European Integration in the Global Context
Syllabus Spring 2012

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Contact hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, after classes

Course description: The overarching theme of this course is European integration from the 19th century to the present day viewed within the changing global context. Developments leading to the establishment of the EU and determining its further evolution are examined alongside the rise of today’s emerging economic powers – above all, the Eurasian giants of China and Russia. The course looks in particular at the EU’s eastward enlargement as a potentially significant departure from previous integration models – one that opens up Europe’s bridgehead to the resource-rich regions of Eurasia, where a new round of great power competition is unfolding. It will also address the recent tremors in the EU and discuss its further evolution.

The course is interdisciplinary, drawing on politics, political economy, history, international relations and security analysis. It aims to raise questions and stimulate discussion rather than provide clear-cut answers. Above all, the goal is to reach an understanding of the key strategic issues facing contemporary Europe and help students to orient themselves in today’s rapidly changing global environment.

Grading policy
Class participation/attendance: 20%
Presentation (seminars): 20%
Mid-term paper: 25%
Final paper: 35%

Schedule of classes

Week 1
14 February - Topic I – Introduction
Setting out the aims and methodology of the course. An introduction to the theory of geopolitics: Mackinder (and others): The struggle for control of the East European “Heartland” and Eurasian “World-Island”.

Essential reading

Further reading
16 February - Topic II – Balance of Power in Europe in the 19th Century
The defeat of Napoleon and the establishment of the Concert of Europe (1815-1914). The concept of the balance of power: its strengths and weaknesses. The unraveling of the Concert in the run-up to World War I.

Essential reading

Further reading

Week 2
21 February - Topic III – The Unification of Germany
The drivers of German unification: the struggle with Napoleonic France. The Prussian-Austrian conflict: why Prussia gained the upper hand; assessing Bismarck’s role and actions.

Essential reading

Further reading

23 February - Topic IV – The Unification of Italy; the Austro-Hungarian Empire
The unification of Italy: further destabilization in Europe. The Austrian Empire/the Austro-Hungarian Empire: a modern multi-ethnic integration model. The disintegration of the Empire: self-determination, fragmentation and the further advance of the nation-state.

Essential reading

Further reading
Week 3
28 February - Topic V – Russia in the 19th Century: Its Emergence as a Major European Player
Russia’s role in defeating Napoleon and in the Concert of Europe. Reforms under Tsar Alexander II; Tsar Nicholas II and the Bolshevik revolution. The foundation of the USSR.

Essential reading

Further reading

1 March - Topic VI – China in the 19th Century: Its ‘Century of Humiliation’
The Qing Dynasty. The Opium Wars. The First Sino-Japanese war (1894-95); China’s further humiliation at the hands of Japan as the rising regional power. The Chinese revolution of 1911 and the early years of the Republic.

Essential reading

Further reading

Week 4
6 March - Topic VII – World War I and Its Consequences

Essential reading
Further reading

8 March - Topic VIII – World War II and Its Consequences
The causes and conduct of the war. The final resolution of tensions created by German unification. The post-War settlement and the roots of the EU/NATO. The origins of the Cold War.

Essential reading

Further reading

Week 5
13 March - Topic IX – The Cold War: The Soviet Occupation of Central and Eastern Europe
The East-West confrontation: the Cold War and the Berlin Wall. How Stalin engineered control over Central and Eastern Europe. The bi-polar world.

Essential reading

Further reading

15 March - Topic X – The Economics of Communism

Essential reading

Further reading

**Week 6**

20 March - Topic XI – The (Re-)Emerging Eurasian Giant: China, 1945-89: From Communist Victory to Market Reforms  

**Essential reading**  

**Further reading**  

22 March - Topic XII – The European Union  
From modest beginnings (the European Communities) to monetary union. Widening and deepening over a half a century. The Union’s key institutions and main operational principles.

**Essential reading**  

**Further reading**  

Week 7

27 March - Topic XIII – The Failure of East European Integration under Communism  
Khrushchev’s de-Stalinization and Gorbachev’s perestroika in the USSR; the collapse of the USSR. Anti-communist uprisings in Eastern Europe. The fall of the Berlin Wall and the demise of the Soviet bloc.

**Essential reading**  

**Further reading**  

29 March - Topic XIV – EU/NATO Enlargement into Eastern Europe: The New Cold War
The EU as the anchor for political and economic transition. NATO as the regional guarantor of stability. NATO-Russia relations; internal tensions within the Western alliance.

**Essential reading**

**Further reading**
Dannreuther, Roland, *Russian Perceptions of the Atlantic Alliance*, Edinburgh University, 1997 ([http://www.nato.int/acad/fellow/95-97/dannreut.pdf](http://www.nato.int/acad/fellow/95-97/dannreut.pdf)).

Week 8
3 April - Seminar Pt. 1
Topic to be decided.

5 April - Seminar Pt. 2
Topic to be decided.

**Mid-term paper due**

Week 9 – Spring Break – no classes

Week 10
17 April - Topic XV – Russia: From Yeltsin to Putin 2.0

**Essential reading**

**Further reading**


19 April - Topic XVI – Russia and the EU Today
The structurally different but complementary economies of the EU and Russia. The foreign policy of Putin’s Russia. Prospects for improved relations: The Russia-US “reset”.

**Essential reading**

**Further reading**
Series of papers on all aspects of Russian foreign policy by Andrei Tsygankov: http://bss.sfsu.edu/tsygankov/Research/Articles.htm.

Week 11

24 April - Topic XVII – China’s Internal Transformation, 1989 – Present
How China functions today. The sources of its continued rapid growth. Economic and political risks. The prospects for democracy.

**Essential reading**

**Further reading**

26 April - Topic XVIII – China in the Global Context: The Re-emerging ‘Civilization State’
China’s “peaceful rise” and the changing balance of global power. Post-2008 financial and economic crisis: China’s role in supporting the global economy.

**Essential reading**

**Further reading**

Week 12
1 May – National Holiday – no classes

3 May - Topic XIX – China-Europe Relations
From the 19th century to the interwar period. China’s relations with the communist regimes in Europe. Its political, diplomatic and economic relations with the EU today.

**Essential reading**

**Further reading**
Official EU website on relations with China:

Week 13
8 May - National Holiday – no classes

10 May - Topic XX – The Rise of New Global Players and Its Impact on Europe
The BRICs (Brazil, Russia, India and China) and the redistribution of global economic power. The EU in the new global constellation.

**Essential reading**
“A game of catch-up”, *The Economist* (supplement), 24 September 2011 (18 pp. in total).

**Further reading**

Week 14
15 May - Topic XXI – Eurasian Resources and Geopolitics
The importance of Central Asia: global competition for control of its resources (the new Great Game).

**Essential reading**
Further reading

17 May - Topic XXII – Pan-European Integration and the Role of East Central Europe
From De Gaulle’s “Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals” and Gorbachev’s “common European home” to Russia’s latest proposal for a new European architecture. East Central Europe as an obstacle to pan-European integration: Franco-German reconciliation as a precedent?

Essential reading
Series of papers on aspects of Russian foreign policy by Andrei Tsygankov: http://bss.sfsu.edu/tsygankov/Research/Articles.htm.

Week 15
22 May - Topic XXIII – Summing up; class discussion of questions such as the following:

- Do geopolitical and balance of power theories stand up to scrutiny?
- What are the ramifications of the (re-)emergence of China?
- What are the implications for Europe and Central Europe in particular?
- For the United States?
- And for US relations with Europe?

24 May

Final paper due