair (2013).

Letter Grade Policies

Your final score can range from 0 to 100 points (excluding extra credit). After adding extra credit, and together with the remaining grade policies detailed below, your final score will determine your final letter grade, which will be assigned on the basis of the following letter grade distribution:

>= 93.00	A	73.00 - 76.99	C
90.00 - 92.99	A-	70.00 - 72.99	C-
87.00 - 89.99	B+	67.00 - 69.99	D+
83.00 - 86.99	B	63.00 - 66.99	D
80.00 - 82.99	B-	60.00 - 62.99	D-
77.00 - 79.99	C+	<= 59.99	F

How to Obtain an A+

An A+ is awarded to students who have earned an A for the class and have successfully completed an empirical research project (± 15 pp.) no later than Wednesday, December 6th, 2:30 p.m. Students who wish to work on such a project should notify the instructor no later than Week 9.

Academic Integrity

As a student at IU, you are expected to adhere to the standards and policies detailed in the *Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct* (available online at the following website: <http://studentcode.iu.edu>). When you submit an assignment with your name on it, you are signifying that the work contained therein is yours, unless otherwise cited or referenced. Any ideas or materials taken from another source for either written or oral use must be fully acknowledged. If you are unsure about the expectations for completing an assignment or taking a test or exam, be sure to seek clarification beforehand. All suspected violations of the Code will be handled according to University policies. Sanctions for academic misconduct may include a failing grade on the assignment, reduction in your final course grade, a failing grade in the course, among other possibilities, and must include a report to the Dean of Students, who may impose additional disciplinary sanctions.

Re: Note Selling

Several commercial services have approached students regarding selling class notes/ study guides to their classmates. Please be advised that selling a faculty member's notes/ study guides individually or on behalf of one of these services using IU email, Canvas, or Oncourse violates both IU information technology and IU intellectual property policy. Selling the faculty member's notes/ study guides to fellow students in this course is not permitted. Violations of this policy will be considered violations of the *Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct* and will be reported to the Dean of Students as a violation of course rules (academic misconduct). Sanctions for academic misconduct may include a failing grade on the assignment for which the notes/ study guides are being sold, a reduction in your final course grade, a failing grade in the course, among other possibilities.

Notifications via Canvas

The default notification settings for Canvas can be found online at the following website: <https://kb.iu.edu/d/bfd1>. Students can customize these settings as they wish. Please note, however, that these customizations will apply to all courses in which you are enrolled — there is no way to have messages forwarded for one course, but not for others, for example. By default, you will receive messages (“conversations”) and announcements forwarded to your IU account; if you choose to modify this default setting, it will be your responsibility to make sure you check Canvas regularly for communications.

Course Outline

The weekly coverage is tentative and might change as it depends on the progress of the class. However, you must keep up with the assigned readings as indicated by the citations, which refer to the list of references.

Week	Topics and Readings
	Part I: Democracy, Western Europe and Political Science
Week 1	<p>Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 8/21: Course Requirements <i>Readings:</i> class syllabus. • Wednesday 8/23: The Principles of Political Science <i>Readings:</i> n.a.
Week 2	<p>Core Concepts: Democracy and the State</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 8/28: Democracy: Competition and Participation <i>Readings:</i> Dahl (1971, Chapter 1) • Wednesday 8/30: The State: State Scope vs. State Strength <i>Readings:</i> Fukuyama (2004)
Week 3	<p>The Formation of European States</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 9/4: Labor Day (no class) <i>Readings:</i> n.a. • Wednesday 9/6: Divergence and Convergence in European State Formation <i>Readings:</i> Tilly (1992, Chapter 2) <i>Assignment 1 is to be submitted in class no later than 2:30 p.m.</i>
	Part II: Comparing Democracies to Dictatorships
Week 4	<p>The Origins of West European Democracies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 9/11: The Democratic Path to Modernity <i>Readings:</i> Moore (1966, Chapter 7) • Wednesday 9/13: Democratization and State-building <i>Readings:</i> Dahl (1971, Chapter 3), Carothers (2007), and Mansfield and Snyder (2007)
Week 5	<p>Democratic Breakdown in Western Europe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 9/18: The Reactionary Path to Modernity <i>Readings:</i> Moore (1966, Chapter 8) • Wednesday 9/20: Authoritarian vs. Totalitarian Regimes <i>Readings:</i> Linz and Stepan (1996, Chapter 3: pp. 38-51) <i>Assignment 2 is to be submitted in class no later than 2:30 p.m.</i>

(Course outline continued on the next page.)

Course outline (continued from the previous page):

