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**London
South Bank
University**

Module Guide

European Politics in Transition

DSS_5_EPT

**Division of Social
Sciences**

Level 5

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Module Title/Details	European Politics in Transition
Programme(s)/Course	BA Politics
Level	5
Semester	1
Ref No:	DSS_5_EPT
Credit Value	20
Student Study hours	Contact hours: 45 Student managed learning hours: 155
Pre-requisite learning	None
Co-requisites	None
Excluded combinations	None

Module Coordinator [Name + e mail address]	Edwin Shaw Office BR240 shawe5@lsbu.ac.uk
Parent Division	Social Sciences
Parent Course	BA Politics
Description [100 words max]	The module explores political processes in Europe in a comparative perspective. It aims to examine the factors that explain the issue of political continuity and stability in Europe as well as the changes that have taken place over the last two decades. The module looks at ideology, power and decision making. There is a focus on political events and policy processes, looking at both individual nation states and the European Union. An organising theme of the module is the impact of the end of the cold war on the politics of Europe over recent decades.
Aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop and strengthen an interest in political processes , building conceptually upon the first year modules • To examine contemporary political issues as they affect a variety of European states including immigration and the politics of sustainability • To provide comparative context in which students can place the knowledge of their own society and which broadens their interest in politics in Europe and Beyond • To examine debates about the continuity and stability of politics in Europe as well as the factors tending towards change and instability • To provide a European foundation for the study of European Politics in the 21st century at level 6
Learning outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module the student will have:</p> <p>Knowledge and Understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developed a critical understanding of key processes and factors in European politics; • gained a critical insight into the factors that drive political change <p>Intellectual Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • critically engaged with debates about ideology , policy making and power in European politics; • enhanced their conceptual thinking and effectively applied political concepts and theories in the context of European politics; • critically engaged with the academic literature, by drawing on competing arguments and perspectives
Employability	<p>On successful completion of this module the student will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be able to locate and access information independently • be able to compare and evaluate information • be able to work to deadlines • be able to research occupations and employers
Teaching & Learning Pattern	12 week semester- 1 x 2-hour lecture and 12 x 1-hour seminar
Indicative content	<p>Developments in European integration and disintegration, including Brexit</p> <p>The Far Right in Europe, populism and immigration</p> <p>Privatisation and the impact of neo-liberalism</p> <p>Political change in central and eastern Europe</p> <p>Austerity and political responses</p>

	Nations and nationalism in contemporary Europe Foreign policies of European nation states and the EU
Assessment method (Please give details – elements, weightings, sequence of elements, final component)	Formative: 3-400 word essay plan to be submitted by week 5 (not assessed); essay title to be chosen by student in agreement with tutor Summative: 1) 1500 word essay (based on formative essay plan) - 30 per cent - to be submitted November 1 2019 2) 2 hour unseen end of semester exam in January 2020 – 70 per cent
Indicative Reading	Core reading Bale, T. (4e 2017) <i>European Politics, A Comparative Introduction</i> . London: Palgrave Kubicek, P. (2017) <i>European Politics</i> . London: Routledge White, S., Lewis, G., and Batt, J. (eds) (2013) <i>Developments in Central and Eastern Europe</i> . Durham: Duke Optional reading Bretherton, C., and Mannin, M. (eds) (2013) <i>The Europeanization of European Politics</i> . New York: Palgrave Hague, R., and Harrop, M. (2013) <i>Comparative Government and Politics</i> . London: Palgrave Juredo, E., and Brochman, G. (eds) (2013) <i>Europe's Immigration Challenge: Reconciling Work, Welfare and Mobility</i> . London: Tauris Journals <i>West European Politics, Government and Opposition, World Today, Political Studies, Parliamentary Affairs, Journal of Common Market Studies, Journal of Communist and post-Communist Studies, German Politics</i>
Other Learning Resources	Module VLE: The moodle site presents a more visual dynamic and interactive point of contact and dissemination for the module. The site details the structure of the module, functions as a document repository and contains links to online (including audio-visual) learning materials for example to newspapers, organisations, digital archives, reports etc. Use of You Tube

LECTURE PROGRAMME

1. Course overview; from the nation state to supranationalism: early developments in the European Community
2. From the nation state to supranationalism: two decades of the European Union
3. From communism to capitalism? Political change in central and eastern Europe
4. From Keynesianism to Neo-Liberalism: privatisation and markets
5. The European Union in the global political economy
6. From stability to austerity: European political responses to the 2007 credit crunch
7. From homogeneity to multiculturalism? Immigration in Europe
8. From political stability to extremism: the rise of the Far Right in Europe?
9. From consumerism to sustainability: the politics of climate change in Europe
10. European politics in crisis: challenges and opportunities – workshop/module summary

SEMINAR 1

Analyse the key factors that led to the Brexit vote.

What was the political environment that provided the context for European integration in the 1950s and 1960s?

