Instructor: Prof. Henry Sirotin
Office: 1032 Hunter North
Office Hours: M after class, and by appt.
Email: hsirotin@hunter.cuny.edu; please make sure that all email messages include GEOG 306 in the subject line, and also sign your text with your full name. I do not respond to unsigned emails from addresses like kissmesweetie2960.

Course Description and Objectives:

The European Union has been an attempt to create a unified federal system out of a disparate set of twenty eight nation states, each with its own traditions. These traditions are rooted in geographic considerations, including natural conditions such as topography, climate, and resources, and social conditions such as language, religion, and history. At the same time, the Union has been buffeted by strong external forces, economic, social, and political, that have been beyond the direct control of the central organization or the member states. The result has been an interaction of unifying and disuniting forces that have left the future of not only the Union, but several of its member states, a political question mark.

This course will examine challenges facing those forces, and their roots, in terms of the context of continental supranationalism and nation-state devolution, at continental, regional, and national scales, with selected case studies. The emphasis will be on the underlying factors affecting the Union, not on the development of its political institutions.

Learning outcomes include

1. Knowledge of disciplinary content, including an understanding of European development, contemporary issues, and possible future outcomes, as seen through the lens of geography
2. An understanding of social, political, and economic problems that currently affect the continent
3. The ability to think critically about the above topics.

Text: Alexander B. Murphy, Terry G. Jordan-Bychkov, and Bella Bychkova Jordan, The European Culture Area, 6th ed., Rowman and Littlefield, 2014. ISBN 978144223462. The text will be available at Shakespeare Books, 939 Lexington Ave. (across the street from Hunter) and at the Hunter College Bookstore. For value copies, including used, e-book, and rentals, check http://www.allbookstores.com/The-European-Culture-Area-Systematic/9781442223462. However, if you go this route, make sure you are getting the right edition, and that it is in usable condition.

Assigned articles can be either directly linked through your Hunter Library account with the URLs provided, or will be placed on E-reserve in the library.

I will be communicating with you both in class and by Blackboard, so make sure your Blackboard account is active. I will not be responsible for bounce backs from your accounts, Please note that this has been a particular problem with transfers still using CUNY Community College accounts.
Grading:

The first part of the course, through week 8, will be largely lecture, the remainder discussion. Grading will be based on a midterm exam covering the first part of the course, participation in discussion throughout the course, and a research paper.

The research paper must be of at least 3,000 words (12 pages, using Word default margins and 10, 11, or 12 point type.). It should include supplementary notes using any standard foot- or endnote model, such as Chicago, Modern Language Association (MLA), or American Psychological Association (APA), and a separate bibliography in corresponding style. A timeline for the paper is provided below in the calendar section. You may choose any relevant topic you like (I tend to make broad allowances here,) but all topics MUST be approved by me in advance, and Wikipedia IS NOT a quotable resource. Requirements for graduate attendees will be given separately.

Class participation will include knowing the content of readings and being prepared to discuss them in class.

The final grade will be developed from approximately 60% on the research paper, 25% on the midterm, and 15% on class participation.

To receive an incomplete (IN) a student must present evidence of a satisfactory reason and must have done “C” work or better PRIOR to the filing of the incomplete; otherwise, the student will receive a grade of WU. Final grades will be assigned as a letter grade based on the numerical standards that can be found in the Hunter College Undergraduate Catalogue.

There is no extra credit available in GEOG 30601.

Statement on Academic Integrity:

Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures.

ADA Policy:

In compliance with the American Disability Act of 1990 (ADA) and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational parity and accommodations for all students with documented disabilities and/or medical conditions. It is recommended that all students with documented disabilities (Emotional, Medical, Physical, and/or Learning) consult the Office of AccessABILITY, located in Room E1214B, to secure necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance, please call: (212) 772-4857 or (212) 650-3230.
**Classroom Electronics:**

I permit the use of electronic recording devices and dictionaries during lectures. ALL other personal electronics should be turned off before coming into the classroom. This includes cell phones, Ipods, etc. A computer may be used FOR TAKING NOTES ONLY, but if what you are doing becomes a distraction to others around you, I will ask you to shut it down.

**Other Notes:**

I would *strongly* recommend all students check The Economist magazine online each week, particularly its Europe section. You can access it through the Hunter Library website http://www.economist.com/printedition/covers?print_region=76980

If you have time, periodically checking major newspapers should also prove useful. I’ll talk about this in class.

Well-behaved children are welcome at any time.

