

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: European Union: The Politics of Integration

Course Number and Section

POLISCI

3343G 550

Instructor Name(s): Dr. Laszlo Sarkany

Instructor Email(s): lsarkan@uwo.ca

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL Brightspace is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

The aim of this course is to introduce students to one of the most ambitious supranational integration processes in Europe, and perhaps in the world as well. We will begin with a historical survey of the early attempts at integration and will then continue on to discover how early attempts lead to – or at least followed – greater and deeper integration. The second main theme of the course will consider the institutional development of the EU, with a closer look at the institutional architecture including political, legal and economic institutions. The third major theme will include theoretical discussions on how integration may be conceptualized and explained. Finally, key issues within the EU will be considered such as monetary and economic integration, security, human rights, foreign affairs, agriculture, trade, development and climate change.

Learning Outcomes: one outcome per entry

- a. Develop a thorough understanding of the historical and institutional developments of, and in, the European Union (EU).
- b. Understand how integration has been explained and theorized.
- c. Critically evaluate approaches to policy integration across the EU
- d. Consider the benefits and the drawbacks of supranational integration

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Required textbook:

Bache, I. et. al. "Politics in the European Union." 5th ed. Oxford University Press, 2021.
[COST: \$73.99]

Methods of Evaluation: one assignment per entry

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Class participation	04/01/2026	10
Midterm test	02/11/2026	20

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Essay proposal	03/04/2026	15
Class essay	03/18/2026	25
Final exam	04/01/2026	30

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Thursday, December 18, 2025

Huron Brief Course Outline

In-course Costs	\$000.00
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For Textbooks and Course Materials (below), you are required to include the cost of each textbook or other learning material.

Note whether there are any restrictions that would prevent a student from using a second-hand copy. Here is some suggested text:

- Required textbook: [author, title, edition, publisher, date]. Cost: [insert amount].
 - Or include the weblink of the textbook's publisher site that includes the cost information.
- Students need to purchase this edition. Second-hand or older editions will not be sufficient.
- OR Students are welcome to purchase second-hand or earlier editions of this textbook.
- This course has an optional field trip that costs [insert amount].
- This course has a required field component that costs [insert amount].