**Comparative Regional Integration: The European Union and Beyond**

Political Science 201 (Spring 2016)
Tuesday/Thursday 1:00-2:15
Birge Hall B302

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(Syllabus may be updated further as the semester progresses)*

**Course overview**
Regional integration – the deepening of economic and political ties between states in particular geographic areas of the world – is one of the defining features of contemporary globalization. Yet while examples of regional integration abound (e.g., the European Union (EU), North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)), the reasons for this increased “regionalization” or “regionalism” are less well understood. How has this process varied over time and space? What factors have driven it? How do regionalization and globalization relate to each other? Finally, what are the consequences of regional integration for economic development, democratic governance, and other key issues?

This course addresses these questions through a focus on “comparative regional integration.” We begin by introducing the topic of regional integration and some basic theories of international political economy and international cooperation that we will use throughout the semester. We then turn to theories of regional integration, which we will use to develop a set of possible explanations for the “real world” variation in regionalization. In the third part of the course, we focus on the world’s most successful and extensive experiment in regional integration: the European Union (EU). We then offer comparative survey of regional integration efforts across a variety of issue areas, including aid/development, security, human rights, and money/finance. We will pay particularly attention in this section to the question of whether the European model/experience of regional integration is a useful example for understanding and explaining these other regional integration efforts. Finally, we conclude with an assessment of the implications of regional integration for economic development, democracy, and other key issues.

**Course requirements**
Students are expected to attend all class sessions and discussion section meetings, to complete the assigned readings prior to class, and the complete all written assignments and exams on time.

Grades for this course will be based on five components: an in-class examination, a take-home essay examination, a final examination, participation in an in-class simulation exercise, and participation/attendance in lectures and sections.

- **In-class midterm examination (20%)**: An in-class exam will be given on March 1, which will cover material from the readings and lectures.
• Take-home essay exam (25%): For this 8-page (approximate length) essay, you will answer a question distributed in class on April 7 and due no later than April 15. Your essay should be based on the material from the readings and lectures, and must be double-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins. The essay is due in class – no email attachments will be accepted. Late papers will be penalized with a full letter grade deduction for every day of lateness (NOTE: a paper will be deemed a full day late immediately following the due date/time). Collaboration with other students is not permitted, and university regulations about plagiarism will be strictly enforced.

• Final examination (30%): The two-hour final exam will have two parts, each of which will count for 50% of the total exam grade. The first part will ask you to identify and discuss the significance of important concepts, events, and processes covered in the course. The second part will ask you to answer one of two essay questions, similar in style to the take-home essay. The final is scheduled for: May 12, 2:45-4:45 PM (Exam Code 27).

• In-class simulation exercise (10%): Scheduled for April 5 & 7 (more information will be made available during the first few weeks of class).

• Participation and class/section attendance (15%): Attendance at both lectures and sections is a significant part of your grade and essential for doing well in the class. Discussion sections will focus closely on the readings, and you are expected to have done them in advance and come prepared to discuss them in detail. Please note that, while topics from lecture will also be discussed, sections are not intended to be a substitute for lecture attendance (and vice versa).

Prior coursework/background
This is a course that builds directly on material covered in the core courses in the Political Science department. Consequently, students are encouraged to have taken either PS 103 (Introduction to International Relations) or PS 106 (Introduction to Comparative Politics) as prerequisites.

Readings
All of the readings are available electronically via the course website on LearnUW.wisc.edu. Despite the convenience provided by a printed course pack, printed packs incur substantial copyright costs and are significantly more expensive for students than printing electronic files. Consequently, we have opted for the electronic distribution option in order to keep costs as manageable as possibly.

Important notes/class policies
• Anything covered in lecture, discussion section, or readings is fair game for the exams. So just doing the reading on the last night before the exam means an almost certain failing grade. Come to class, come to your discussion sections, and do your readings carefully and on time. *Note that even readings that have not been explicitly addressed in lecture or discussion section may be covered in the exams!*

• We allow discussion section switching only under exceptional circumstances, i.e. when you would have to drop this class entirely if you could not switch into another section. You will have to present documentation to this effect.

• The best way to reach Professors Copelovitch and Ringe is via email. Note, however, that we
have large numbers of students in our classes this semester, so getting in touch with us will never be the quickest or most straightforward way to get an answer. Please contact your section TA before getting in touch with one of the professors. The section TA will forward your inquiry to us, if need be. If you do have to contact us personally, please be sure that your email says “PS 201” in the subject header (otherwise, your email may be discarded as spam). Also be advised that it may take several days for us to get back to you, given the large number of students we are teaching this term.

- If you know that you will be absent from class for religious or other reasons that can be known in advance, tell your section TA before class. Also let your section TA know if you have to miss class due to sickness or family emergencies.

