

EUROPEAN GOVERNANCE AND POLICY

MA HANDBOOK

2015/16 SESSION

AT THIS STAGE OF THE TERM SOME DETAILS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND STUDENTS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF DEVELOPMENTS AS THEY ARISE.

THE TERMS ON WHICH THE UNIVERSITY MAKES OFFERS OF PLACES ON ITS PROGRAMMES OF STUDY, INCLUDING THOSE COVERED IN THIS HANDBOOK, MAY BE FOUND IN THE UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX POSTGRADUATE PROSPECTUS, COPIES OF WHICH CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE.

Department of Politics

Welcome to Sussex University and to the Department of Politics! The Department is a high ranking research institution with an excellent reputation for undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. We hope you will find your time with us enriching and enjoyable.

The Politics Department comprises 16 full time members of faculty, 400 undergraduate students and 60 postgraduate students. Our postgraduate students are split roughly 5050 between research and teaching, with the latter spread between three MAs: Corruption and Governance, International Politics and European Governance and Policy.

Name	Room	Telephone	Email address*
Dr Sabina Avdagic	Freeman F09	(67) 8190	s.avdagic
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Dr Sue Collard	Freeman F10	(87) 7654	s.p.collard
Dr Elizabeth David-Barrett	Freeman F13	(87) 2929	e.david-barrett
Dr Rekha Diwakar	Freeman F21	(67) 8496	r.diwakar
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Dr Olli Hellmann	Freeman F05	(67) 6580	o.hellmann
Prof Dan Hough	Freeman F07	(87) 7648	d.t.hough
Prof Alan Mayhew	Freeman F11	(87) 7272	a.mayhew
Mr Francis McGowan	Freeman F02	(87) 7138	f.mcgowan
Dr Kai Oppermann	Freeman F01	(87) 7265	k.oppermann
Dr Emily Robinson	Freeman F03	(67) 8952	e.a.robinson
Prof Aleks Szczerbiak	Freeman F56	(67) 8443	a.a.szczerbiak
Prof Paul Taggart	Freeman F06	(67) 8292	p.a.taggart
Dr Adrian Treacher	Freeman F14	(67) 8401	a.h.treacher
Prof Paul Webb	Freeman F16	(87) 7796	p.webb

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The department coordinator is James Dowling (Freeman G41, (67)8578, j.dowling@sussex.ac.uk).

The MA in European Governance and Policy

Amongst the department's many strengths is its long established expertise in the study of European politics and policy, whether at the national or EU levels or, indeed, the interaction between the two. Our new MA in European Governance and Policy (EGAP) provides you with the benefits of that collective expertise. While the Department has been involved in delivering MA teaching on European politics for many decades, we have refocused our offer to deliver a unique programme which looks at the way in which politics and policy are fused

between national and EU settings. In exploring these processes, the course makes use of both cutting-edge research and the insights of policy-makers and others seeking to shape policy. As such, it prepares you for both further academic study and careers in the wider policy environment.

Programme Learning Outcomes – MA in European Governance and Policy

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills, qualities and other attributes in the following areas:

Knowledge and understanding – students will:

- Possess an in-depth knowledge and understanding of a sub-field of the discipline.
- Be given the opportunity to handle, interpret and present qualitative and quantitative data.
- Undertake a substantial research project (dissertation) of their choice, using the knowledge, understanding and skills acquired during the programme.

Development of skills – students will develop intellectual skills including:

- The acquisition and retention, analysis, critical reflection, summary and dissemination of subject-specific knowledge.
- Practical transferable skills, including note-taking, organisation, co-operation and team-working, presentation and communication skills.

Programme Aims and Objectives – we aim to:

- Provide students with the core skills and knowledge required for a possible transition to higher levels of research.
- Prepare students for further independent research in political science or for relevant non-academic activity (in, for instance, the media, government or NGOs).
- Enable students to employ that understanding actively through the completion of a research project in the field of European policy making and politics.
- Enable students to develop a specialized knowledge of a particular sub-field of European policy making and politics.

