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POSDRU 2007-2013



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**LIBERTY UNIVERSITY AND
ROMANIAN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
Helms School of Government
GOVT 332 – POLITICS OF EUROPE AND AMERICA
May 2015**

Dr. Steven Alan Samson

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- I Course Description** A survey of the political systems of Britain, France, Germany, Russia, and the United States, comparing how various forms of government provide for the requirements of their citizens and the tasks of governing.
- II. Rationale** As the cultural hearth of Christendom, Europe was the historic locus of the political, economic, and increasingly secular development of Western civilization. Until recently Europe was also the strategic focus of the modern international system under the Treaty of Westphalia (1648). Although Europe remains a major center of economic activity, its political and military leadership has weakened since the Second World War in favor of the United States, Japan, Russia, and China. As part of the comparative politics sequence, GOVT 332 examines Europe's transition from Great Power politics of its imperial past to the technocratic regime of a European Union that seeks to create an integrated economic and political system even as demographic winter approaches.
- III. No Prerequisites**
- IV. Materials List**
- Codevilla, Angelo M. [A Student's Guide to International Relations](#)
 Hannan, Daniel. [The New Road to Serfdom](#) [H. 1-8]
 Weigel, George. [The Cube and the Cathedral](#) [W] ISBN: 978-0465092666
 Additional Readings: Handouts and links posted on the syllabus under class schedule
- V. Learning Outcomes**
1. Students will identify and review a variety of concepts and historical as well as social science approaches to the comparative study of European and American political institutions.
 2. Students will recognize and be able to locate European countries, American states, and other features on outline maps.
 3. Students will analyze and compare the history, geography, economies, governing institutions, and political behavior of contemporary European nations, states, and international entities.
 4. Students will thereby become better equipped to understand, participate in, and evaluate international political processes.

CLASS SCHEDULE
(Subject to Revision)

Key to Readings: **Bold** = Readings for objective questions are in **Bold** type
 Green = Readings posted on Blackboard

PART ONE: THE INTERNATIONAL SETTING



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Required

Codevilla, Angelo. A Student's Guide to International Relations

Map Exercises: Europe and the United States

Recommended

Brague, Rémi. [Christ, Culture, and the New Europe](#)

Davis, Avi. [The First World War's Relevance to Our Times](#)

Prince Michael of Liechtenstein. [EU and Its Members Are Paying the Price of Past Neglect
EU Finance: Greek Comedy and French Tragedy](#)

Wheeler, Brian. [EU Should 'Undermine National Homogeneity' Says UN Migration Chief](#)

Collateral

Brown, Stuart. [Five Minutes with Phillip Blond: We're Looking at a Complete Collapse of Standard Left and
Right Ideologies](#)

Marinov, Bojidar. [Isidore of Seville and the Birth of Europe as the Regnum Christi](#)

Röhl, John. [The Kaiser and His Court](#)

PART TWO: EUROPE IN THE ROUND

Required

Weigel, George. The Cube and the Cathedral, pp. 1-92

Raico, Ralph. [The European Miracle](#)

Recommended

Benedict XVI. [Europe and Its Discontents](#)

Goldman, David P. [Supranational Government in Europe?](#)

Lipkes, Jeff. [Divvying Up the Caliphate: The Long-Term Causes of the War](#)

Manent, Pierre. [The Reason for Nations](#) (an interview)

Map Exercises

Historical Vignettes

Belien, Paul. [How Flanders Helped Shape Freedom in America](#)

Berger, Peter. [The Fading Shadow of the Habsburgs](#)

Collateral

Brague, Rémi. ["Yellow Ants," Fundamentalists, and Cowboys: An Interview](#)

Grice, Elizabeth. [Interview with Antony Beevor: Europe Is Already Falling Apart](#)

Collateral: Videos

Klavan, Andrew. [The History of Western Culture in 2 1/2 Minutes](#)

Rosling, Hans. [200 Countries, 200 Years, 4 Minutes](#)

CODEVILLA TEST

PART THREE: PAST AND PRESENT EUROPEAN UNIONS

Required

Weigel, pp. 93-187

Hannan, Daniel. [A European's Warning to America](#)

Manent, Pierre. [Current Problems of European Democracy](#)

Recommended

Durden, Tyler. [If You Exclude All Debt, There's No Debt Problem](#)

Klaus, Vaclav. [Crisis of the European Union: Causes and Significance](#)

Paumgarten, Nick (talk with Nigel Farage). [Less Europe](#)

Preobrazhensky, Konstantin. Interview with Bukovsky. [How Putin Is Separating America from Europe](#)

West, Diana. [Why the EU Is Not Your Father's Europe](#)

