

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
SPRING SEMESTER, 2005

SYLLABUS FOR IR 468: EUROPEAN INTEGRATION
TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 5:00 – 6:20 PM IN VKC 154
DR. GUNNAR NIELSSON. OFFICE IN VKC 315. TEL. 740-2128
E-MAIL: NIELSSON@USC.EDU
OFFICE HOURS: TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 10:30AM – NOON AND BY
APPOINTMENT

PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

“As the construction of Europe gradually shifts away from its initial focus (the market and the economy) and toward issues of high politics – currency, justice, foreign policy and (soon) defense – the need for “government” is becoming more critical. ... But the question is: What sort of government, and by whom?” Fraser Cameron*

(*The European Finality Debate And Its National Dimensions; page 70.)

Course Description: At the end of October last year, the twenty five member states of the European Union signed the final, formal text of their new 350 page constitution. Ratification of that historical document is expected to take place during the next two years.

This course is devoted to an examination of the new constitution. The approach is based on a study of EU developments the last fifty years as the required bases for a detailed content analysis of the document with opportunities to interpret and speculate on its implications for future European integration.

After examining the general principles set forth in the opening part of the constitution, we proceed to study the new provisions for fundamental human rights. That is followed by a comparative analysis of the many “policy domains” as well as a careful discussion of the provision for a new institutional framework and a careful delineation of the division of power between central and state policy responsibilities. The general review of the constitutional provision is completed by examining the new external relations covering both common commercial policy and common foreign and security policies. We complete the course with a comparative analysis of prospects of the twenty five members ratifying the constitution.

Course Requirements: Regular attendance and active participation are especially important in a small seminar such as this and it will count for one fifth of the course grade. Instead of the conventional midterm, a number of short take-home exam essays (five or six) will be assigned as the semester progresses. Similarly, the final will consist of a thirty minute oral exam will be scheduled sometime on May 3rd. Everybody will be assigned a short term paper topic that will focus on the prospects of ratifying the constitution in the various member states. The assignments are given the following proportional value:

Attendance and participation	20%
Term paper	15%
Take home exam essays	50%
Final oral exam	15%

Required Texts:

Document, Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe. Signed by the 25 member states on October 29, 2004. Available at the Partners section of USC's bookstore.

David Wood and Birol Yesilada, THE EMERGING EUROPEAN UNION. New York, Longman, Third Edition, 2004.

PART II: SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Week No. 1: Introduction and assignments.
Jan. 11 – 13 Theorizing about international integration.
Required reading: Wood and Yesilada, Chapters 1 & 2.

Weeks No. 2 & 3: History of the European Union, 1952-2002
Jan. 18 - 27
Required reading: Wood and Yesilada, Chapters 3,4,5 & 7.
First essay: take home midterm.

Week No. 4: From the constitutional convention to the final document, 2002 – 2004.
Feb. 1 -3

Week No. 5: Comprehensive overview of the constitutional text.
Feb. 8 - 10
Required reading: Constitution: Part I Articles 1 – 60

Week No. 6: Charter of fundamental rights and
Feb. 15 -17 provisions for freedom, security and justice.
Required reading: Constitution: Part II Articles 61 – 114 and Part III Articles 257 – 277
Second essay assigned.

Weeks No. 7 & 8: The internal market and the monetary union

Feb. 22 – March 3

Required reading: Wood and Yesilada, pp. 150-151 and Chapter 8

Constitution: Part III Articles 130 – 202

Third essay assigned.

Weeks No 9 & 11: Other policy domains

March 8 - 24

Required reading: Wood and Yesilada, Chapters 9 and 10

Constitution: Part III Articles 203 – 256

Week No. 10: Spring recess from March 14 - 19

Weeks No. 12 & 13: Institutions and Policy Making

March 29 – April 7

Required Reading: Wood and Yesilada, Chapter 6

Constitution: Part III Articles 330 – 423

Fourth essay assigned

Weeks No. 14 - 15: External Relations

April 12 - 21

Required reading: Wood and Yesilada, Chapters 11 & 12

Constitution: Part III Articles 292 - 329

Fifth essay assigned

Week No. 16: Prospects for ratification and summary

April 26 – 28

Week No. 17: Thirty minute oral final exam to be arranged.

May 3rd