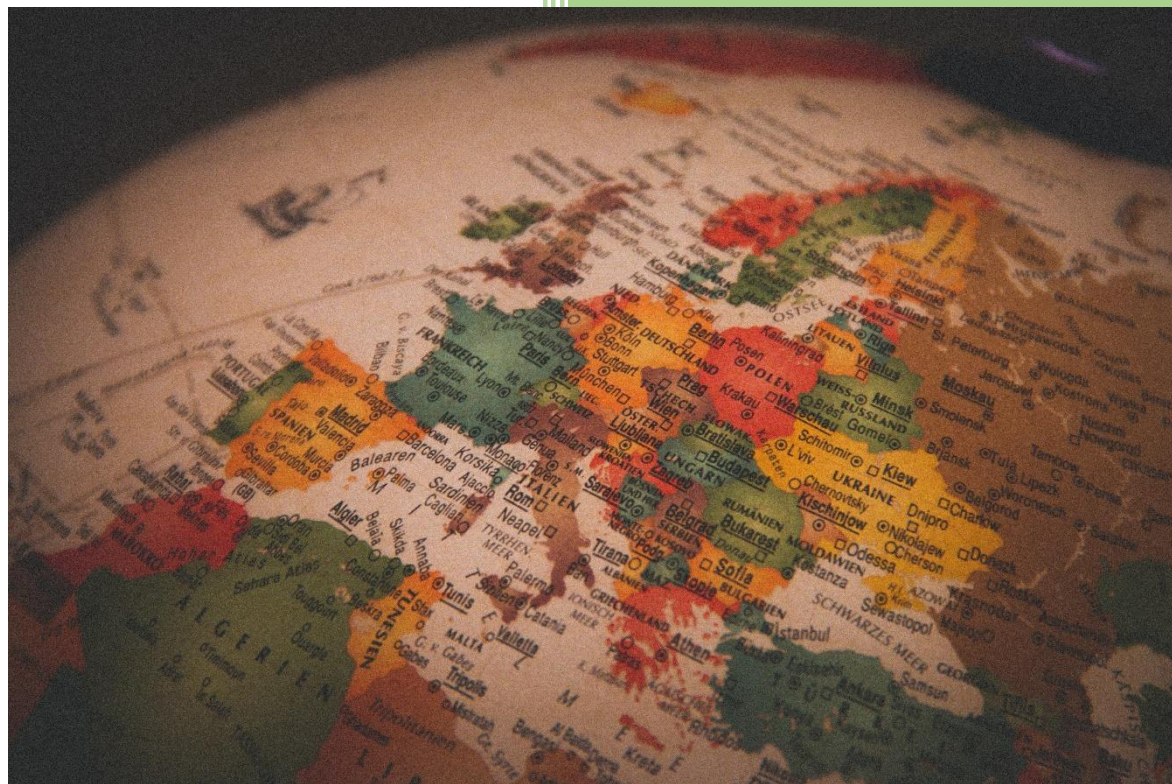# 2022

European Politics and Economy

1Photo by Christian Lue on Unsplash

Course Coordinator:

Dr. Roberta Biasillo

4 July - 15 July

About

The aim of this course is to introduce cultural, economic, and political distinctive features and historical phenomena of Europe, a continent of great geographical and cultural diversity and of many identities. Europe has homed different political cultures and *diversity* is a key-word to understand what Europe has meant and means from a continental and global perspective.

Besides diversity, another key-word that can be associated with Europe is *integration*. In modern time, the idea of Europe as a space with common rules and a shared government emerged firstly after World War I and the first multilateral institutions were established after World War II. Along the decades, political, geopolitical, and economic tensions have challenges and slowed down the integration process, but they also highlight its importance.

This course provides you with a solid foundation for understanding major aspects of European institutes, cooperation initiatives, and crisis. Seminars, lectures, and activities take you on a journey into the unfinished history of European integration and the rise and fall of European democracy.

Credits: 4.0 ECTS + Certificate of Attendance

Format

This course articulates in two versions: one designed for an online teaching-learning setting and the other one designed for face-to-face students-instructors interaction. Morning sessions are the same for both groups and afternoon activities and the excursion differ. Although different, afternoon classes proceed in parallel and cover the same topics.

