

Fall 2003

Politics of Europe Syllabus

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**Syllabus for
Politics of Europe
GOVT 332 – Autumn 2003
Dr. Steven Alan Samson
Liberty University
School of Business and Government**

- I. **Course Description** A survey of the political systems of Britain, France, Germany, and Russia, comparing how various forms of government provide for the requirements of their citizens and the tasks of governing.
- II. **Rationale** This course directly supports Aims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of the Liberty University Statement of Purpose.

III. **Prerequisite** GOVT 200 or GOVT 220, preferably both

IV. **Materials List**

Purchase:

Kuehnelt-Leddihn, Erik von. The Intelligent American's Guide to Europe: Part I [K]

Roskin, Michael. Countries and Concepts [C]

_____. The Rebirth of East Europe [R]

Reserve Desk:

Kuehnelt-Leddihn, Erik von. Intelligent American's Guide to Europe

Lewis, Flora. Europe: A Tapestry of Nations

Madariaga, Salvador de. Portrait of Europe.

V. **Graded Requirements**

1. Each student is responsible for completing reading assignments prior to class and should keep a loose leaf notebook of class materials. It is suggested that readings and study aids be brought to class.
2. Participation is an essential part of class. Students should be prepared to discuss textbook readings and current events.
3. Students will be tested on the lecture and reading material through a series of eight tests. (100% of the grade)
4. Tests **must** be taken at the scheduled date and time. The lowest test score is dropped upon successful completion of the map quiz **and** the presentation. Should anyone miss a test, a special test on Roger Scruton's The West and the Rest or José Ortega y Gasset's The Revolt of the Masses may be taken in place of it no later than December 5. The Scruton book may be purchased at the bookstore. Another option is to read Robert D. Kaplan's Eastward to Tartary and write a review of Part One and chapters 21-24.
5. A pass/fail map quiz over the countries, capitals, and major features of Europe will be given September 17.
6. Each student will make one (10-15 minutes) oral presentation on one or a combination of countries in class coinciding with chapters in The Intelligent American's Guide to Europe. Topics are accepted on a first come, first served basis. Students who own Robert D. Kaplan's Eastward to Tartary will be given first bid on the southeast European countries covered in that book. Countries covered in textbook case studies are not eligible (United Kingdom, France, Germany, Russia). Repeat topics from previous classes will not be accepted. Yahoo.com has a Countries hyperlink on its web page. Presentations are graded on a pass/fail basis. Short abstracts (5-6 page essay, not an outline) should be

provided by November 8. The lowest quiz score will be deleted upon the satisfactory completion of the presentation.

7. The grading scale is 100-90=A, 89-80=B, 79-70=C, 69-60=D, 59 and below=F.

VI. Attendance Students are expected to arrive **on time** for every class meeting. Students who are absent due to illness or emergency should notify the professor prior to class. Absences due to participation in university-sponsored events, serious illness, or a death in the immediate family will be excused but must be confirmed in writing. Eight absences **will** result in a failing grade. Persistent tardiness will also have a detrimental effect on grades.

VII. Dress Code Observe the Liberty Way. Food is not permitted. Students who are not in appropriate campus attire will **not** be admitted to class.

VIII. Office Location, Phone, E-Mail, Hours

School of Business and Government, DH 1031

Phone: 582-2640

E-Mail: ssamson@liberty.edu

Hours: MWF 1:20-2:10; TR 8:00-9:15; R 9:25-10:40; by appointment

SCHEDULE

PART ONE: EUROPE IN THE ROUND (August 27-September 8)

Required: K. 1-10

Recommended: Read Hay and C. 1

Map Exercises

Selection of Countries for Area Studies

FIRST QUIZ: September 10

PART TWO: UNITED KINGDOM (September 10-22)

Required: Hay; C. 1-6

Recommended: K. 11-12

MAP TEST: September 19

SECOND TEST: September 24

PART THREE: FRANCE (September 24-October 10)

Required: Manent; C. 7-11

Recommended: K. 33

THIRD TEST: October 15

PART FOUR: GERMANY (October 13-24)

Required: Rakove; C. 12-16

Recommended: K. 16

FOURTH TEST: October 27

PART FIVE: RUSSIA (October 27-November 7)

Required: C. 17-21
Recommended: K. 26

FIFTH TEST: November 12

PART SIX: PRE-COMMUNIST EAST EUROPE (November 10-17)

Required: R. Introduction, 1-3
Recommended: K. 27
Presentations Begin: November 8

SIXTH TEST: November 19

PART SEVEN: COMMUNIST PERIOD (November 19-December 3)

Required: R. 4-7
Recommended: K. 25
Presentations

SEVENTH TEST: December 5

PART EIGHT: DESTRUCTION AND RECONSTRUCTION (December 5-12)

Required: R. 9-10
Presentations

EIGHTH TEST: December 12

Bibliography

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