BOSTON UNIVERSITY
Department of International Relations

Spring Semester 2008

SOCIAL EUROPE:
IDENTITY, CITIZENSHIP, AND THE WELFARE STATE

Wednesday 9-12
Location: IRC 220

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Office Hours:
Mondays: 1:30-2, Tuesdays 3:00 – 5:00 pm, Wednesdays 2:30 – 5:00 pm, and by appointment
SOCIAL EUROPE:
IDENTITY, CITIZENSHIP, AND THE WELFARE STATE

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Now that European economic integration is a reality, the social and political questions that in the past had remained in the background have taken center stage. The ‘no’ votes in the referenda on the Constitutional Treaty in France and the Netherlands suggest that national publics have become increasingly concerned about the challenges to national identity and sovereignty as well as about the economic impact of the EU on social justice. The new reform Treaty may take care of the institutional issues, but it does not address the issues of policy or democracy at the heart of citizen concerns in the member-states.

Although ‘social Europe’ is a relatively new area of concern, EU policies on employment, welfare, gender and immigration have already greatly affected national policies and practices. The EU’s ‘open method of coordination’ is a new mode of governance which has created a new dynamic of interaction on employment and social policy which pushes member-states to reform themselves by learning from one another, without any clearly specified EU-level directives. The EU’s initiatives on gender, whether through Commission-inspired directives or European Court of Justice decisions, have had a profound impact on women’s rights and employment. The newly adopted EU Charter on Human Rights is equally important for the protection of individual rights throughout the Union. And the EU’s proposals on immigration are beginning to alter national rules on immigration, which in turn have important ramifications for national ideas about citizenship.

Finally, the EU has had an important albeit indirect impact on the welfare state, which has itself been under great pressure since its ‘Golden Age’ in the postwar period. No course on ‘social Europe’ would be complete without considering the profound changes in national social and employment policies since the 1970s. These changes are the result of external economic pressures, global and European, as well as of internal political dynamics. And they can only be explored on a country by country basis, in order to understand the differences in responses following from differences in postwar policy legacies, in the impact of economic crisis beginning in the mid-1970s, in the preferences that played themselves out in electoral politics, and in the ideas and discourses through which national politicians sought to legitimate the reforms.

This course, in short, seeks to consider the past, present, and future of ‘social Europe.’ It begins with a focus on the impact of European political as well as economic integration on national identities, cultures, politics, and citizenship, follows with an examination of the policies that have had or will have the greatest impact on these social constructions, and ends with an examination of the changes in the welfare state over time.
COURSE OUTLINE:
A. Introduction: What is Social Europe?
B. The Building Blocks: Identity and Politics
   1. Identity, Culture, and Borders
      a. Identity and Culture
      b. Identity and Borders
   2. Politics, Citizenship, and Democracy
      a. Politics and Democracy
      b. Politics and Citizenship
C. EU Policies for a Social Europe
   1. EU Immigration Policies
   2. EU Human Rights Policies
   3. EU Gender Policies
   4. EU Employment and Social Policies
D. The Underpinnings: The Welfare State in Europe
   1. The EU and National Welfare States
   2. National Economic and Policy Responses
   3. Politics, Values, and Discourse in Social Policy Change
E. Conclusion and Class Presentations

REQUIRED TEXTS:

The books are all available at Barnes and Noble. Other readings are either accessible through the web or from me via email.

Students are also strongly encouraged to get a subscription to the *Financial Times* as well as to the *Economist*. Also, please also check out the internet. The EU has a very elaborate site, with a great deal of information. Check it out at [www.eurunion.org](http://www.eurunion.org) There is also a short guide at [www.eurunion.org/infores/eurguide/eurguide.htm](http://www.eurunion.org/infores/eurguide/eurguide.htm) In addition, see the list of internet sites on my website at: [http://people.bu.edu/vschmidt](http://people.bu.edu/vschmidt)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
This course will be run as a seminar. Students are expected to do all the readings and to be prepared to discuss them. There will be one mid-term exam (worth 40 percent of the grade) and a final paper (worth 40 percent). Students will also be expected to provide one to two group oral presentations in class (worth 10 percent) in addition to a final class report on their paper, plus attend class regularly and participate in discussions (worth 10 percent of the grade). The paper (15-20 pages) will be a research paper focused on an important issue with regard to social
Europe. The group oral presentations consist both of reports based on readings from the syllabus and presented in class (15 minute presentation) and a presentation of their final paper during the last few classes (5-10 minute presentation). Late papers or missed presentations without acceptable excuse or prior notification will be docked 3 percentage points.

