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[Return](#)

Course Outcome

GPAD 3161 - The Rise of Populism in Europe

Learning Outcome

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Understand what contemporary 'populism' is and the different variants of this political ideology (Populist Radical Right-Wing and Populist Radical Left-Wing Parties)
- Understand the primary 'causes' that have led to the rise in electoral support for populist parties on both the right and left of the political spectrum
- Understand how the governance of a number of European countries is currently under threat, with events such as the 'rise' of populism, the landmark 2016 Brexit vote ('Euroscepticism'), the Migration/Immigration Crisis, the economic crisis and the decline of social democratic parties in 21st century Europe
- Students will also gain a comprehensive understanding of data analysis, through a 3 hour lab session, which draws on the latest public opinion and survey data (the Eurobarometer dataset), which further illustrates the 'rise' of populism in Europe

Course Syllabus

This course would be divided into three separate parts to enhance student learning. Comprehensive details of the planned course syllabus can be found below, alongside the readings (all readings will also be made available electronically/in PDF Format via the Interactive Course Blackboard Page).

PART I: THE EUROPEAN POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

Week 1- Brief Introduction to the History of European Politics

Week 2- The Formation of the European Union & the 'Traditional' Political Landscape in Europe

Week 3- 'A Political Earthquake?' Defining 'Populism' as a Political Ideology

PART II: THE RISE OF POPULISM IN EUROPE

Week 4- Causes of Radical Right-Wing Populism in Western Europe: The Cases of France, the Netherlands and Germany

Week 5- Causes of Radical Right-Wing Populism in Central-Eastern Europe: The Cases of Hungary and Poland

Week 6- Causes of Radical Left-Wing Populism: The Cases of Greece, Spain and Britain

Week 7- The 2016 Brexit Vote I: A Special Documentary

Week 8- The 2016 Brexit Vote II: The Future of British Politics

Week 9- Special Data Lab Session: Understanding Public Opinion in 21st Century Europe

Week 10- The Decline of Social Democratic Parties in Europe: Causes and Consequences

Week 11- The Future of European Politics and the EU

Week 12- 'A New Form of Politics?' 'Populism' in Europe v. 'Localism' in Hong Kong: Comparisons

Week 13- Conclusion: 'Is populism really a threat to liberal democracy in Europe?'

Assessment Type

	Assessment Type	Current Percent
1	Presentation	30
2	Participation	20
3	Selected response test or exam	50

Feedback for Evaluation

1. Beginning of Term Course Evaluation
2. Open Responses (Qualitative Responses provided by students on open questions/their overall opinion of the course.
3. End of Term Course Evaluation

Required Readings

PART I: THE EUROPEAN POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

Week 1- Brief Introduction to the History of European Politics

**** NO READINGS AS THIS IS AN INTRODUCTORY LECTURE****

Week 2- The Formation of the European Union & the 'Traditional' Political Landscape in Europe

REQUIRED READINGS:

BBC: A Timeline of the EU

Jean Monnet: Origins of the EU

Additional Reading:

Leary, John Patrick (2018). "The Third Way Is a Death Trap." Jacobin Magazine.

Week 3- 'A Political Earthquake?' Defining 'Populism' as a Political Ideology

REQUIRED READINGS:

Jager, Anton (2018). "The Myth of "Populism." Jacobin Magazine.

Kriesi, H. (2014). "The populist challenge." West European Politics, 37(2): pp. 361–378.

OPTIONAL READING:

Spruyt, Bram, Gil Keppens, and Filip Van Droogenbroeck. "Who supports populism and what attracts people to it?." Political Research Quarterly 69.2 (2016): 335–346.

PART II: THE RISE OF POPULISM IN EUROPE

Week 4- Causes of Radical Right-Wing Populism in Western Europe: The Cases of France, the Netherlands and Germany

REQUIRED READINGS:

Mudde, C. (2014). "The far right and the European elections." Current History, 113 (761).

Downes, J.F. (2018). "Do Centre Right Parties win back Votes from the Far Right by Talking About Immigration?" LSE European Politics & Policy.

