

**Class code** LONS PSUK 251S

**Instructor Details** Ian Hill

**Class Details** Summer 2012

**Prerequisites**

**Class Description** In this course we will be examining significant developments in British politics in relation to Europe since 1945. It will historically cover the governments of Britain from Churchill's to Brown's and thus encourage students to develop a critical understanding of the competing political ideas and forces that have shaped Britain's involvement in the EU. Additionally, the course encourages an appreciation of the diversity in contemporary European identity and promotes critical thinking regarding the similarities and differences between Europe and the United States in relation to politics, identity and society.

The course will consist of a main lecture followed by a discussion seminar.

- Desired Outcomes**
1. Compare attitudes of successive British governments toward European integration and identify the main forces that have shaped such attitudes;
  2. Understand the key moments in the process of the UK joining the EEC in 1973 and subsequent developments up to the present day;
  3. Think critically about culture and identity in general, and in relation to issues concerning British and European identity.
  4. Evaluate arguments for and against Britain joining the euro;
  5. Contrast European and the US attitudes to welfare, unions and work;
  6. Explain how British membership of the EU affects relations with the United States.

<b>Assessment Components</b>	Attendance:	10%
	Participation:	20%
	Presentation:	10%
	Quiz (week 3 and week 6)	30%
	Final exam	30%

**Attendance:** Students will receive 10% for full attendance; including guest lectures.

**Participation:** Students will be assessed on the week's readings during the seminars that follow the lectures. In order to get 20%, students need to contribute to group and class discussions in a positive manner and display knowledge of some of the week's readings. Students will be allowed a bad week or two, as long as they ask questions on areas that they're not sure of. Additionally, disruptive behaviour

will not be tolerated and will result in a negative impact on the student's participation grade.

**Presentation:** Students will be required to present one group presentation to the rest of the class in either class 8, 9 or 10. This needs to display evidence of wider reading than those on the syllabus. Critical and intellectual questions/comments from those not presenting, (in the given week), will count favourably to their participation grade.

**Quizzes:** Students will be required to answer one timed essay question (45mins) on weeks 1&2 (for Quiz 1) and weeks 3-6 (for Quiz 2). Each quiz is worth 15%.

**Final Exam:** Students will be required to answer three essay questions covering every week of the semester (including the sustainability lecture and field trips). Each question will be worth 10%.

**Assessment  
Expectations**

Please refer to your Arcadia University student handbook for information regarding the London Study Centre's general marking criteria and assessment expectations.

**Grade  
conversion**

Please refer to your Arcadia University student handbook for the most up-to-date scale of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

Degree Class	Numerical Grade	Arcadia Letter Grade
First Class 1 <sup>st</sup>	75-100	A+
	68-74	A
	65-67	A-
Upper Second Class 2.1	60-64	B+
	55-59	B
	50-54	B-
Lower Second Class 2.2	47-49	C+
	43-46	C
	40-42	C-
Third Class 3 <sup>rd</sup>	35-39	D
Fail	0-34	F

**Attendance Policy**

ARCADIA has a strict policy about course attendance. Illness or family emergencies may require a student's absence. Such an absence must be documented by a physician's note or by consultation with the Arcadia University London Office prior to the absence. The Office will inform the Director of the circumstances requiring the absence. The Director will have the final decision on the disposition of an absence. The absent student is always responsible for assignments missed.

Unexcused absences from exams are not permitted and will result in failure of the exam. If you are granted an excused absence from examination (with authorisation, as above), your lecturer will decide how you will make-up the assessment component, if at all (by make-up examination, extra coursework, or an increased weighting on an alternate assessment component, etc.).

Arrival at work or class more than ten minutes late or leaving the class early will be considered an absence.

Please note that for classes involving a **field trip or other external visit**, transportation difficulties are never grounds for an excused absence. It is the student's responsibility to arrive at an agreed meeting point in a punctual and timely fashion.

**Late Submission of Work**

Written work due in class must be submitted during the class time to the professor.

**Required Text(s)**

George, S (1998) *An Awkward Partner: Britain in the European Community*. Oxford University Press. Ma A (1999) *Britain and Europe since 1945*. Longman.

Recommended:

Young, H (1998) *The Blessed Plot: Britain and Europe from Churchill to Blair*. Papermac.

Students should purchase one or more of the above.

**Text(s) purchased by Arcadia University**

N/A

**Internet Research Guidelines**

N/A

**Additional Required Equipment**

N/A

**Session 1**

**Britain in the European Union. Introduction to the EU:**

Week 1

Required reading:

Norton, P (2000) The British Polity 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. Longman. Ch1

McCormick, J (2002) Understanding The European Union. Palgrave.

George, S (1991) Britain and European Integration since 1945. Blackwell.

