SOCIAL EUROPE:
IDENTITY, CITIZENSHIP, AND THE WELFARE STATE

Wednesday 9-12  
Location: IRC 220

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Office Hours:  
Mondays 11:30 am-12:30 pm, Wednesdays 2pm-4:00pm and by appointment
SOCIAL EUROPE:  
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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 returned to center stage. The ‘no’ votes in the referenda on the Constitutional Treaty in France and the Netherlands and in Ireland for the Lisbon Treaty suggest that national publics have become increasingly concerned about the challenges to national identity and sovereignty while the economic crisis brings questions about the economic impact of the EU on social justice. The Lisbon 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 that has been touted to create a new dynamic of interaction on employment and social policy that would push 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 EU Charter on Fundamental 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 the economic crisis beginning in the mid-1970s as well as the major crisis beginning in 2008, 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, Citizenship, and Democracy
   1. Identity and Culture
   2. Identity and Borders
   3. Identity and Democracy
   4. Identity and Legitimacy
   5. Identity, Democracy, and the Political Extremes

C. EU Policies for a Social Europe
   1. EU Immigration and Integration
   2. EU Gender Issues
   3. EU Human Rights Policies
   4. EU Rights and Lifestyle Issues: Abortion, Alcohol and Drugs
   5. Other Identity-Related EU Policies: Global Warming, Food Safety, Biotech

D. The Underpinnings: The Welfare State in Europe
   1. EU Social Policy and National Welfare States
   2. National Economic and Social Policy Reform
   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 on reserve, 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. Also find a short guide at www.eurunion.org/infores/eurguide/eurguide.htm. In addition, see the list of internet sites on the Center for the Study of Europe website.

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 two take home essays (each worth 25 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 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 for undergraduates, 20-25 for graduate students) 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 February 21. The last day you may drop the course with a W grade is March 30. 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

A. Introduction: What is Social Europe?
Class 1: Wed. Jan. 18

B. The Building Blocks: Identity, Citizenship, and Democracy

1. Identity and Culture
Class 2: Wed. Jan. 25
Risse, Thomas, Community of Europeans? (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2010), pp. 19-106

2. Identity and Borders
Class 3: Wed. Feb 1
Risse, Thomas, “Widening” in Community of Europeans p. 204-225
URL: www.reconproject.eu/projectweb/portalproject/RECONWorkingPapers.html
Lucarelli, Sonja, “Mirrors of us: European political identity and the Others’ image of the EU” in “Debating Political Identity and Legitimacy, pp. 148-167

3. Identity and Democracy
Class 4: Wed. Feb. 8
Schmidt, Vivien Democracy in Europe, chapters 1, 4, 5 and conclusion, pp. 1-45, 155-256, 267-273.
Schmidt, Vivien “Democracy and Legitimacy in the European Union Revisited: Input, Output, and ‘Throughput,’’ Political Studies (forthcoming) (will email)

4. Identity and legitimacy
Class 5: Wed. Feb 15 *(guest lecturer or reschedule)
De Beus, Jos and Mak, Jeannette, “Gaining European legitimacy and identity through unlocking the public spheres of nation states: the case of the Netherlands” in “Debating Political Identity and Legitimacy, 131-147
Levrat, Nicolas, “Do the powers exerted by the EU need a legitimacy based on the citizens’ European identity? in “Debating Political Identity and Legitimacy, pp. 76-90

5. Identity, Democracy, and the Political Extremes
Class 6: Wed. Feb 22
Art, David, Inside the Right (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011) (entire)

C. EU Policies for a Social Europe

1. EU Immigration and Integration
Class 7: Wed. Feb 29
(takehome essay #1 due on Part A)
Riva Kastoryano, Negotiating Identities (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2002), Introduction, Chapters 1, 3, 4, 8 and conclusion.

2. EU Gender Issues
Class 8: Wed. Mar. 7
Kantola, Johanna Gender and the European Union (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010), Chapters 1-6, pp. 1-147.
Zippel, Kathrin S. The Politics of Sexual Harassment (Cambridge University Press, 2006), Chapters 3-5, pp. 82-201

3. EU Human Rights Policies
Class 9 Wed. Mar. 21
Börzel, Tanja and Risse, Thomas “One Size Fits All: EU Polices for the Promotion of Human Rights, Democracy, and the Rule of Law.” Paper prepared for the Workshop on Democracy Promotion, Center for Development and Democracy, and the Rule of Law, Stanford University (Oct 4-5, 2004). (Find online or will email)
4. **EU Rights and Lifestyle Issues: Abortion, Alcohol and Drugs**
   
   Class 10 Wed. Mar 28
   

5. **Other Identity-Related EU Policies: Global Warming, Food Safety, Biotech**
   
   Class 11 Wed. Apr 4
   
   (chapters: 3 on global warming, 4 on food safety, 5 on biotech)

C. **The Underpinnings: European Social Welfare and Social Justice**

1. **EU Social Policy and National Welfare States**
   
   Class 12 Wed. Apr 11
   *(Take home midterm #2 due on Part B)*
   
   
   
   
   

2. **National Economic and Social Policy Reforms**
   
   Class 13 Wed. Apr. 18 *(guest lecturer or reschedule)*
   
   

Class Presentations

3. **Politics, Values, and Discourse in Social Policy Change**

   Class 14 Wed. Apr. 25
   

Class Presentations

Class 15  Wed. May 2  
Conclusion and Class Presentations  [Papers due]