MA in European Governance and Policy – overview

Teaching Block One (Autumn)

Module	Teaching	Assessment
European Governance 803M9 15 credits	1 x 2 hour class per week	4000 word essay (to be handed in during January assessment block)
Politics & Public Policy 957M9 30 credits	1 x 2 hour seminar per week	2500 word essay (to be handed in during January assessment block) Three hour unseen exam (to be taken in January assessment block)
Research Methods and Approaches 828M9 15 credits	1 x 2 hour class per week	Two hour unseen exam (to be taken in January assessment block)
Research in Progress Seminars	1 x 2 hour seminar per week	

Teaching Block Two (Spring)

Module	Teaching	Assessment
Options (students pick two)	2 hour seminar per week for each option	5000 word term paper per option (to be handed in during second assessment block)
Research in Progress Seminars	1 x 2 hour seminar per week	

Summer

Module	Teaching	Assessment
Dissertation	Supervision and Research Outline	15000 word dissertation (to be handed in late summer, date to be confirmed).

EGAP in Detail

Core Modules

Full timetable/seminar group details and separate core module handbooks/reading lists will be issued at the start of term.

European Governance

Dr Adrian Treacher (convenor)

This module analyses the substance and process of policy-making in the European Union as well as the political context in which it is made. The module draws upon a mix of mainstream political science techniques and the more specialised approaches of policy analysis, with particular emphasis on the emerging 'governance' literature as it has been applied to the EU. An important objective of the module is to use the insights from the academic literature to understand how policy is made in the 'real world' of the EU. Therefore, in addition to using academic texts and analysis, the module also draws upon a range of primary and other research resources. In particular it makes use of documentation produced by the European Institutions, member state authorities and bodies seeking to influence or understand the EU as well as specialised data and media sources. It will also draw upon the expertise and insight of 'practitioner experts' with a background in EU policy making.

Research Methods and Approaches

Dr Rekha Diwakar (convenor)

The module will cover the range of qualitative and quantitative methods in social science and will provide the skills to develop a research outline. It will equip you with the ability to come up with an interesting and workable research question and testable empirical hypotheses, an ability to select cases/sample and appropriate methods for analysis, a focus on how to find appropriate data sources and conduct data analysis (either quantitative or qualitative), and how to interpret the results in relation to the available literature.

Politics and Public Policy (957M9)

Dr Sabina Avdagic (s.avdagic@sussex.ac.uk)

This is an introductory module in comparative public policy. The focus is on three general tasks: (1) exploring cross-national variation in specific policy choices; (2) evaluating analytic models that seek to explain these differences; and (3) assessing socio-economic outcomes associated with specific policy choices. We will therefore address the following general questions: Why do policies on issues such as pensions, family benefits, or education differ from country to country? Are these differences a consequence of different economic conditions, political institutions, cultures or interest group pressures? Why are some countries and governments more successful than others in tackling certain policy problems, such as unemployment, poverty and female labour force participation? The first part of the module focuses on theories of policy making and offers analytical tools for studying substantive policies in the second part of the module. Our focus is primarily economic and social policies of EU countries, but we will frequently draw parallels with other systems of policy making, such as the United States and Japan.

Options (30 credits each)

A summary of options offered recently are included in this handbook for information. Please note that information is for guidance purposes only at this stage and that ***not all options listed will be offered every year***. Each option is assessed by a term paper of 5,000 words.

Energy and Environmental Security in Europe

Francis McGowan (f.mcgowan@sussex.ac.uk)

This module addresses the growing importance of security as an issue for energy and environmental policy and analyses the way in which different concepts of security have emerged (or re-emerged) to redefine policy priorities in both areas. While global developments form an important context to the module, our primary focus is European, taking Europe not only as major source of energy demand and environmental damage but also as an important protagonist. We will examine how EU energy and environmental policies have sought to address security issues internally and externally, the latter in its bilateral, neighbourhood and multilateral diplomacy.

European Political Integration (808M9)

To be confirmed

This module examines the development trends and the institutional set-up of the European Union, including the trend towards differentiation and the most recent reform perspectives offered by the Treaty of Lisbon. The objectives are: (a) to explain the political and legal dynamics of EC/EU integration and of the specificities of the institutional order it has generated, (b) to analyse and evaluate the internal organisation and functioning of the main EU institutions, (c) to offer substantial insights into practice of decision-making in the EU system, (d) to identify specific strengths and weaknesses of the EU in terms of policy formulation and implementation, (e) to assess the many ways of national influence within the EU's institutional system, (f) to familiarise participants with the use of official EU sources.