*Except for changes that substantially affect grading, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice. Any changes will be given in class and through Blackboard notification. This may be especially true of reading assignments, which may vary with new material that becomes available or the news.*

**Calendar:**

- Aug 29th: First day of class
- Sept 5th: No class
- Oct 3rd: No class
- Oct 10th: No class
- Nov 14th: Research paper topic due
- Dec 12th: Last day of class meetings
- Dec 19th: Exam day, all research papers due (no exceptions)

**Course Outline:**

1. If you’ve been following the news the last two years, you will know that Europe is exceptionally dynamic. Therefore, all non-textbook readings are tentative, and may be changed or supplemented.
2. Note that readings with asterisks (*) require logging in through the Hunter Library

Week 1 [Aug 29th]: Introduction- What is Europe?
   Readings: Murphy, chap 1.

Week 2 [Sept 12th]: Habitat- Topography, Climate, Resources
   Readings: Murphy, chap. 2.

Week 3 [Sept 19th]: Culture I- Demography and Urbanization
   Readings: Murphy, chaps. 3 and 10.
   European Union, “Population”
Please explore the Eurostat website and keep it in mind for your papers.

**Week 4 [Sept 26th]: Culture II- Language**  
Readings: Murphy, chap. 4.

**Week 5 [Oct 17th]: Culture III- Religion**  
Readings: Murphy, chap. 5.  
“Islam in Europe: Perception and Reality”
http://www.economist.com/blogs/graphicdetail/2016/03/daily-chart-15
  
Bennhold, “Reading, Writing, and Allegations”

**Week 6 [Oct 24th]: Culture III- The Intangibles**  
Readings: Murphy, chap. 11.  
Birnbaum, “Germans Would Rather Send Humanitarian Aid....”
https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/to-greeks-german-offers-of-help-sound-more-like-a-threat/2015/07/07/3c5be31e-24ab-11e5-b621-b55e495e9b78_story.html
  
“Europeans have warped views of their neighbors”

**Week 7 [Oct 31st]: Economics I- Agriculture**  
Readings: Murphy, chap. 7.

**Week 8 [Nov 7th]: Economics II-Industry**  
Readings: Murphy, chap. 8.

**MIDTERM EXAM**

**Week 9 [Nov 14th]: European Integration I- Politics**  
Readings: Murphy, chaps. 6, pp. 379-390.  
  Jovanovic, “Was European Integration Nice While it lasted?”
http://www.e-jei.org/upload/JEI_28_1_1_36_2013600002.pdf
  
Cody, “Europe’s Separatists Gaining Ground....”
  
Castle, “Anti-Europe Parties at Odds”
http://www.nytimes.com/2014/05/20/world/europe/anti-europe-parties-at-odds-despite-shared-cause.html?module=Search&mabReward=relbias%3Aw%2C(%221%22%3A%22RI%3A8%22)
Rubin, “Far-Right Parties Form a Coalition in European Parliament”

“The Rise of the European Right”
http://www.economist.com/blogs/graphicdetail/2016/05/daily-chart-18

Week 10 [Nov 21st]: European Integration II- Economics
Readings: Murphy, chap. 9. “Eurodependency”
http://www.economist.com/blogs/graphicdetail/2016/06/daily-chart-21
Charlemagne, “North is North”
Rodrik, “Europe, Globalization, and the Future of the Eurozone”
MacNamara, “The Euro is an Experiment....”

Week 11 [Nov 28th]: Regional Devolution
Readings: Murphy, pp.390-396
Prytherch, “New Euroregional Territories, Old Catalanist Dreams?....”
http://eur.sagepub.com/content/16/2/131
“Trouble Ahead”
(and here, read the first comment, by Hari Seldon de la Huerta)
Mas, “A Referendum for Catalonia”
Minder, “As Secession Talk Swells in Catalonia....”
“Is Catalonia Spain’s Scotland?”
http://op-talkblogs.nytimes.com/2014/10/06/is-catalonia-spains-scotland/
Minder, “Catalonia Overwhelming votes for Independence...”
"Splintered Catalan Independence Parties Must Unite to Win Election”
http://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2015/07/12/world/europe/12reuters-spain-catalonia.html

The Department of Geography at Hunter College of the City University of New York, located in the heart of New York City’s Upper East Side, invites applications for a full time, tenure track appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor in Geoinformatics, beginning August, 2017. The successful candidate has to have a PhD in Geography, Computer Science, or a related discipline, will demonstrate a strong commitment to both undergraduate and graduate teaching, and presents a proven publication record in geocomputational areas such as (but not limited to) web GIS, data science, visualization, spatial databases, and spatial/temporal modeling.
The Department of Geography has approximately 150 undergraduate majors and MA/GIS Certificate students. The successful applicant is expected to play a major role in the department’s new Masters of Science program in Geoinformatics.

Applicants should submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, statement of teaching interests, copies of or links to at least three publications, and contact information for three references Review of applications will begin October 15, 2016 and continue until the position is filled.