ADDITIONAL READINGS:

Downes, James F., and Matthew Loveless (2018). "Centre right and radical right party competition in Europe: Strategic emphasis on immigration, anti-incumbency, and economic crisis." Electoral Studies 54: 148–158.

Week 5- Causes of Radical Right-Wing Populism in Central-Eastern Europe: The Cases of Hungary and Poland

REQUIRED READING:

"Experiments in the laboratory of populism: The 2018 Hungarian election." LSE European Politics & Policy.

Pirro, Andrea. L. (2018). "Understanding populism: What role do crises play in the growth of Euroscepticism?" LSE European Politics & Policy.

OPTIONAL READING:

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (2018). "Us vs. Them in Central and Eastern Europe Populism, the Refugee Other and the Re-Consideration of National Identity." (Pages 1–2 for the key abstract & findings of this study) Center for EU Enlargement Studies, Central European University.

Week 6- Causes of Radical Left-Wing Populism: The Cases of Greece, Spain and Britain
REQUIRED READINGS:
 Halikiopoulou et al. (2012) "The Paradox of Nationalism: the common denominator of radical right and radical left euroscepticism." *European Journal of Political Research* 51: 4, 504–539.
 Downes, James F. (2018). "Understanding the 'rise' of the radical left in Europe: it's not just the economy, stupid." *Democratic Audit*, London School of Economics & Political Science

Week 7- The 2016 Brexit Vote I: A Special Documentary
REQUIRED READING:
 Clarke, Goodwin and Whiteley (2016): "Why Britain voted for Brexit" pp. 1–42

Week 8- The 2016 Brexit Vote II: The Future of British Politics
REQUIRED VIDEO:
 Inside Story – "What's the future of the UK in the wake of Brexit?" Al Jazeera (2016).

PART III: IMPLICATIONS FOR CONTEMPORARY DEMOCRACY & GOVERNANCE
 Week 9- Special Data Lab Session: Understanding Public Opinion in 21st Century Europe (NO STATISTICAL OR MATHEMATICAL KNOWLEDGE IS REQUIRED FOR THIS CLASS)
REQUIRED READINGS:
 Eurobarometer: Support for the EU in 2017
 Eurobarometer: Public Opinion in the EU

Week 10- The Decline of Social Democratic Parties in Europe: Causes and Consequences
REQUIRED READING:
 "Rose thou art sick: The centre left is in sharp decline across Europe." *The Economist*, 2016.
 Downes, J.F. and Edward Chan (2018). "Explaining the electoral debacle of social democratic parties in Europe." *LSE European Politics & Policy*.

Week 11- The Future of European Politics and the EU (SPECIAL GUEST LECTURE/SPEAKER FROM THE EUROPE ASIA POLICY CENTRE FOR COMPARATIVE RESEARCH)
REQUIRED READING:
 "The Future of Europe: Comparing Public and Elite Attitudes." Chatham House Report, 2017.

Week 12- 'A New Form of Politics?' 'Populism' in Europe v. 'Localism' in Hong Kong: Comparisons
****NO REQUIRED READINGS THIS WEEK****

Week 13- Conclusion: 'Is populism really a threat to liberal democracy in Europe?'
REQUIRED READING:
 "Five Views: Is Populism really a threat to democracy?" *LSE European Politics & Policy*.

Recommended Readings

Important Readings on Populism:
 Kriesi, H. (2014). "The populist challenge." *West European Politics*, 37(2): pp. 361–378.
 Spruyt, Bram, Gil Keppens, and Filip Van Droogenbroeck. "Who supports populism and what attracts people to it?" *Political Research Quarterly* 69.2 (2016): 335–346.
 Hanley and Downes (2017): French Presidential Elections 2017: "A New Form of Politics?" *European Union Academic Programme Hong Kong*
 Downes (2017): "Electoral Volatility in the 2017 Dutch Election." *Parliament Street*

