POLISCI 71
Current Issues in European Security

Syllabus | Spring Quarter 2017

Instructor: Michael McFaul
Office hours: by appointment only through Anna Coll (acoll@stanford.edu)

BACKGROUND
Europe today is facing some of the greatest challenges to stability and security since the Cold War. Russian annexation and intervention in Ukraine, immigration from the Middle East, the rise of populists, Brexit, and the Trump administration’s mixed signals about its commitment to transatlantic relations have triggered a new era of uncertainty. Current Issues in European Security offers students an overview of these challenging trends.

OBJECTIVES
This course will feature leading U.S. and European policymakers in a speaker series exploring threats and challenges in European security. Through lectures, discussions and optional readings, we will develop a framework for understanding those concerns and possible policy responses.

COURSE STRUCTURE
This is a one-unit, credit/no credit course consisting of six or more speaker events and two informal discussion seminars with Professor McFaul. Each student is required to attend at least four of the six speaker events, in addition to the two sessions with Professor McFaul.

Days of the week for speaker events vary, but times will usually run from 12pm to 1:30pm. Lunch will be served for noontime events.

You must RSVP for all the events you plan to attend here: http://tec.fsi.stanford.edu/events

REQUIREMENTS
Course credit is based on attendance and completion of a short final paper. Attendance is required at both seminars with Michael McFaul and at least five of the seven speaker events.
At the end of the quarter, students will write a five-page policy memo to President Trump or to President Macron suggesting one concrete new initiative to enhance European security. In your answer, review existing policies before making the case for your new idea. The paper is due by 5:00pm on Friday, June 9th.
SPEAKER SCHEDULE AND OPTIONAL READINGS

All course readings are optional, intended to provide context for the speaker events and ideas for your policy memo.

April 4  Nicola STURGEON, First Minister of Scotland  
Scotland’s Place in the World  

April 10  Ivan KRASTEV, Contributing opinion writer on Eastern and Central Europe for the  
New York Times  
“The Imitation Imperative”

Although the post-1989 world is the world that America and Europe made, it has now become the world that America and Europe have started to fear and sometimes even hate. Looking back across the turbulent decades since 1989, we are astounded by the speed with which yesterday's euphoric victory has turned into today's anxiety and distress. Explaining why and how it happened in the different parts of Europe, Russia, Turkey, Eastern Europe is the principal ambition of this lecture.

Suggested Readings:


https://www.lrb.co.uk/v16/n07/edward-luttwak/why-fascism-is-the-wave-of-the-future

Roberto Stefan Foa/Yascha Mounk, “The democratic disconnect”,  Journal of Democracy 27/3 (July 2016), pp. 5-17

April 12  Seminar with Michael McFaul  
12:00 – 1:00 pm  
E008  
“The Russian Threat In Europe and America.”  

Suggested readings:  
https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/global-opinions/how-brexit-is-a-win-for-putin/2016/06/25/800e4d3c-3b06-11e6-8f7c-d4c723a2beeb_story.html?utm_term=.63cf3e0803fb

McFaul, Michael and Stoner, Kathryn.  “Who Lost Russia (This Time?) Vladimir Putin”  Washington Quarterly, 3 August 2015
http://twq.elliott.gwu.edu/who-lost-russia-time-vladimir-putin


April 19 Alina POLYAKOVA, Atlantic Council

“The Kremlin’s Trojan Horses? Russia and the European Far Right”

Suggested Readings:


“Bits and pieces: Liberal democracy in the digital era”

April 26 Alexander STUBB, Former Prime Minister of Finland

"Life after Trump and Brexit: Will Europe be able to take the lead?"

Suggested readings:

May 15  Ivo DAALDER, President of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs

“Donald Trump and the End of the US-led Order in Europe"

May 22  Mark LEONARD, European Council on Foreign Relations

“The connectivity wars: European security and the weaponisation of the internet, trade, migration and international institutions”

Introduction, chapters 2, 7, 8, 10, 11, 15, 18, 20, 21, 22
http://www.ecfr.eu/page/-/Connectivity_Wars.pdf

May 31  Closing Seminar with Michael McFaul

*Suggested readings:*