Foreign Policy Analysis (932M1)

Dr Kai Oppermaun (k.oppermann@sussex.ac.uk)

What is foreign policy and what is 'foreign' about it? Does foreign policy still matter in an age of globalization? Who acts in foreign policy, for what purpose and in whose name? In this module we will analyse foreign policy as a crucial political site of agency and choice in today's international relations. The module will draw on classical and critical foreign policy analysis literature to locate the study of foreign policy firmly within the domain of international relations and redefine its political, strategic and normative boundaries. The theoretical study of how and why foreign policy is made will be complemented with an analysis of historical and contemporary foreign policy case studies and an in-class practical simulation exercise.

International Relations of the European Union (934M9)

Dr Adrian Treacher (A.H.Treacher@sussex.ac.uk)

The module commences with an analysis of the Union's initial emergence as an international actor. It then analyses the political context of various different, but

nevertheless inter-related, aspects of the EU's external relations; these include: Foreign and Security Policy, Security and Defence Policy, conflict prevention and international development/humanitarian action. Over three weeks, the module then assesses the Union's relations with its peripheries to the East and South and to the West. Throughout, we will be critiquing the EU as an international actor and engaging with concepts like 'civilian actor', 'normative power' and 'hard' and 'soft power'.

Political Economy of EU Integration (814M9)

Dr Peter Holmes (P.Holmes@sussex.ac.uk) & Prof Alan Mayhew (A.Mayhew@sussex.ac.uk)

This module will examine the process and economic consequences of economic integration in the EU. It will use some economic theory to analyse the positive and normative aspects of integration but the module requires an interest in economic issues rather than any formal training. It will place emphasis on the external as well as the internal dimensions of EU integration in order to show both the development of EU relations with trading partners and also the way in which the need for a common response to external challenges has influenced the strategy of EU development. Particular emphasis will be given to the political economy on EU enlargement and deeper integration with the EU's neighbourhood.

Single Market Law (828M3)

Prof Sue Millns (s.millns@sussex.ac.uk)

This module provides an introduction to the basic principles of European legal integration in the context of the law and policy governing the Single Market. In so doing the module provides students with a sound understanding of the basic concepts, rules and principles of EC free movement law. By the end of the module students should be able to explain the concepts and values which have shaped the single market; evaluate the extent to which a single market has genuinely been achieved; and link the single market to wider constitutional and governance questions in the EC and EU.

The Domestic Politics of European Integration (992M9)

Professor Paul Taggart (p.a.taggart@sussex.ac.uk)

The module examines the impact of the European integration process, politics and institutions on the domestic politics of European states. The module looks at the impact of the European issue on political parties, party systems, referendums and public opinion. The module is designed explicitly to link the fields of European Union studies and Comparative European Politics. The module addresses both the theoretical literature (in asking what different approaches to European integration have to say about the domestic politics of member states) and the empirical literature looking at a number of specific areas (namely European referendums, European Parliament elections, the impact of Europe in domestic elections and party systems and the structure of public opinion on European integration in member states).

The International Politics of Public Policy (833M9)

Dr Elizabeth David-Barrett (e.david-barrett@sussex.ac.uk)

This module aims to understand how public policy-making at the national level is influenced by the international context. The relationship between the state, the private sector and civil society is in flux, in both developed and developing countries. At the same time, national

policies are increasingly shaped by international norms and actors, whether international organisations, international donors and lenders, transnational NGO networks, or multinational businesses. The module will explore these emerging new horizontal and vertical forms of governance in international politics, focusing on three overall themes: interactions between the domestic and international levels of politics; the relationship between politics and business; comparisons of governance models among developed and developing countries.

The Politics of Governance in Central and Eastern Europe (935M9)

Prof Aleks Szczerbiak (A.A.Szczerbiak@sussex.ac.uk)

This module surveys the politics of Central and Eastern Europe since 1989 to the present by exploring the process of democratic transition and consolidation. It aims to identify the specific characteristics and features of post-communist politics in the newly democratic states of Central and Eastern Europe by studying examples within the analytical frameworks normally employed for the study of more established Western democracies. It also examines the particular challenges posed by the process of integrating post-communist states into Western political, economic and security structures.