Additional Resources on Populism/Radical Right Parties:
 Aichholzer, Julian, Sylvia Kritzinger, Markus Wagner, and Eva Zeglovits. (2014). "How Has Radical Right Support Transformed Established Political Conflicts? The Case of Austria." *West European Politics* 37 (1): pp. 113–37.
 Arzheimer, Kai. (2015). "The AfD: Finally a Successful Right-Wing Populist Eurosceptic Party for Germany?" *West European Politics* 38: pp. 535–56.
 Arzheimer, Kai, and Elisabeth Carter. (2009). "Christian Religiosity and Voting for West European Radical Right Parties." *West European Politics* 32(5): pp. 985–1011.
 Brug, Wouter van der, Meindert Fennema, and Jean Tillie. (2000). "Anti-Immigrant Parties in Europe: Ideological or Protest Vote?" *European Journal of Political Research* 37 (1): pp. 77–102.
 Downes, James F., and Matthew Loveless (2018). "Centre right and radical right party competition in Europe: Strategic emphasis on immigration, anti-incumbency, and economic crisis." *Electoral Studies* 54: 148–158.
 Ellinas, Antonis A. (2012). "LAOS and the Greek Extreme Right Since 1974." In *Mapping the Extreme Right in Contemporary Europe. from Local to Transnational*, edited by Andrea Mammona, Emmanuel Godin, and Brian Jenkins, pp. 124–39. London; others: Routledge.
 ———. 2013. "The Rise of Golden Dawn. the New Face of the Far Right in Greece." *South European Society and Politics* 18 (4): 543–65.
 Ford, Robert, and Matthew J. Goodwin. 2010. "Angry White Men: Individual and Contextual Predictors of Support for the British National Party." *Political Studies* 58 (1).
 ———. 2014. "Understanding Ukip. Identity, Social Change and the Left Behind." *The Political Quarterly* 85 (3): pp. 277–84.
 Hainsworth, Paul. (2000). "The Front National: From Ascendancy to Fragmentation on the French Extreme Right." In *The Politics of the Extreme Right. From the Margins to the Mainstream*, edited by Paul Hainsworth, pp. 18–32. London, New York: Pinter.
 Lange, Sarah L. de. (2007). "A New Winning Formula?: The Programmatic Appeal of the Radical Right." *Party Politics* 13 (4): pp. 411–35.
 Luther, Kurt Richard. (2000). "Austria: A Democracy Under Threat from the Freedom Party?" *Parliamentary Affairs* 53: pp. 426–42.
 Mayer, Nonna. (2013). "From Jean-Marie to Marine Le Pen: Electoral Change on the Far Right." *Parliamentary Affairs* 66 (1): pp. 160–78.
 Mudde, Cas. (2007). *Populist Radical Right Parties in Europe*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
 Rydgren, Jens. (2005). "Is Extreme Right-Wing Populism Contagious? Explaining the Emergence of a New Party Family." *European Journal of Political Research* 44: pp. 413–37.
 ———. (2008). "Immigration Sceptics, Xenophobes or Racists? Radical Right-Wing Voting in Six West European Countries." *European Journal of Political Research* 47 (6): pp. 737–65.
 Vasilopoulou, Sofia. (2011). "European Integration and the Radical Right. Three Patterns of Opposition." *Government and Opposition* 46 (2): pp.223–44.
 Zúquete, José Pedro. (2008). "The European Extreme-Right and Islam. New Directions?" *Journal of Political Ideologies* 13 (3): pp. 321–44.