## Session 2

### **Class 2: Introduction to British politics: The Westminster Model and the formation of Policy.**

Required Reading:

Week 1

P. Dunleavy (2006), "The Westminster Model and the Distinctiveness of British Politics." in P. Dunleavy, R. Hefferman, P. Cowley and C. Hay (Eds.), Developments in British Politics (8<sup>th</sup> Ed.). Palgrave Macmillan.

Bill Jones, et. al., Politics UK, (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). Ch 21

Margaret Scamell "New Media, New Politics" in Dunleavy, Gamble, Holliday and Peele (eds)

## Session 3

### **Britain and Europe (1945-1970)**

Week 2

#### **Required Reading:**

George, S (1998) An Awkward Partner: Britain in the European Community. Oxford University Press. Ch 1

May, A (1999) Britain and Europe since 1945. Longman. Ch2-5.

Recommended Reading:

Young, H (1998) The Blessed Plot: Britain and Europe from Churchill to Blair. Ch 1&4.

**Quiz:** Students will be required to write one timed essay based on sessions 1 or 2.

## Session 4

### **Heath, Wilson, Callaghan and Europe**

Week 2

#### **Required Reading:**

George, S (1998) An Awkward Partner: Britain in the European Community. Oxford University Press. Ch 2,3 & 4

May, A (1999) Britain and Europe since 1945. Longman. Ch 6&7

Recommended Reading:

Young, H (1998) The Blessed Plot: Britain and Europe from Churchill to Blair. Papermac. Ch8

## Session 5

### **Thatcher, Major and Europe**

Week 3

#### **Required Reading:**

George, S (1998) An Awkward Partner: Britain in the European Community. Oxford University Press. Ch 5-7

May, A (1999) Britain and Europe since 1945. Longman. Ch 8 & 9.

Recommended Reading:

Young, H (1998) *The Blessed Plot: Britain and Europe from Churchill to Blair*. Papermac. Ch8

**Session 6 Blair, Brown and Europe**

Week 3 **Required Reading:**

May, A (1999) *Britain and Europe since 1945*. Longman. Ch 10

O'Donnell, C M & Whitman, R G (2007) European policy under Gordon Brown. *International Affairs*, 83 (1), 2007 Pages 253-272.

Bulmer, S (2008) New Labour, New European Policy? Blair, Brown and utilitarian supernationalism. *Parliamentary affairs*, 61 (4) Pages 597-620.

**Recommended Reading**

Young, H (1998) *The Blessed Plot: Britain and Europe from Churchill to Blair*. Papermac. Ch 12

**Quiz:** Students will be required to write one timed essay based on sessions 3-6

**Session 7 Guest Lecture: Nic Dakin MP for Scunthorpe (Labour)**

Week 4

**Diversity in Europe**

Beck, U (2000) The cosmopolitan perspective: sociology of the second age of modernity. *British Journal of Sociology*. Vol. 51 (1)

Guibernau, M (2001) *Governing European Diversity*. Sage. Ch 1 & 3

Wieviorka, M (1998) Is Multiculturalism the solution? *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. Vol. 21 (5).

**Session 8**

Week 4

Recommended:

Rifkin, J (2004) *The European Dream: How Europe's vision of The Future is Quietly Eclipsing the American Dream*. Polity Press. Ch 13

**Group Presentations**

**Session 9 United States of Europe?**

Week 5 **Required:**

Rifkin, J (2004) *The European Dream: How Europe's vision of The Future is Quietly Eclipsing the American Dream*. Polity Press. ch 9

Byatt, A. S. (2002) What is a European? <http://www.nytimes.com/2002/10/13/magazine/what-is-a-european.html?scp=1&sq=what%20is%20a%20european&st=cse>

**Group Presentations**

**Session 10 Britain, the US and EU: Is Britain the US in Europe?**

Week 5 Required:

McGovern, P. Smeaton, D and Hill, S. (2004). "Bad Jobs in Britain: Nonstandard Employment and Job Quality," Work and Occupations 31: 225-249.  
Wallerstein, M. and Western, B (2000). "Unions in Decline? What Has Changed and Why," Annual Review of Political Science 3: 355-377.

Recommended:

The European Dream: How Europe's vision of The Future is Quietly Eclipsing the American Dream.  
Polity press.

### **Group Presentations**

**Session 11** Conclusion: Covering the Learning outcomes of the course

Week 6 Revision

**Session 12** Final Exam

Week 6 Students will be required to write three timed essays in two hours. Question based on the whole of the course

**Classroom Etiquette**

Eating is not permitted in any classrooms. Please kindly dispose of rubbish in the bins provided.

**Required Co-curricular Activities**

Students should check one or more of the following on a daily basis to keep up to date with contemporary politics:

[www.bbc.co.uk/news](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news)

[www.guardian.co.uk](http://www.guardian.co.uk)

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/>

**Suggested Co-curricular Activities**

N/A