The course adopt different teaching methods: live lectures, supervised digital 'fieldtrips', IRL fieldtrips, self-study, recorder sessions, and collaborative work. It makes use of different media: textual, audio, and visual materials; primary and secondary sources. Students participation is crucial both in terms of individual preparation (e.g. readings) and reflection, engagement in sessions' Q&As, elaboration of a final assignment. This course is interactive, thus participants are invited to ask relevant historical questions, collaborate on assignments and participate in discussions about the literature and the lectures.
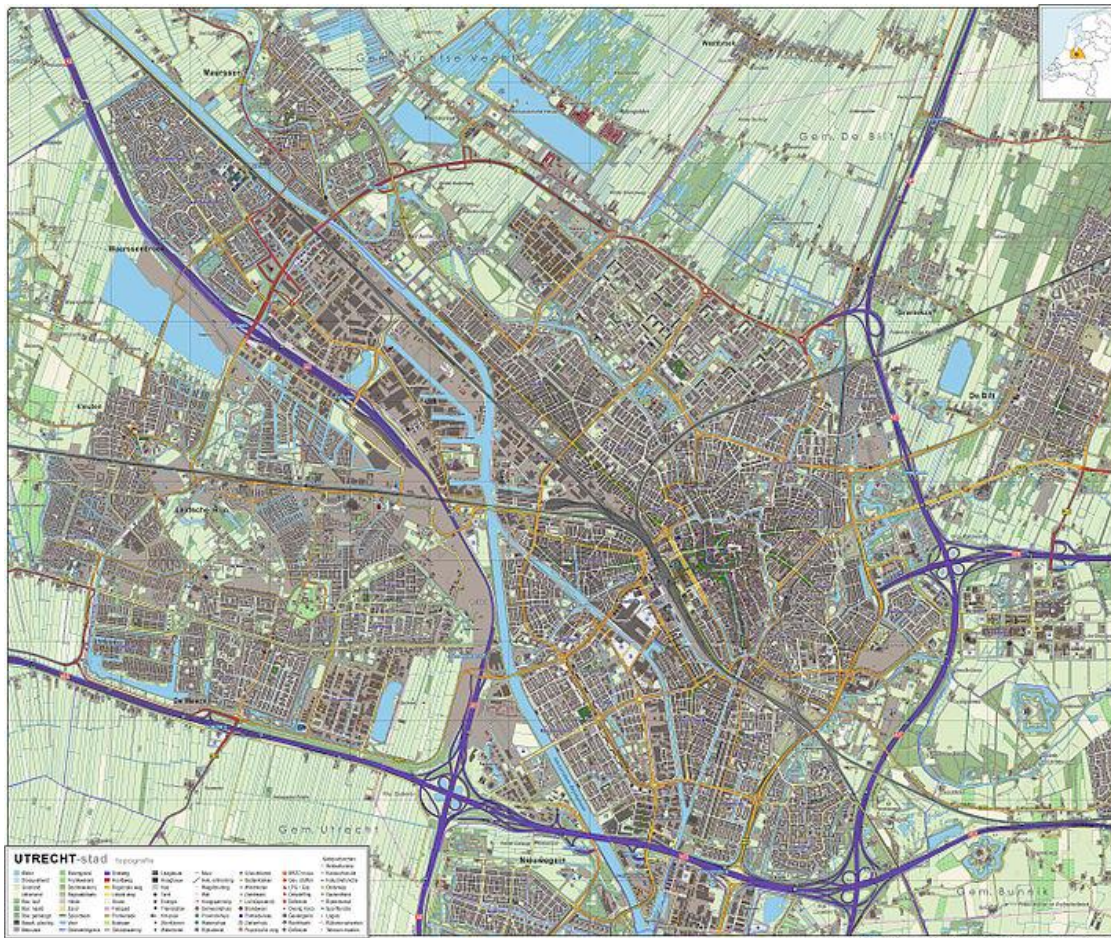
Contact people

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2 Utrecht city map. Wkimedia Commons

Location

Utrecht's ancient city centre features many buildings and structures several dating as far back as the High Middle Ages. It has been the religious centre of the Netherlands since the 8th century. It lost the status of prince-bishopric but remains the main religious centre in the country. Utrecht was the most important city in the Netherlands until the Dutch Golden Age when it was surpassed by Amsterdam as the country's cultural centre and most populous city.

Utrecht is host to Utrecht University, the largest university in the Netherlands, as well as several other institutions of higher education. Due to its central position within the country, it is an important transport hub for both rail and road transport. It has the second-highest number of cultural events in the Netherlands, after Amsterdam.

Online Education

You have received your Utrecht University login code (SOLIS-ID) from the Summer School administration. If this is not the case, send them an e-mail at summerschool@uu.nl or contact them by phone: +31 (0)302534400. You can use this login code to gain access to the digital teaching environment on Microsoft Teams to the digital environment of the university library.

