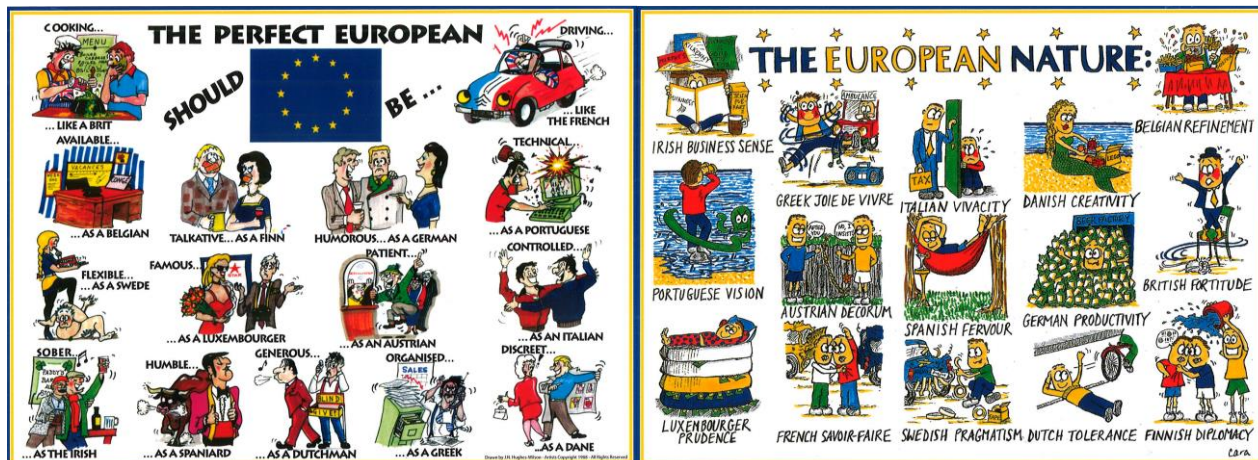


Lewis-Clark State College

- Spring Term 2023 –

POLS 390 Directed Studies:

Model European Union Simulation



General Course & Contact Information:

Instructor: Leif Hoffmann	Office: Spalding Hall, RM 206
Class Dates: Regular weekly one-hour meetings every week until the two-day all-day simulation on March 3 and March 4	Advising Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 9am to 10am; Mondays 5pm to 6pm; or by appointment
	Zoom Office Hour Info: Zoom ID: 898 4841 5879 Zoom Code: 730632
Classroom: My office	Phone: 208-792-2818
Prerequisite: Application and biweekly two-hour meetings during the previous fall semester	Email: lshoffmann@lcsc.edu

Course Description and Objectives:

Europe is rapidly changing. On the 9th of November 1989, the Iron Curtain fell with the opening of the Berlin Wall. Europe once divided throughout the 2nd half of the 20th century between a communist East and a democratic West started again to draw closer to each other. Thus, the study of European politics today is the exploration of politics “from the Atlantic to the Urals” and particularly the creation and development of the European Union.

This directed study serves a preparation to participate in the West Coast Model EU competition organized by the University of Washington’s European Union Center of Excellence.

The Model European Union is a simulation of a European Council Summit. The European Union (EU) is a supranational organization with powers very similar to nation states, pursuing common

policies, especially in the arenas of trade and commerce. As of January 1, 2022, 27 countries belong to the EU.

The European Union and its predecessor the European Community started out as a way to overcome the divisions of the European continent and as a lesson learned from the catastrophe of WW II.

Teams made up of two current undergraduate students play the roles of representatives of EU member state delegations, the European Commission, the European Central Bank and the European Parliament.

In 2019, participants simulated the Romanian presidency, negotiating issues related to the Common Immigration and Border Scheme and the Pipelines/Projects of Common Interest/Energy Independence. In 2020, the Model EU featured two concurrent summit negotiation sessions focusing on EIB Purge of Fossil Fuel Projects, Support Lagging EU Members towards Compliance with Paris Agreement Goals, Update 2016-2019 Strategic Engagement for Gender Equality and Consider Job Training and Cultural Integration Programs. The following two years students were charged with coming to an agreement on issues as diverse as follows:

- Enhanced cooperation in light of the challenges of COVID-19
- Post-Brexit institutional realignment
- Migration – Maintaining or expanding the EU’s agreement with Turkey regarding retaining migrants on its territory
- Expanding and normalizing certain ties, opportunities and programs with Russia
- Western Balkans Accession
- Ukraine Engagement Process
- Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
- Digital Economy Growth Proposal

In 2023 the West Coast Model European Union simulation will celebrate its 19th year. Participants negotiate two issues of concern for the country holding the Presidency, Sweden.