Week	Topics and Readings
Week 6	<p>Rebuilding Democracy in Western Europe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 9/25: The Rebirth of West European Democracy <i>Readings:</i> Gunther et al. (2004, Chapter 1) • Wednesday 9/27: The Legacies of Dictatorship <i>Readings:</i> Bernhard and Karakoc (2007) <i>Assignment 3 is to be submitted in class no later than 2:30 p.m.</i>
Part III: Comparing Democracies	
Week 7	<p>Majoritarian vs. Consensus Democracies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 10/2: Consensus Democracies <i>Readings:</i> Lijphart (2012, Chapter 1; Chapter 2: pp. 9-20) • Wednesday 10/4: Majoritarian Democracies <i>Readings:</i> Lijphart (2012, Chapter 3) <i>Assignment 4 is to be submitted in class no later than 2:30 p.m.</i>
Week 8	<p>Preparation for the Mid-Term Exam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 10/9: Exam Review Session <i>Readings:</i> readings from Weeks 1-7 • Wednesday 10/11: Mid-Term Exam, 2:30-3:45 p.m., Cedar Hall C112 <i>Midterm Exam Material:</i> all readings and lectures from Weeks 1-8
Week 9	<p>Electoral Representation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 10/16: Parties and Party Systems <i>Readings:</i> Lijphart (2012, Chapter 5) • Wednesday 10/18: Electoral Systems <i>Readings:</i> Lijphart (2012, Chapter 8)
Week 10	<p>Governments and Parliaments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 10/23: The Formation of Governments <i>Readings:</i> Lijphart (2012, Chapter 6) • Wednesday 10/25: Parliaments and Executive Constraints <i>Readings:</i> Lijphart (2012, Chapters 7 and 11)
Week 11	<p>Power-sharing Beyond Partisan Politics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 10/30: Corporatism and State-Society Relations <i>Readings:</i> Lijphart (2012, Chapter 9) • Wednesday 11/1: Bureaucratic Autonomy and Judicial Review <i>Readings:</i> Lijphart (2012, Chapters 12 and 13)

(Course outline continued on the next page.)

Course outline (continued from the previous page):

Week	Topics and Readings
	Part IV: New Challenges to Democracy
Week 12	<p>Challenges from Below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 11/6: Democracy without a <i>Demos</i> <i>Readings:</i> Mair (2013, Introduction and Chapter 1) • Wednesday 11/8: The Populist Response <i>Readings:</i> Mudde (2013) <i>Assignment 5 is to be submitted in class no later than 2:30 p.m.</i>
Week 13	<p>Challenges from Above</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 11/13: The Decline of Party Government <i>Readings:</i> Mair (2013, Chapter 2) • Wednesday 11/15: Elite Withdrawal from Politics <i>Readings:</i> Mair (2013, Chapter 3)
Week 14	<p>Democracy and the European Union</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 11/27: The “Democratic Deficit” of the European Union <i>Readings:</i> Moravcsik (2002) and Follesdal and Hix (2006) • Wednesday 11/29: Europeanization and Depoliticization <i>Readings:</i> Mair (2013, Chapter 4)
Week 15	<p>Class Presentations and Preparation for the Final Exam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 12/4: Additional class lecture on Mair (2013) if necessary; possibly some optional class presentations of optional research projects. <i>Readings:</i> readings from Weeks 9-14 • Wednesday 12/6: Exam Review Session <i>Readings:</i> readings from Weeks 9-14 <i>A paper copy of the optional research project is to be submitted in class no later than 2:30 p.m. A late and/ or digital submission of your research project is worth 0 points.</i>
Week 16	<p>Finals Week (No Classes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam: Monday, December 11th, 12:30-2:30 p.m., Cedar Hall C112 <i>Final Exam Material:</i> all readings and lectures from Weeks 9-15, except the class presentations of research projects.

A note about the list of references: The list of references presented below is primarily meant as a resource for you to use if you'd like to follow up on a given topic. Please note that students are only required to read the material indicated in the course outline presented above. For instance, you are only required to read Chapter 2 of Tilly (1992), not the whole book.

List of References

- Bernhard, Michael and Ekrem Karakoc (2007), "Civil Society and the Legacies of Dictatorship", *World Politics* 59 (4), pp. 539–567, ISSN: 1086-3338.
- Carothers, Thomas (2007), "The "Sequencing" Fallacy", *Journal of Democracy* 18 (1), pp. 12–27.
- Dahl, Robert Alan (1971), *Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition*, New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Follesdal, Andreas and Simon Hix (2006), "Why There is a Democratic Deficit in the EU: A Response to Majone and Moravcsik", *Journal of Common Market Studies* 44 (3), pp. 533–562, ISSN: 1468-5965.
- Fukuyama, Francis (2004), "The Imperative of State-building", *Journal of Democracy* 15 (2), pp. 17–31.
- Gunther, Richard, Jos R Montero, and Juan Botella (2004), *Democracy in Modern Spain*, Yale University Press, ISBN: 030010152X.
- Lijphart, Arend (2012), *Patterns of Democracy: Government Forms and Performance in Thirty-six Countries*, Second Edition, Yale University Press, ISBN: 9780300172027.
- Linz, Juan J and Alfred Stepan (1996), *Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation: Southern Europe, South America, and Post-Communist Europe*, Johns Hopkins University Press, ISBN: 0801851580.
- Mair, Peter (2013), *Ruling the Void: The Hollowing of Western Democracy*, Verso Books, ISBN: 1781682348.
- Mansfield, Edward D and Jack L Snyder (2007), "The Sequencing "Fallacy"", *Journal of democracy* 18 (3), pp. 5–10.
- Moore, Barrington (1966), *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy: Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World*, Beacon Press, ISBN: 0807050733.
- Moravcsik, Andrew (2002), "In Defence of the 'Democratic Deficit': Reassessing Legitimacy in the European Union", *Journal of Common Market Studies* 40 (4), pp. 603–624, ISSN: 1468-5965.
- Mudde, Cas (2013), "Three Decades of Populist Radical Right Parties in Western Europe: So What?", *European Journal of Political Research* 52 (1), pp. 1–19, ISSN: 1475-6765.
- Tilly, Charles (1992), *Coercion, Capital, and European States, AD 990-1992*, Oxford: Blackwell, ISBN: 1557863687.