On-site Education

During the course, you can use several of Utrecht University's computer and printing facilities. You have received your computer login code (SOLIS ID) from the Summer School
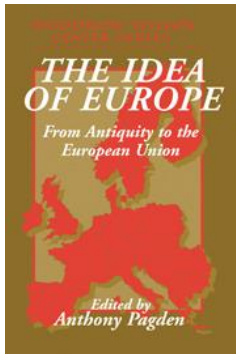
administration. If this is not the case, send them an e-mail at summerschool@uu.nl or contact them by phone: +31 (0)302534400.

You are recommended to use one of the main computer rooms of the Faculty of Humanities in Kromme Nieuwegracht 80 (KNG 80). The computer rooms are opened from Mondays through Fridays from 08h45 to 17h00. The computer rooms are closed on Saturdays and Sundays.
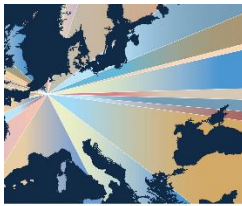
Another option is to use the computers at the University Library (UB) Innercity (Drift 27). Again, use your login code (SOLIS ID) to log in at any of the library computers. You can also use the computers on the standing desks to search catalogues without having to log in. You cannot work on these computers and there are no printing facilities.

Beware; the University Library (UB) Innercity (Drift 27) will be closed in the weekends. On July 10-14 it will close at 6.00 p.m.
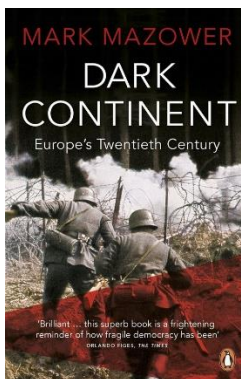
Course Materials

Anthony Pagden, "Europe: Conceptualizing a Continent", in The Idea of Europe : from antiquity to the European Union, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2001, pp. 33-54.

Wim van Meurs, Robin de Bruin, Carla Hoetink, Karin van Leeuwen, Carlos Reijnen, Liesbeth van de Grift, *The Unfinished History of European Integration*, Amsterdam, 2018. Pdf-ebook: available in Utrecht University Library with Solid-id.

Mark Mazower, "The Deserted Temple: Democracy's Rise and Fall", in *Dark Continent: Europe's Twentieth Century*, London : Penguin, 1999, pp. 1-39. [or other editions]

Podcast Series – University of Oxford: European Studies Centre.

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Programme

WEEK 1

Monday, 4 July – Europe: Past, Present, and Future of an Idea

Morning   10:00-11:30 │ Welcome and Introduction to the course.
            Lecture #1: Roberta Biasillo (UU), "The Idea of Europe across Times"

Readings   Anthony Pagden, 'Europe. Conceptualizing a Continent' (*The Idea of Europe*, chapter
            1, pages 33-54) (2013) **or**
            The Unfinished History of European Integration, Amsterdam, 2018, *Introduction*, pp.
            9-18, *Chapter One*, 21-37.

            11:30-12:00 │ Informal exchange and coffee break

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Afternoon   13:00-15:00 │ Working Group #1: European Union Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow

            Work Groups 1: Design and present your slides based on the podcast "What Europe
            for our grandchildren?" (The keynote lecture from the Oxford European Reunion in
            Paris, 6-8 May 2011 on the European Union and its future.)
            The class will be divided into groups. Each group listen to the podcast and focusses
            on a specific section of the lecture. Each group is provided with a grid to fill out and
            based on the information inserted in the grid, every group is asked to produce a few
            slides (visual + text) and report to the whole class.

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Self-Reflection 15:15-15:45 │ Diary of the Summer School: Day #1

            Write three short paragraphs on "What I learned today", "What I would like to
            explore more", "Assessment of the day: what I liked the most and the least"

Tuesday, 5 July – An Alternative View on Europe

Morning   10:00-11:30 │ Lecture #2: Jorrit Steehouder (UU): "Europe before the Europe of
            integration"

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Afternoon   13:00-15:00 │ Seminar #1: Roberta Biasillo (UU) "Ebbs and Flows of European
            Democracy"

Readings   Mark Mazower, "The Deserted Temple: Democracy's Rise and Fall", in Dark
            Continent: Europe's Twentieth Century, London : Penguin, 1999, pp. 1-39. [or other
            editions].

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Self-Reflection 15:15-15:45 │ Diary of the Summer School: Day #2

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Wednesday, 6 July – European Politics of Cultural Heritage(s)

Morning   10:00-11:30 │ Working Group #2: Read one of the chapters individually (1 hour) and in groups prepare a ppt presentation for the class (30 mis).