Our institution has been chosen to play Denmark. Thus, our students are asked to research the Danish position on the following issues:

Heads of Government

- Proposal to adopt CSDP Sky Shield
- Proposal to establish new Energy Resilience Fund

Interior Ministers

- Proposal to create Refugee Enhanced Solidarity Platform
- Proposal to expand Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid

In other words, the purpose of this simulation is to teach students about international relations, collective action problems, the European Union and specific policy issues and allow them to apply skills learned otherwise only through books. It enables our students to gain valuable knowledge and skills for graduate school and the job market.

Moreover, this simulation provides the opportunity for students to compete against some of the top universities in North America (University of Washington, University of California – Berkeley, University of Pittsburg, Florida International University, University of British Columbia, University of Victoria, University of Utah, Claremont Colleges, etc.).

In fact, LCSC with only around 3000 students is by far the smallest institution participating. The other participating institutions of higher learning are usually five to eight times the size of LCSC and provide their students with access to EU-specialized libraries, research centers and several classes solely focused on the European Union.

Expectations & Requirements:

This is a 300-level course, which involves a *substantial* amount of recommended readings similar to a graduate student seminar. A suggested list of readings to start out with is provided below. Students are asked to read a series of excerpts from these and other books as well as prepare a series of required documents. In addition to reading articles and book excerpts, students need to research the annual topics chosen by the presidency and the most likely position of the selected country, which involves endless hours of academic research as well as scouring the internet for official statements and government documents.

Furthermore, students need to negotiate with students playing delegates from other nations for two days straight.

Students are required to meet with the professor every week for at least an hour. This follows after regular monthly meetings in the previous semester.

The evaluation process for directed study and the competition itself is based on:

- a) the submission of a position paper and a draft resolution paper as well as an opening speech by the head of government
- b) on the actual participation and negotiating skills exhibited during the simulation (a group of judges, aka the advisers/EU specialists attending the simulation) observe all students during the two-day simulation and then debate who should receive an award for being an outstanding head of government/states and an outstanding government minister (portfolio varies with the simulation)
- c) regular - weekly preparatory meetings - to assess progress in preparing for the meeting
- d) a postmortem, usually undertaken, between the students and myself in the evening after the simulation.

Additional requirements as regards the competition can be found at:

Grading Procedures:

Please **be aware that minimum requirements are as the term indicates MINIMUM requirements** to not fail an assignment and the course. Directed Study courses are based on a PASS/FAIL system. No specific grades will be submitted for the individual assignments and the overall course.

Incompletes: Incompletes will only be granted in exceptional emergency situations (such as death in the immediate family or serious illness – family visits, weddings, etc., do not count), when the relevant assignment(s) cannot be completed in time. In all other cases the grade will be based upon the work completed by the end of the semester, which may result in a failing grade. The grade “I” for an incomplete may be assigned only after instructor and student have completed and signed a Contract for Grade of Incomplete which makes arrangements for the unfinished work to be completed.

Academic Integrity, Plagiarism, Fabrication, Cheating, and Misconduct:

Any form of plagiarism or cheating will not be tolerated. When you hand in an assignment, make sure that everything in it is your own work and that you have made the appropriate references where necessary. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes plagiarism. Neither ignorance nor the lack of an intention to cheat or plagiarize will be considered a legitimate defense. Violations will be punished to the full extent possible, including flunking of the course and a referral to the Dean of Student Services. Raise any questions and concerns you have with the instructor before problems arise. To learn more about LCSC’s Policy on Academic Dishonesty, read it at <http://www.lcsc.edu/Catalog/ss/code-of-conduct.htm>.

Course Schedule:

Based on agreement between student and instructor.

Simulation scheduled for March 43 and March 4 all day.

Recommended Readings:

- Crepaz, Markus M. L. Steiner Jürg. (2013). *European democracies* (8th ed.). Harlow: Longman.
- Fabbrini, Sergio. 2007. *Compound democracies: why the United States and Europe are becoming similar*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Hancock, M. Donald. (2012). *Politics in Europe : an introduction to the politics of the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Russia, Poland, and the European Union* (5th ed.). Washington, D.C.: CQ.
- McNamara, Kathleen R. 1998. *The Currency of Ideas: Monetary Politics in the European Union*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.
- Moravcsik, Andrew. 1998. *The choice for Europe : social purpose and state power from Messina to Maastricht*. Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press.
- Parsons, Craig. 2003. *A certain idea of Europe*. Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press.
- Pinder, John, and Simon McDougall Usherwood. 2007. *The European Union : a very short introduction*. 2nd ed. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press.
- Rothschild, Joseph, Wingfield, Nancy M. 2008. *Return to Diversity: A political history of East Central Europe since WWII*. 4th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.