Reading

Christiansen, T., and Duke, S. (eds) (2014) *The Maastricht Treaty: Second Thoughts after 20 years*. London: Routledge

Clarke, H.D. et al (2017) *Brexit: Why Britain Voted to Leave the European Union*. Cambridge: CUP

Dunt, I. (2016) *Brexit: What the Hell Happens Now?* London: Canonbury

McCormick, J. (2014) *Understanding the European Union: A Concise Introduction (The European Union Series)*. London: Palgrave

Nugent, N. (2017) *The Government and Politics of the European Union*. London: Palgrave

SEMINAR 2

Outline and analyse the central challenges faced by Europe after WW2.

Reading

Bache, I., et al (2014) *Politics in the European Union*. Oxford: OUP

Cini, M., and Perez-Solorzano Borragan, N. (2013) *European Union Politics*. Oxford: OUP

McCormick, J. (2014) *Understanding the European Union*. London: Palgrave

Nugent, N. (2017) *The Government and Politics of the European Union*. London: Palgrave

Tsoukalis, L. (ed). (1983) *The European Community: past, present and future*. Oxford: Blackwell

SEMINAR 3

Is eastern Europe different? Does it inevitably form a union within a union inside the EU?

Reading

Cernoch, F. et al (2011) *Political Parties and Nationalism in Visegrad Countries*. Manchester: MUP

Keren, M., and Ofer, G. (eds) (1992) *Trials of Transition*. Boulder: Westview

O'Sullivan, J. (ed) (2015) *The Second Term of Viktor Orbán: Beyond Prejudice and Enthusiasm*. London: Social Affairs Unit

White, S. et al (2014) *Developments in Russian Politics 8*. London: Palgrave

Wolchik, S.L, and Curry, J.L (2015) *Central and East European Politics: From Communism to Democracy*. Lanham: Rowman

Schopflin, G. (1993) *Politics in Eastern Europe 1945-1992*. Oxford: Blackwell

White, S. et al (2003) *Developments in East European Politics 3*. Maidenhead: Open University

SEMINAR 4

Will it be possible for Europe to sustain its welfare economies in their present form, especially in relation to the challenges of globalisation and neoliberalism?

Reading

Budd, A. 'The crisis and contradictions of stake-holder capitalism'. *Contemporary Politics* vol 3, no. 2, 1997

Hirst. P., and Thompson, G. (2009) *Globalization in Question*. Cambridge: Polity

Gamble, A. 'The Western Ideology'. *Government and Opposition*. (Jan 2009)

Hutton, W. (2011) *Them and us: changing Britain - why we need a fair society*. London: Abacus

Hausermann, S. (2010) *The politics of welfare state reform in continental Europe: modernization in hard times*. Cambridge: CUP

Lapavitsas, C. et al (2012) *Crisis in the Eurozone*. London: Verso

Talani, L.S. (2014) *European Political Economy: Issues and Theories*. London: Routledge

SEMINAR 5

Was the creation of the Euro currency an economic 'cover' for a political agenda?

Reading

Feldstein, M. 'The failure of the Euro'. *Foreign Affairs* Vol 91, No 1 (2012)

Giddens, A. (2007) *Europe in the Global Age*. Cambridge: Polity

Haseler, S. (2004) *Super-state – the new Europe and its Challenge to America*. London: I.B. Taurus

Mallaby, S. 'Europe's optional catastrophe'. *Foreign Affairs*, Vol 91, No 4 (2012)

Marsh, S., and Mackenstein, H. (2004) *The International Relations of the European Union*. London: Routledge

Smith, K.E. (2008) *European Union Foreign Policy in a Changing World*. Cambridge: Polity

Stiglitz, J. (2016) *The Euro: And its Threat to the Future of Europe*. London: Allen Lane

SEMINAR 6

Discuss the claim that Europe's response to the credit crunch revealed the flawed nature of its governmental systems.

Reading

Berggruen, N., and Gardels, N. 'The Next Europe. Toward a Federal Union'. *Foreign Affairs* Vol 92, No2 (2013)

Bergsten, C. 'Why the Euro will survive'. *Foreign Affairs* Vol 91, No5 (2012)

Cafruny, A., and Ryner, M. (2003) *A ruined Fortress – neoliberal hegemony and transformation in Europe*. Boulder: Rowman and Little

Choonara, J. 'The class struggle in Europe.' *International Socialism* Vol 138 (Spring 2013)

Feldstein, M. 'The failure of the Euro'. *Foreign Affairs* Vol 91 No 1 (2012)

Lapavistas, C. et al (2012) *Crisis in the Eurozone*. London: Verso

Mallaby, S. 'Europe's optional catastrophe'. *Foreign Affairs* Vol 91 No 4 (2012)

SEMINAR 7

Was/is the refugee 'crisis' the beginning of the end for European unity, or does it incentivise further centralisation?

