

Euro 410 Course Requirements

Texts

- Desmond Dinan. Ever Closer Union: An Introduction to European Integration
- John Pinder. The Building of the European Union
- Europe from A to Z: Guide to European Integration (selections). Published by European Commission
- Various European Union publications (free to students)
- Suggested: Loukas Tsoukalis, The New European Economy Revisited (Oxford, 1997) [on reserve in Knight Library]

Assignments

The course grade will be based on completion of the following requirements:

- **1 map assignment** based on presentation, readings, and sources for the class of Jan. 23. Due on Jan. 28 in class.
- **4 short research papers**, of 3-5 pages each (12 point type, double-spaced pages, or 900-1500 words each), plus 1-2 pages describing research process for 3 of these papers .See details below.
- **1 final examination** on Thursday, March 20, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. The examination will be based on all presentations in class and all assigned readings (as specified on the syllabus) for the entire term. The format of the examination will be both essay and short answer. A review guide for the examination will be distributed no later than one week prior to the exam date.

Short research papers - Weeks 6, 7 & 9

Each paper will address an aspect of the topic of the week, within the framework of a defined sub-topic that will serve as the focus of a small discussion group for the week's topic. The sub-topics and corresponding discussion groups will be defined during the first half of the course and will reflect, as nearly as possible, student interest as well as the relevant content of the week's topic. There will be normally three or four such sub-topics for each week's topic. Organization of discussion groups around the sub-topics will take place in Week 4. Each student will write her or his paper on an aspect of the sub-topic of the discussion group to which he or she belongs. As long as the paper is related to that sub-topic, the aspect of the latter – the actual paper topic -- is the student's choice.

Each paper for these three weeks must have as its basis original sources or documents. Although secondary studies (books and journal articles) may be consulted for background, the paper must be based largely on these original sources or documents. The paper may take any approach to its topic, as long as that approach involves an extensive use of these sources or documents. For example, the paper may summarize the nature of an issue or problem addressed in the sources or the views of different groups presented therein. Or it may describe the process by which the issue or problem was resolved, or analyze the context of the issue or process as presented in the documents.

The number and size of these sources can vary, depending on the subject, and need not be large. Illustrations will be offered in class to give a sense of the assignment. The assignments section for each of these weeks, moreover, will provide suggestions of sources and documents.

Use of sources and documents must in all cases conform to the following minimum criteria:

- At least one source or document must be other than the ones suggested in the assignments section for the week. In other words, each paper must demonstrate the student's independent search in original sources and documents (that is, independent of the professor's specific suggestions) in developing the paper topic. An important feature of the assignment is this independent search process, which is essential to learning about the source itself. The course website provides an extensive guide for this purpose. In addition, class time throughout the term will be taken to introduce several major European Union sources.
- At least one source or document, preferably several, must be an official European Union source. These are available for consultation through multiple outlets, several of which will be discussed in class throughout the term: websites, publications available for consultation in the Knight Library Document Center, and individual published works in the stacks of the library's general collection.

In addition to the 3-5 pages of content, each paper should include a brief (no more than one or two single-spaced pages) description of the student's individual process of identifying and locating the sources and documents used in the paper. The description should address one of the criteria for evaluating the quality of information discovered [see Step 11 of "Researching the European Union: suggested steps" on the website]. This description should be appended to the paper as a separate document. You can see an example of what this research summary might look like in Overview > Requirements page on the course website.

The paper will serve as the basis for the student's "expert contribution" in the sub-topic group discussion for the topic of each of these three weeks. The paper will be due in the next class session following the session of the group discussion. The paper can therefore benefit from the latter discussion, and students are encouraged to re-shape their paper in light of that discussion.

Due dates for papers for these three weeks are as follows:

- **Paper for Week 6 (Single Market): Feb. 18**
- **Paper for Week 7 (Single Currency): Feb. 25**
- **Paper for Week 9 (Social Europe): March 11**

All papers must be submitted in hard-copy (paper) format. Professor Sheridan and Mr. Stave are available for consultation on papers – Professor Sheridan especially for content and Mr. Stave especially for source and document search and use.

Short research paper - Week 8

As for the 3 papers described above, this paper will also be chosen by the student within the framework of the sub-topic of that student's discussion group for Week 8. The one major difference is the material for the research on this paper. This may be a secondary source, and consultation of only one such source is required. This source may be a book, a chapter or chapters of a book, or a journal article. Examples may be found in the bibliography for the course under the relevant topic. The paper may be based on (non-assigned) European Union sources or documents, but this is not required. The assignment also does not require an appended description of the student's search process.

As for the other 3 papers, the student may take any approach to the use of this secondary source, including a simple summary of its main argument or findings. The paper will serve as the student's "expert contribution" on the topic "Europe and the World" in the class session devoted to group discussions.

Due date for this paper is:

- **Paper for Week 8 (Europe and the World): March 4**

The paper must be submitted in hard-copy (paper) format.

Evaluation of Papers

Papers will be evaluated primarily on the basis of care and precision demonstrated in the use of documents and sources, rather than on knowledge or understanding of the issues addressed in these documents and sources. It is understood that the expertise required for such knowledge or understanding would necessitate more extensive research and study than these short paper assignments allow. However, papers need to show intelligent research and careful attention to content in the sources used for the paper, whether or not this demonstrates a firm grasp of the issues involved. Be sparing in use of quotations and, as much as possible, use your own words to articulate points raised in the documents.

Course Grade

The grade for the course will be determined as follows:

- 4 short research papers: 50 % (each paper will be weighted equally, except in the case of significant improvement demonstrated in subsequent papers; in this case, relatively more weight will be given to papers on which such improvement is demonstrated)
- 1 map assignment: 10%
- Final examination: 40%

Evidence of persistent and high quality contribution to class discussions will also be considered in determining the grade for the course.