Recommended Movies:

- (Firm), Films for the Humanities & Sciences. 2007. *Helmut Kohl : [videorecording] German Giant*. New Jersey: Films for the Humanities and Sciences.
- Ghizzardi, Sergio. 2008. Economic and monetary union [videorecording] : 10th anniversary of the euro. Luxembourg: European Communities.
- Henckel von Donnersmarck, et al., Filmproduktion Berg, Productions Buena Vista International Film, Rundfunk Bayerischer, Arte, Film Creado, Classics Sony Pictures, and Entertainment Sony Pictures Home. 2007. *Das Leben der Anderen The lives of others*. [München]; Culver City, CA: Wiedemann & Berg Filmproduktion ; Distributed by Sony Pictures Home Entertainment.
- Hughes, Kathleen, et al. 2006. *Young, Muslim, and French*. Princeton, N.J.: Films for the Humanities & Sciences.
- Redhead, Mark, et al., Classics Paramount, Entertainment Portman, Television Granada, Council Film, hÉireann Bord Scannán na, Kitchen Hell's, and Video Paramount Home. 2003. *Bloody Sunday*. [Hollywood, Calif.]: Paramount Home Entertainment.

Useful Websites:

Websites listing hundreds of newspaper from around the world:

- ❖ <http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/>
- ❖ <http://www.newspapers.com/>
- ❖ <http://www.refdesk.com/paper.html>

North Atlantic Treaty Organization:

- ❖ <http://www.nato.int/>

The European Union On-line:

- ❖ <http://europa.eu/>

The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

- ❖ <http://www.osce.org/>

Eurostat – European Statistical Office

- ❖ <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/eurostat/home/>

Freedom House:

- ❖ <http://www.freedomhouse.org>

Transparency International:

- ❖ <http://www.transparency.org/>

World Bank

- ❖ <http://www.worldbank.org/>

World Trade Organization:

- ❖ <http://www.wto.org/>

U.S. Census Bureau:

- ❖ <http://www.census.gov/>

CIA – The world factbook:

- ❖ <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>

International IDEA Voter Turnout Database:

- ❖ <http://www.idea.int/vt/>

World Values Survey:

- ❖ <http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/>

Official British government website for citizens:

- ❖ <http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/index.htm>

Official website of the British prime minister:

- ❖ <http://www.number10.gov.uk/>

Official website of the French president:

- ❖ <http://www.elysee.fr/accueil/>

French interministerial portal for government websites:

- ❖ <http://www.service-public.fr/accueil/english.html>

Bundesregierung (Website of German government):

- ❖ <http://www.bundesregierung.de/Webs/Breg/EN/Homepage/home.html>

Germany.info – German Embassy in Washington D.C.:

- ❖ <http://www.germany.info/relaunch/index.html>

Website of Russian president:

- ❖ <http://president.kremlin.ru/eng/>

Government of Romania:

- ❖ <http://www.guv.ro/engleza/>

Government-maintained website on Poland:

- ❖ <http://www.poland.gov.pl/>

Government of the Czech Republic:

- ❖ <http://www.vlada.cz/defaultEN.html>

The Republic of Slovenia:

- ❖ <http://www.gov.si/>

Government Portal Ukraine:

- ❖ <http://www.kmu.gov.ua/control/en>

Government of Bulgaria:

- ❖ <http://www.government.bg/>

Government of Belarus:

- ❖ http://www.government.by/en/eng_news.html

Government of the Republic of Croatia:

- ❖ <http://www.vlada.hr/en>

Presidency of Albania:

- ❖ <http://www.president.al/>

Government of the Republic of Lithuania:

- ❖ http://www.lrv.lt/main_en.php

Government of Slovakia:

- ❖ <http://www.government.gov.sk/english/>

Hungary:

- ❖ <http://www.magyarorszag.hu/english>

Serbian Government:

<http://www.srbija.sr.gov.yu/>

Government of the Republic of Estonia:

❖ <http://www.valitsus.ee/>

Republic of Montenegro:

❖ <http://www.me/english/naslovna/index.htm>

The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia:

❖ <http://www.mk.gov.lv/index.php/en>

Government of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina:

❖ <http://www.fbihvlada.gov.ba/english/index.php>

Republic of Moldova:

❖ <http://www.moldova.md/en/start/>

BBC (UK):

❖ <http://news.bbc.co.uk>

Warsaw Business Journal (Poland):

❖ <http://www.wbj.pl/>

Financial Times (UK):

❖ <http://www.ft.com>

Le Monde (France):

❖ <http://www.lemonde.fr/>

France 24:

❖ <http://www.france24.com/en/>

Der Spiegel (Germany)

❖ <http://www.spiegel.de/>

Blic (Serbia)

❖ <http://english.blic.rs/>

Slovenian Press Agency (Slovenia):

❖ <http://www.sta.si/en/>

The Diplomat (Romania):

❖ <http://www.thediplomat.ro/>

Slovakia Today:

❖ <http://www.sktoday.com/>

Budapest Sun (Hungary)

❖ <http://www.budapestsun.com/>

EU Observer (European Union):

<http://euobserver.com/>