Additional Resources on Populism/Radical Left-Wing Populism:
 Aguilera de Prat, C. (2013). *Euroscepticism, Europhobia and Eurocriticism: The Radical Parties of the Right and the Left Vis-à-vis the European Union*. Brussels, Belgium: P.I.E. Peter Lang AG.
 Beaudonnet, L., & Gomez, R. (2017). Red Europe versus no Europe? The impact of attitudes towards the EU and the economic crisis on radical-left voting. *West European Politics*, 40(2): pp. 316-335.
 Charalambous, G. (2011). All the shades of red: Examining the radical left's Euroscepticism. *Contemporary Politics*, 17(3): pp. 299-320.
 De Vries, C., & Edwards, E. (2009). Taking Europe To Its Extremes. *Party Politics*, 15(1): pp. 5-28.
 Della Porta, D., Kouki, H., & Fernández, J. (2017). The Left's Love and Hate for Europe: Syriza, Podemos and Critical Visions of Europe During the Crisis. In: Caiani M., Guerra S. (eds.) *Euroscepticism, Democracy and the Media: Communicating Europe, Contesting Europe* (pp. 219-240). London: Palgrave Macmillan UK.
 Dolezalová, J., Havlík, V., Slaný, A., & Vejvodová, P. (2017). Economic factors determining the electoral success of far-right and far-left parties in the EU countries. *Society and Economy*, 39(1): pp. 27-48.
 Dunphy, R., & March, L. (2013). Seven Year Itch? The European Left Party: Struggling to Transform the EU. *Perspectives on European Politics and Society*, 14(4): pp. 520-537.
 Geddes, B. (2003). *Paradigms and Sand Castles: Theory Building and Research Design in Comparative Politics*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
 Halikiopoulou, D., Nanou, K., & Vasilopoulou, S. (2013). The paradox of nationalism: The common denominator of radical right and radical left euroscepticism. *European Journal of Political Research*, 51(4): pp. 504-539.
 Hartleb, F. (2015). Here to stay: Anti-establishment parties in Europe. *European View*, 14(1): pp. 39-49.
 Hernández, & Kriesi. (2016). Turning your back on the EU. The role of Eurosceptic parties in the 2014 European Parliament elections. *Electoral Studies*: pp. 515-524.
 Kassam, A. (2015, August 25th). Podemos leader backs Jeremy Corbyn campaign for Labour leadership. Retrieved December 12, 2017.
 March, L. & Mudde, C. (2005). What's Left of the Radical Left? The European Radical Left After 1989: Decline and Mutation. *Comparative European Politics*. 3(1): pp. 23-49.
 Mavrozacharakis, E., Kotroyannos, D., & Tzagkarakis, S. (2017). Mediterranean Left-Wing Populism: The Case of SYRIZA. *European Quarterly of*

Political Attitudes and Mentalities, 6(2): pp. 40-54.

Mudde, C. (2017). SYRIZA: The Failure of the Populist Promise. Palgrave Macmillan.

Neumayer, L. (2008). Euroscepticism as a political label: The use of European Union issues in political competition in the new Member States. *European Journal of Political Research*, 47(2): pp. 135-160.

Ramos, M., & Cornago, L. (2016, December 29). Spanish Disaffection with the EU: is Podemos Eurosceptic? Retrieved December 12th, 2017, from <https://politikon.es/2016/12/29/spanish-disaffection-with-the-eu-is-podemos-eurosceptic/>

Stobart, L. (2016). From the Indignados to Podemos? Can Podemos reclaim its earlier momentum?. In: Príncipe, C., & Sunkara, B. (eds.). *Europe in Revolt*. Chicago: Haymarket Books.

Taggart, P. (1998). A touchstone of dissent: Euroscepticism in contemporary Western European party systems. *European Journal of Political Research*, 33(3): pp. 363-388.

Taggart, P. & Szczerbiak, A. (2002). The party politics of Euroscepticism in EU member and candidate states, SEI Working Paper No. 51/Opposing Europe Research Network Working Paper No. 6, Sussex European Institute.

Van Elsas, E., Hakhverdian, A., & Van Der Brug, W. (2016). United against a common foe? The nature and origins of Euroscepticism among leftwing and right-wing citizens. *West European Politics*, 39(6): pp. 1181-1204.

On Euroscepticism/Brexit:

Taggart and Szczerbiak (2002) "The Party Politics of Euroscepticism in EU Member and Candidate States." Sussex European Institute Clarke, H. D., Goodwin, M., & Whiteley, P. (2017). *Brexit: Why Britain Voted to Leave the European Union*. Cambridge University Press.

Clarke, H. D., Goodwin, M., & Whiteley, P. (2016). *Leave was always in the lead: why the polls got the referendum result wrong*. LSE European Politics and Policy