Reading

Boswell, C., and Geddes, A. (2010) *Migration and Mobility in the European Union*. London: Palgrave

Heywood, P. et al (2011) *Developments in European Politics 2*. London: Palgrave

Kingsley, P. (2016) *The New Odyssey: The Story of Europe's Refugee Crisis*. London: Guardian Faber

Mitsilegas, V. (2015) *The Criminalisation of Migration in Europe*. New York: Springer

Talani, L. (2011) *Globalisation, Migration and the Future of Europe*. London: Routledge

SEMINAR 8

Analyse the argument that 'far-right' parties are an emerging threat across Europe.

Reading:

Akkerman, T. et al (eds) (2016) *Radical Right-Wing Populist Parties in Western Europe (Extremism and Democracy)*. London: Routledge

Davies, P., and Lynch, D. (2002) *The Routledge Companion to Fascism and the Far Right*. London: Routledge

Muller, J.W. (2016) *What Is Populism?* Pennsylvania: UOP

Stockemer, D. (2017) *The Front National in France: Continuity and Change Under Jean-Marie Le Pen and Marine Le Pen*. New York: Springer

Vossen, K. (2016) *The Power of Populism: Geert Wilders and the Party for Freedom in the Netherlands (Extremism and Democracy)*. London: Routledge

Wodak, R. (ed) (2013) *Right – Wing Populism in Europe*. London: Bloomsbury

SEMINAR 9

What are the core ideas behind Europe's climate change policies, and have the policies been effective?

Reading

Borghesi, S., and Vercell, A. (2008) *Global Sustainability: social and environmental conditions*. London: Macmillan

Cheshire, D. (2007) *Introduction to Sustainability*. London CIBSE

Connelly, J., and Smith, G. (2002) *Politics and the Environment: from theory to practice*, London: Routledge

Delbeke, P., and Vis, P. (2015) *EU Climate Policy Explained*. London: Routledge

Kutting, G. (2010) *Global Environmental Politics: Concepts, Theories and Case Studies*. London: Routledge

SEMINAR 10

Is the EU, in its present condition, capable of providing the political, economic and cultural stability that Europe needs?

Reading

Anderson, P. (2011) *The New Old World*. London: Verso

- Olsen, J. et al (ed) (2010) *Left Parties in National Governments*. London: Palgrave
- McMenamin, I. 'Liberal market economies, business and political finance: Britain under New Labour'. *WEP* Vol 34 no 5 (2011)
- West European Politics* Special issue on representation in Europe. Vol 35 no 6 (2012)
- France
- Shields, J. 'Political Representation in France: a crisis of democracy?' *Parliamentary Affairs* Vol 59. No1(2006)
- Germany
- Bowyer, B., and Vail, M. 'Economic insecurity, the social market economy, and support for the German Left'. *WEP* Vol 34, no 4 (2011)
- Italy
- Baldini, G. 'The different trajectories of Italian electoral reforms', *West European Politics*. Vol 34 no 3 (2011)
- Bull, M., and Newell, J. 'Still the anomalous democracy? Politics and institutions in Italy', *Government and Opposition*. Vol 44, No1 (2009)
- Spain
- Pujas, V. and Rhodes, M. 'Party finance and political scandal in Italy, Spain and France'. *WEP* Vol 22, No 3 (1999)

Referencing & Bibliography

All essays must be fully and accurately referenced and must include, at the end, a bibliography of material consulted in the preparation of the essay. There are two well known systems of referencing which can be used for essay writing on this module, based on the Harvard System and the Notes system.

THE HARVARD SYSTEM: Text Referencing and Bibliography

For the purposes of this module **text referencing** involves giving details of the author and date of publication in square brackets after the relevant place in the text, for example [Pugh: 1994]. The full reference to this text is then given in the Bibliography. When citing specific arguments

or using quotations the page number must also be given in the bracket: e.g. [Thompson: 1963, p.66]

NOTE: When using sources which themselves quote or paraphrase other pieces of work always cite the source that you have consulted, e.g. Bentham believed.... [Garland: 1985, p.77] The source in the bracket should be listed in the Bibliography.

When constructing the **Bibliography** works should be listed by authors' surnames in alphabetical order.

In your Bibliography you are required to provide the full reference in line with the examples provided above for the readings listed for this module.

Guidelines for Website Referencing

There is no standard format for citing internet resources within academia and different publishers, academic journals and universities have their own styles. What follows is the recommended format for website referencing within the Division of Social Sciences.

1. Individual Works

For example:

Trangmar, K. (1999) "*Y2K: the cost effective solution to tackling the Millennium Bug*". Retrieved from <http://www.cix.co.uk/~harlend/y>

2. Electronic Journals

For example

Cumper, P., and Rodgers, M.E. (1997) "*Equality for All? Higher Education and the Disability Discrimination Act 1995*", *Web Journal of Current Legal Issues* 3. Retrieved from <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/~nlawwww/1997/issue3/cumper3.html>.