Sussex European Institute

Students on the MA in European Governance are encouraged to get involved in the activities of the Sussex European Institute (SEI), located in the School of Law, Politics and Sociology. Interdisciplinary, innovative and truly European in academic orientation, SEI is a unique academic environment in which to study Europe. As members of SEI, you will be able to participate in its academic activities, such as conferences, seminars and workshops. The SEI website provides information on all academic activities including research and publications: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/sei/>

SEI Newsletter – *Euroscope*

This is published once a term and contains up-to-date information on SEI activities and members, as well as articles reviewing recent and current research written both by faculty and students. You are invited to make submissions to the “In Brief” section with information on your fieldwork, conferences you have attended, publications and awards you have received.

Research in Progress Seminars

These are held on a weekly basis, with speakers chosen from both within the University and externally and alternate between SEI seminars and Politics Department seminars. They range from people talking about their current research to people who have an interesting view on events in Europe and the world. Programme details will be advertised separately.

Administrative matters

Your main point of contact for any administrative queries is the School Office for Law, Politics and Sociology (G41). James Dowling is the Departmental Coordinator. In addition you can contact the Module Convenor (Dr Adrian Treacher for 2015, Francis McGowan from 1st January 2016) who serve as your academic advisor during your time at Sussex.

There are weekly office hours during which time academic staff are available for discussion or assistance. This should be posted on their doors, but if you can't manage these times please leave a note or send an e-mail.

Email and Sussex Direct

We always use your Sussex email address to keep you updated on matters such as assessment deadlines, last minute timetable changes and dissertation supervision arrangements so please make sure you check your emails on a regular basis. Much administrative information is also made available to you via Sussex Direct so please also check on a daily basis.

Detailed information on such matters as your responsibilities as a student, registration and record-keeping, appeals and complaints plus regulations and policy documents can be found in the following handbook: www.sussex.ac.uk/studenthandbook

Also, remember that the **Students' Union** is a useful source of information, advice and representation: www.ussu.info

English Language Support will be available in workshops and tutorials from week 3, from the Sussex Centre for Language Studies. Contact: Susan Blaylock: S.Blaylock@sussex.ac.uk.

Plagiarism

Essays must be entirely your own work, though of course they will be based upon what you have read, heard and discussed.

It is very important that you avoid plagiarism, the presentation of another person's thoughts or words as if they were your own.

According to Sussex University:

'...plagiarism is the use, without acknowledgement, of the intellectual work of other people and the act of representing the ideas or discoveries of another as one's own in written work submitted for assessment. To copy sentences, phrases or even striking expressions without acknowledgement of the source (either by inadequate citation or failure to indicate verbatim quotations) is plagiarism; to paraphrase without acknowledgement is likewise plagiarism. Where such copying or paraphrase has occurred the mere mention of the source in the bibliography shall not be deemed sufficient acknowledgement; each such instance must be referred specifically to its source. Verbatim quotations must be either in inverted commas, or indented, and directly acknowledged.'

Plagiarism is a serious offence - your mark may be reduced (possibly to zero) if you are found to have plagiarised. To avoid plagiarism, intentional or unintentional, be careful to record who said or wrote what in your notes, and make sure you provide accurate references in your essays.

Life after the MA...?

First of all, rest assured that there **is** life after the MA in European Governance and Policy!

Essentially our graduates end up in one of five career paths, but it can take them some time to get there! Do not panic if you do not have a career to slide into straight after submitting your dissertation; this is a common occurrence and everyone usually gets sorted within 6-9 months.

This is by no means an exclusive list, but gives a good indication of what graduates from Sussex's European MAs go on to do.

- Government – some MA students are paid by their governments and are obligated to work for them upon completion of the programme, principally in some EU-linked capacity. Others decide that a career in their country's foreign service is for them.
- NGOs – it is quite common for MA students to go on and work in the non-governmental organisation (NGO) sector, primarily in the human rights and security fields.

- EU – an EU-related career is another popular choice. The most common route is to do a five-month internship, or *stage*, in one of the European Union's institutions – normally the Commission - and to then find something more permanent from there. Lobbying the EU in some form or other is also a possibility.
- Academia – you may not believe it but some of our graduates decide they would like to continue studying! This can take the form of a second Masters, say in business, or it can involve doctoral study.
- Journalism and the media.