CUNY encourages people with disabilities, minorities, veterans and women to apply. At CUNY, Italian Americans are also included among our protected groups. Applicants and employees will not be discriminated against on the basis of any legally protected category, including sexual orientation or gender identity. EEO/AA/Vet/Disability Employer.

Week 12 [Nov 25th]: Foreign Affairs I- The Common Foreign Policy and NATO
Readings: Vennison, “European Worldviews”
   Dempsey, “E.U. Refuses to Cooperate on Security”
   Yost, “NATO’s Evolving Purposes”
   Hallams and Schreer, “Towards a ‘Post-American’ Alliance”
   Kupchan, “Britain is No Longer America’s Bridge to Europe”
http://www.cfr.org/world/britain-no-longer-americas-bridge-europe/p22294
   Gardiner, “Four Key Principles for a Conservative British Foreign Policy
http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2010/05/four-key-principles-for-a-conservative-british-foreign-policy

Week 13 [Dec 5th]: Foreign Affairs II- Migration and Immigration
Readings: “Everything you Wanted to Know About Migration Across the Mediterranean”
http://www.economist.com/blogs/economist-explains/2015/05/economist-explains-6
   “Stop the Boats”
   “Sound And Fury”
   “Migration Plan Exposes EU Rifts”
https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/eu-at-odds-on-how-to-deal-with-wave-of-migrants-from-africa-middle-east/2015/06/26/c384e53e-1c36-11e5-ab92-c75ae6ab94b5_story.html
   Higgins, “In a Testy Debate, EU Leaders Fail to Agree on Quotas…”
   “No Milk, Less Honey”
   Lyman, “Route of Migrants into Europe Shifts Toward the Balkans”
Nuttall, “Migration: Looking for a Home”
http://www.economist.com/news/special-report/21699307-migrant-crisis-europe-last-year-was-
only-one-part-worldwide-problem-rich

“World Refugees”

McGinnity and Gijsberts, “A threat in the air? Perceptions of group discrimination in the
first years after migration: Comparing Polish Migrants in Germany, the Netherlands, the UK and
Ireland” http://etn.sagepub.com/content/16/2/290.full.pdf+

Week 14 [Dec 12th]: Foreign Affairs III- Energy and Russia
Readings:  Potocnik, “Renewable Energy Sources”
Text=european&searchText=renewable&searchText=energy&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSe
arch%3FQuery%3Deuropean%2Brenewable%2Benergy%26amp%3Bacc%3Don%26amp%3Bwc
%3Don%26amp%3Bfc%3Doff

Gardner, “Energy Supergrid”
http://www.nytimes.com/2012/01/17/business/global/17iht-rbog-
grid17.html?pagewanted=all&module=Search&mabReward=relbias%3Aw%2C%221%22%3A%2
2RI%3A8%22)&r=0

Eddy, “Germany Moves Forward on Renewable Energy Plan”
http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/09/business/international/germany-moves-forward-on-
renewable-energy-plan.html?module=Search&mabReward=relbias%3Aw%2C%221%22%3A%222R1%3A8%22

Scott, “In Europe, Green Energy Takes a Hit from the Debt Crisis”
http://www.nytimes.com/2012/11/14/business/energy-environment/in-europe-green-energy-
takes-a-hit-from-debt-
crisis.html?module=Search&mabReward=relbias%3Aw%2C%221%22%3A%222RI%3A8%22

Reed, “Sluggish Economy”
http://www.nytimes.com/2014/01/17/business/energy-environment/sluggish-economy-
prompts-europe-to-reconsider-climate-
goals.html?module=Search&mabReward=relbias%3Aw%2C%221%22%3A%222RI%3A8%22

*Feklyunina, “Russia’s International Images”
http://eds.a.ebscohost.com/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?sid=1737dff3-6e07-4d84-ac03-
bb9f0cc7c293%40sessionmgr4002&vid=2&hid=4203

Economist, “Conscious Uncoupling”
possiblebut-it-will-take-time-money-and-sustained

Ignatius, “The Risk of Tougher Sanctions on Russia”
http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/david-ignatius-tougher-sanctions-on-russia-could-
make-things-very-chilly-in-europe/2014/07/17/eac68f52-0df6-11e4-8341-
b8072b1e7348_story.html

DePillis, “Leaked Document”
http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2014/07/08/could-a-trade-deal-lift-the-u-
s-longstanding-ban-on-crude-oil-exports-europe-thinks-so/

Week 15 [Dec. 19th]  Papers are due during the final exam period on Monday, December 19th
between 5:35 and 7:35 PM. No papers will be accepted after that date unless prior approval has
been granted by the instructor.