Collateral



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Batten, Gerard. [Potential Ties between Europol and Russia Demand UK Split from Police Agency](#)
 Coughlan, Anthony. [European Constitution: An Analysis](#)
 Glazov, Jamie. Interview with Pavel Stroilov: [When the Berlin Wall Fell](#)
 Kagan, Robert. [Americans Are from Mars, Europeans Are from Venus](#)
 Kagan, Robert. Review: [Of Paradise and Power](#)
 North, Gary. [EUthanasia](#)
 Stroilov, Pavel. [Dark Secrets of the Cold War](#)

PART FOUR: UNITED KINGDOM

Required

Hannan, introduction, chs. 1-2

K. 11 Britain

Bastiat, Frederic. [The Law](#)

Scruton, Roger. [Interview](#)

Recommended

Adams, J. Christian, Interview. [Putting the Great Back into Britain: UKIP Leader Nigel Farage](#)

Cameron, David. [Speech on the King James Bible](#)

Dalrymple, Theodore. [Go to Manchester, Young Hoodlum](#)

Dodge, Andrew Ian. [Dan Hannan: Leading Europe's Dramatic Shift to the Right](#)

Hannan, Daniel. [The Left Hates Margaret Thatcher](#)

_____ . [The Lib Dems Are Finished](#)

Murray, Douglas. [Britain's Two Sets of Books](#)

Neather, Andrew. [Labour Wanted Mass Immigration to Make UK More Multicultural Says Former Adviser](#)

Phillips, Melanie. [The Real Meaning of Lifestyle Choice](#)

Warner, Jeremy. [Why Britain Should Follow the Yellow Brick Road to Kansas and Cut Taxes](#)

Westrop, Samuel. [UK: Multiculturalism vs. Islamism](#)

Collateral

Magna Carta 800. <http://magnacarta800.org.uk/>

Persson, Mats. "Remember This?" (opting out of EU controls)

<http://www.spectator.co.uk/coffeehouse/6632468/remember-this.html>

Scruton, Roger. [The Common Law between England and America](#) (audio lecture)

Street, Chriss. [Independent Scotland Would Generate \\$17,217 Per Family in Energy Taxes](#)

MAP TEST

PART FIVE: FRANCE

Required:

Hannan, chs. 3-4

K. 33 France

Bruckner, Pascal. [Europe's Guilty Conscience](#)

Manent, Pierre. [Interview: Reason for Nations](#)

Recommended

Bruckner, Pascal. [Gloomy France](#)

Chan, Szu Ping. [France Is-Europe's Big Problem, Warns Mario Monti](#)

Kaminski, Matthew. [Guy Sorman: Why Europe Will Rise Again](#)

Monti, Mario. [EU Faces Existential Danger from Economic Crisis](#)

Ratzlav-Katz, Nissan. [Fmr. Italian Pres.: We Signed Pact with Terrorists](#)

Collateral

Humor: [You Have Two Cows](#)



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WEIGEL AND RAKOVE TEST

PART SIX: GERMANY

Required

Hannan, chs. 5-6

K. 16 The Germanys

Hayek, Friedrich. [The Road to Serfdom: Condensed](#)

Recommended

Adams, J. Christian. [The White Rose: An Anniversary of Three Executions](#)

Conquest, Richard. [German Economic Policy and the Euro, 1999-2010](#) (Executive Summary)

Kern, Soeren. [Austria: Springboard for Global Jihad](#)

Salyer, Jerry. [Martyrs and Heroes](#), on Beate Ruhm von Oppen and Helmuth James von Moltke

Collateral

[Keynes vs. Hayek in Epic Economic Rap Battle](#) (paired with Round 1) **and/or**

Rothman, Josh. [Keynes vs. Hayek: The Epic Rap Battle](#) (includes some lyrics)

New Film: [Stay Like Brunei or Become More Like Denmark: Economic Freedom](#)

Purvis, Andrew. [Is This the Greenest City in the World?](#) (Freiberg)

[Freya Graefin von Moltke](#)

BRITAIN, FRANCE, AND BASTIAT TEST

PART SEVEN: RUSSIA

Required:

Hannan, chs. 7-8

K. 26 The Russians and the Soviet Union

Berlinski, Claire. [A Hidden History of Evil](#)

Recommended

Bukovsky, Vladimir, and Pavel Stroiilov. [Biden's Secret Diplomacy](#)

Golodryga, Bianna. [Interview: Garry Kasparov on Vladimir Putin](#)

Glucksmann, André. [A Hot Summer in Europe](#)

Latynina, Yulia. [Julia Latynina on Russia's Squandered Billions](#)

Latynina, Yulia. [Life in Putin's Russia](#)

