
INTRODUCTION TO EUROPEAN STUDIES

Course Description

Europe is not only birthplace of various disciplines in social sciences; it has also been the main object of study in social sciences. This course offers a unique opportunity to learn about social sciences and the way various disciplines within it studies Europe. The course will help students learn about the *type* of questions scholars asked about Europe in different social science disciplines, including Geography, Sociology, Anthropology, Political Science, Economics, Linguistics, and others. This will help them grasp not only the differences in focus across disciplines in the study of Europe, but also the scholarly debates within each discipline. This way, students will have a broader understanding of the context in which the European experience is studied with an attention to the research methods employed by various disciplines.

Course Objectives

This introductory course has various components (1) surveying the meaning of Europe through the scientific inquiry; (2) exploring the history of ideas that emerged in Europe as discussed in social sciences; (3) introducing (and questioning/problematising) various conceptualizations and findings in the study of social, economic and political phenomenon in Europe. This is a multi-disciplinary course, not an inter-disciplinary one. In other words, rather than focusing on scholarly works that combine different disciplines in the conduct of their study, we will focus on historical and contemporary debates within each discipline. Our discussions on the study of European Experience in Geography, Anthropology, Sociology, Political science, Economics, Linguistics will also hint us how to ask questions from an inter-disciplinary point of view. Students will also have a chance to explore various scientific debates within each discipline and make more informed choices about their area of interest if they want to pursue social sciences.

Course Materials

The lectures will provide a basis for discussing the reading materials on the first three weeks. The lectures will be followed by a discussion about the specifics of readings. Students are expected to serve as discussion leaders starting from week 4. Students are expected to check Canvas weekly to access required and suggested materials.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Wednesdays 3:00 PM-3:50 PM

CLASSROOM: CONFERENCE ROOM

INSTRUCTOR: ASLI BAYSAL

E-Mail: abaysal@ufl.edu

Virtual Office Hours by appointment if needed.

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/875809264>

F2F Office Hours: THURSDAYS 1:20-4:20

TUR 3328

Important Dates:

Final Paper Assignment: 12/13/2023 @
5:00 pm