Readings   "Widening and the External Crisis", in *The Unfinished History of European Integration*, Amsterdam, 2018 **or**
"Deepening and the Internal Crisis", in *The Unfinished History of European Integration*, Amsterdam, 2018

Afternoon   13:00-15:00 │ Seminar #2. Roberta Biasillo (UU) Group Presentations (15 mins each), Q&A (15 min), Peer-to-Peer Assessment (15 min).

Self-Reflection 15:15-15:45 │ Diary of the Summer School: Day #3

Thursday, 7 July – European Crisis 1

Morning   10:00-11:30 │ Lecture #3: Onesa Novak (UU) "Identity and Memory Politics of (European) Cultural Heritage"

Afternoon   13:00-15:00 │ Seminar #3 Roberta Biasillo (UU): Analysis of Political Uses of Heritage and Invention of Heritage in Europe

Self-Reflection 15:15-15:45 │ Diary of the Summer School: Day #4

Friday, 8 July – European Crisis 2

Movie day: "Adults in the Room"

Monday, 11 July – Excursion

Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven and the praxis of decoloniality

Tuesday, 12 July – Europe outside Europe: Expansionism, colonialism, and imperialism

Morning   10:00-11:30 │ Lecture #5, Roberta Biasillo (UU): "European Colonialism since 1700"

Readings   James R. Lehning, *European Colonialism since 1700: New Approaches to European History*, Cambridge University Press, 2013, Chapter 6 (pp. 210-251).

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Afternoon   13:00-15:00 Seminar #4: Roberta Biasillo (UU): Case studies in Colonialism: Senegal, Libya, Mauritius.

Self-Reflection 15:15-15:45 │ Diary of the Summer School: Day #7

Wednesday, 13 July – European Institutions and Actors

Morning   10:00-11:30 │ Lecture #7: Guest speaker TBD "A broader view on Brussels: engagement, pressure groups and citizen activism"

Readings   *The Unfinished History of European Integration*, Amsterdam, 2018, Chapter Two, pp. 85-92.

Afternoon   13:00-15:00 │ Digital excursion to the House of European History: "Being European: Can it be defined?"

Self-Reflection 15:15-15:45 │ Diary of the Summer School: Day #9

Thursday, 14 July – Final Assignment: Major European Agreements

Morning   10:00-11:30 │ Individual Work: Choose one of the European treaties from this list. Read, Comment, Make connections with two or more aspects you learned during the course, and start thinking how to present it.

Afternoon   13:00-15:00 │ Work with other students that have chosen your same treaty and prepare a 15 mins presentation.

Friday, 15 July – Wrapping-up Session

Morning   10:00-13:00 │ Group-presentations followed by digital/on-site ceremony and saying goodbye.

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Assessment

There will be three assessments that test the acquisition of knowledge, your engagement with the school and your ability to reflect individually and in group.

1. Diary of the School: 30%
2. Peer-to-Peer Assessment (in Seminar #3): 20%
3. Final exam: 50%

You need an average grade of at least 5,5 to pass the course.

Attendance and Grading Criteria

Note that full attendance is expected in all lectures, seminar sessions, and excursions. Students who are absent beyond their fault (illness, accident, etc.) should submit a medical certificate to Roberta Biasillo as soon as possible. Make-up assignments are expected for all unexcused absences. Ten percentage points will be subtracted for all uncompensated absences. Students who fail more than two make-up assignments will be dropped from this course.

Your grades will be numerical grades according to the Dutch grading system. Dutch grades range from 0 (very bad) to 10 (excellent). At Utrecht University, a 5,5 is the lowest passing grade, though note that this might be different at other (Dutch) institutions. Also note that grade inflation has not affected the Dutch grading system as much as it has some American institutions. Grades of 9 and higher are rarely given, the most common grades are between 6 and 8. The Utrecht University student registration system (Osiris) that will produce your transcript will round off all grades to whole numerals for 5 and lower, and half numbers for 5.5 and higher. On course work and examinations, however, it is customary to receive a grade that has not been rounded off. Plusses and minuses are sometimes used, and count for one-fourth of a point, for instance: 8- = 7,75. Meaning of numerical grades:

9.00-10.00	Excellent
8.00-8.99	Very good
7.50-7.99	Good
7.00-7.49	Very satisfactory
6.50-6.99	Satisfactory
6.00-6.49	Sufficient
5.50-5.99	Acceptable; minimum pass
5.00-5.49	Insufficient; fail
4.00-4.99	Unsatisfactory
3.00-3.99	Very unsatisfactory
2.00-2.99	Bad
0.00-1.99	Very bad

Note that conversion of grades that you have received in the Netherlands to grades at your home institution is the responsibility of your home institution, not Utrecht University. This chart should be used as an indication; no rights can be drawn from it.

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