The College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) Dean’s Office has requested that you be informed of the following: The last day you may drop the course without a W grade is Feb. 21. The last day you may drop the course with a W grade is Mar 21. You are responsible for knowing the provisions of the CAS Academic Conduct Code (copies are available in CAS 105). Cases of suspected academic misconduct will be referred to the Deans’ Office.
SOCIAL EUROPE

Class 1: Wed. Jan. 16

A. Introduction: What is Social Europe?

B. The Building Blocks: Identity and Politics

Class 2: Wed. Jan. 23

1. Identity, Culture, and Borders
   a. Identity and Culture


Class 3: Wed. Jan 30

b. Identity and Borders


   URL: www.reconproject.eu/projectweb/portalproject/RECONWorkingPapers.html


   Wimmel, Andreas “Beyond the Bosphorus: Comparing German, French and British Discourses on Turkey’s Application to Join the European Union.” Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna. Mss (will email)
Class 4: Wed. Feb. 6

2. Politics, Citizenship, and Democracy
   a. Politics and Democracy


Menendez, José Augustin “The European Democratic Challenge” in Recon Online Working Paper 2007/13
URL: www.reconproject.eu/projectweb/portalproject/RECONWorkingPapers.html


Class 5: Wed. Feb 13

b. Politics and Citizenship


De Beus, Jos and Mak, Jeannette, “European Legitimacy and Identity through unlocking the public spheres of nation-states: Questioning the Public Empowerment Thesis of European Integration in the Dutch Case of Eurosceptis.” Paper prepared for presentation for the Conference ‘The Europeans in Search of Political Identity and Legitimacy, JERP 5.2.1 (Florence May 25-26, 2007). (will email)

Foret, François “Power and symbols at the time of European Governance.” Paper prepared for presentation for the Conference ‘The Europeans in Search of Political Identity and Legitimacy, JERP 5.2.1 (Florence May 25-26, 2007). (will email)


Class 6  Wed. Feb. 20  In-Class Midterm

C. EU Policies for a Social Europe

Class 7  Wed. March 27

1. EU Immigration Policies

Savage, Timothy M. “Europe and Islam: Crescent Waxing, Cultures Clashing” The Washington Quarterly, Summer 2004  
http://www.twq.com/04summer/docs/04summer_savage.pdf

Class 8 Wed. Mar. 5
2. EU Human Rights Policy

*“The Charter of Fundamental Human Rights.” Section 2 of the Constitution. European Union document. (download from:

Class 9 Wed. Mar. 19
3. EU Gender Policy

APSA European Politics and Society Forum: “Women, Gender and Public Policy in Europe” vol. 6, no. 1 (Spring/Summer 2007) (will email)

Class 10 Wed. Mar. 26
4. EU Employment and Social Policies

Barbier, Jean-Claude “The European Social Model (ESM) and cultural diversity in Europe” Inaugural lecture (March, 4th, 2007) University of Aalborg (will email)

Jenson, Jane “Europeanisation of a child-centered investment perspective: Is the European Union playing with Lego?” Mss. (February 2007) [will email]


D. The Underpinnings: The Welfare State in Europe

Class 11 Wed. Apr 2 (to be rescheduled)

5. The EU and National Welfare States


Crouch, Colin “Change in European Societies since the 1970s,” West European Politics no. 1 (2008) forthcoming. (will email)


Hamann, Kerstin and Kelly, John “Party Politics and the Reemergence of Social Pacts in Western Europe Comparative Political Studies (2007) download from: http://cps.sagepub.com/cgi/content/abstract/40/8/971

Class 12 Wed. Apr. 9


Class 12 Wed. Apr. 16

7. Politics, Values, and Discourse in Social Policy Change


Class 13: Wed. April 30

Conclusion and Class Presentations [Papers due]