- **Slides and notes**: Our policy is to post my Powerpoint slides for each week after the Thursday lecture on the Learn@UW website. *Since this means that you will have a full set of slides to study for both exams, we put quite a bit of material on the slides.* This means that you do not need – and are unlikely to be able – to take “transcript notes” (i.e., to copy everything on the slides). *Your best strategy is to listen carefully to the lectures and take selective notes on things mentioned that are important but not necessarily on the slides already. Then, go back to review the printed slides later on as needed.* Please note, also, that the slides alone are not a substitute for attending lecture AND doing the readings. Much of the material is unlikely to make complete sense if you do not attend class.

- Re-evaluating grades (please read very carefully!): Our policy is the following:
  - You have to wait for 48 hours after the assignment has been returned before issuing any complaints.
  - You will contact your section TA with a request to re-evaluate your grade. They will take the case to me. We will not respond to a request that comes directly from you. Only if you have concerns about your section TA handling your case should you contact the professor directly.
  - You have to draft a 1-2 page double-spaced memo outlining why you deserve a better grade. Please note that this memo has to be based entirely on the merit of your own work, i.e., it cannot be based on comparisons with the grades of other students.
  - Your grade will be fully re-evaluated. This means that we may revise the grade downward as well as upward. So please be certain that you have a very specific and justifiable reason before asking us to make any changes – this is not a risk-free process!

- The exam days are set. Clear your schedules now. There will be no make-up examinations unless you can provide proper documentation that your absence is due to a) a genuine family emergency, b) illness or injury, or c) travel away from Madison for university-related (!) obligations. If an exam is missed for a valid reason, we will give you a substitute assignment. *This will be an essay of 10 pages based on the material covered in the exam and will be due two days after the date of the missed exam.*

- Students needing special accommodations to ensure full participation in this course should contact us as early as possible. All information will remain confidential. You also may contact the McBurney Disability Resource Center regarding questions about campus policies/services.

- **Cheating** is a very serious offense that will not be tolerated in the course. You will receive a failing grade for the class, and the reason for the grade will be noted in your transcript.
Week 1

January 19: Introduction (MC & NR)

January 21: Concepts, history, debates I (MC & NR)


Week 2

January 26: Concepts, history, debates II (NR)


January 28: Theoretical foundations – international trade (MC)

- Video lecture: “Economics of International Trade”


- “Why Do Countries Buy So Many Things They Already Have?” (http://qz.com/563131/why-countries-buy-so-many-things-they-already-have/)

Week 3

February 2: Theoretical foundations – international money/finance (MC)

- Video lecture: “Economics of International Money/Finance”


February 4: Theoretical foundations – international cooperation/institutions (MC)

Week 4

February 9: Theoretical foundations – regionalism (Prof. Joseph Jupille guest lecture)

- Video lecture (Jupille): “Regionalism in the World Polity”
  (https://ensemble.illinois.edu/app/plugin/embed.aspx?ID=wV_LvJbTAkCL0iUA1VJCww&destinationID=a2h-bumrX0S-F1hqeqesvw&displayTitle=false&startTime=0&autoPlay=false&hideControls=false&showCaptions=false&width=640&height=360).

February 11: European Union I (NR)


Week 5

February 16: European Union II (NR)


February 18: IN-CLASS MIDTERM

Week 6

February 23: (Why) Is the EU different? I (NR)


February 25: (Why) Is the EU different? II (NR)

- Readings TBD

Week 7

March 1: Introduction to regional organizations (MC)

- Readings TBD

March 3: Trade I (MC)


Week 8

March 8: Trade II (Prof. Julia Gray guest lecture, via Skype)

- Debate: TPP or TTIP

March 10: Money and finance (MC)


Week 9

March 15: Foreign and Security Policy I (human rights/courts, MC)

March 17: Foreign and Security Policy II (peacekeeping, intervention, R2P)  
(Jon Pevehouse, guest lecture)

SPRING BREAK

Week 10
March 29: Foreign and Security Policy III (NR)

March 31: Climate change/environment

Week 11
April 5 & 7: IN-CLASS SIMULATION EXERCISE

TAKE-HOME ESSAY HANDED OUT APRIL 7 – DUE FRIDAY APRIL 15

Week 12
April 12: Foreign aid and development I (MC)

April 14: Foreign aid and development II (MC)
Week 13

MONDAY, April 18 (NOTE: SPECIAL CLASS TIME): Prof. Charles Wyplosz guest lecture (Helen C. White, Room 7151, 4-6 PM)

April 21: TBD

Week 14

April 26: Consequences of Regional Integration I (MC)

April 28: Consequences of Regional Integration II (NR)

Week 15

May 3: Prof. George Ross guest lecture

May 5: Future of regional integration (MC/NR)

FINAL EXAM: MAY 12, 2:45-4:45 PM, Exam Code 27