Lucas, Edward. [State Security, Post-Soviet Style](#)

Stroiilov, Pavel. [The Communist Collapse: Twenty Years On](#)

Collateral

Boros, Crina. Interview with Pavel Stroiilov [Russian dissident who copied the Gorbachev Foundation's archive: Mitterrand and Gorbachev wanted the European Socialist Union. Thatcher opposed Germany's reunification](#)

Chrenkoff, Arthur. [Still Dis-Putin' History After All These Years](#)

Glucksmann, André. [Guilty of Being Right](#)

Mahoney, Daniel J. [Telling the Truth about Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn](#) (podcast)

Scruton, Roger. [The Flame That Was Snuffed Out by Freedom](#)

GERMANYS, RUSSIANS, AND HAYEK TEST

PART EIGHT: UNITED STATES

Required

Federalist 10, 39, 51

<http://www.constitution.org/fed/federa10.htm>



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<http://www.constitution.org/fed/federa39.htm>

<http://www.constitution.org/fed/federa51.htm>

Samson, Steven Alan. [Reconstituting the American States](#)

Recommended

Atbashian, Oleg. [Want a Financial Crisis? Impose 'Fairness'](#)

Gao, George. [For a Rich Country America Is Unusually Religious and Optimistic](#)

Kotkin, Joel. [Declining Birthrates, Expanded Bureaucracy: Is the U.S. Going European?](#)

Marini, John. [Frank Capra's America and Ours](#)

HANNAN TEST

QUOTATIONS

"In his 'Notes on the Way,' Orwell wrote that the writers who sawed off the West's soul included 'Gibbon, Voltaire, Rousseau, Shelley, Byron, Dickens, Stendhal, Samuel Butler, Ibsen, Zola, Flaubert, Shaw, Joyce—in one way or another they are all of them destroyers, wreckers, saboteurs. These 'Enlightenment' writers led the West into its present darkness.

In his essay Orwell was reflecting on Malcolm Muggeridge's book *The Thirties*, which describes the damage these writers had done to Europe. Muggeridge, then still an atheist, was astute enough to perceive that

'We are living in a nightmare precisely *because* we have tried to set up an earthly paradise. We have believed in 'progress.' Trusted to human leadership, rendered unto Caesar the things that are God's. . . . There is no wisdom except in the fear of God; but no one fears God; therefore there is no wisdom. Man's history reduces itself to the rise and fall of material civilizations, one Tower of Babel after another . . . downwards into abysses which are horrible to contemplate.'"

-- Quoted in Vishal Mangalwadi, *The Book That Made Your World*, p. 23.

"The primary function of the study of history is to foretell the future; and the kind of history we accept depends on the type of future we desire. Since the past itself is imperfectly grasped, we often stand on what we only imagine to reach what has not yet come to pass. The only consolation in this insane state of affairs is that this circular process sometimes works." – Richard Fernandez, Belmont Club, April 28, 2003

"The ideal of service does not extend further than the ideal of social utility; it knows nothing concerning what is unique. A high standard of living, and not the salvation of the soul, is its highest aim. Thus mere production becomes an end in itself, an absurdity which on the practical side is already becoming patent from the fact that more and more Americans are living on their future income, so that the present is being sold into deeper and deeper debt-slavery to the future—which from the viewpoint of the soul signifies the same bondage as that of the Jews in Egypt. . . . *To Europe, and to Europe alone, has the task been entrusted to guard the sacred fire of the spirit from extinction during the long night of the spirit which now lies before mankind.* For if the majority of mankind, in its search for rejuvenation, sinks back into the group soul, it means a dark age for spirit, mind, and soul." – Keyserling, *Europe* (1928), pp. 389-90.

Faced with a choice between democracy and supra-nationalism, the European Union almost always opts for supra-nationalism and nowhere is this clearer than in its policy in the Western Balkans. We are maintaining to all intents and purposes protectorates in Bosnia, in Kosovo and arguably even in Macedonia for the sole purpose of preventing ethnographic boundaries along the lines of what local people there would choose.

It is very difficult to have a functioning democracy unless people feel enough in common one with another to accept government from each other's hands. If you want government for and by the people, you have to have a people that everyone recognises some identity with, some allegiance to.



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To put it in another way, democracy needs a 'demos', a unit with which we identify when we use the word 'we'. I am not saying it is simple. People can sustain multiple loyalties, populations can be interspersed, but our prejudice, other things being equal, should be towards national self-determination. If you take the 'demos' out of democracy, you are left only with the 'kratos', with the power of a system that must compel by law what it dare not ask in the name of civic patriotism. – Daniel Hannan, speech to the European Parliament, January 19, 2011.