



PSCI 5503 W **Topics in European Politics**

“Domestic Politics and European Integration”

Over five decades of European integration have seen dramatic transformations of both the European Union and the member states. These changes become particularly manifest in the field of policymaking. At the European level, the range and scope of policies has significantly been extended; at national level, member states' actors had to adapt to rules, norms and standards set by the EU. In addition, since there is no clear cut hierarchical relationship between the two levels, both sides have tried to exert as far as possible influence on the substance and procedures of policymaking. This has resulted in a highly dynamic relationship between the European Union and the member states. This relationship is continuously modeled and remodeled through the “invention” of innovative modes of governance and the creation of more or less formalized institutional structures.

This course examines the relationship between the EU and its member states by looking at a wide range of policy areas. These range from traditional policies, where the EU has far-reaching regulatory competences, as for example in single market and competition policy, to more recently established policies, where competences lie with the member states, while the Union performs merely a coordinative role, as is the case in the European Employment Strategy or in Justice and Home Affairs. By comparing widely differing policy areas, the rationale underlying European modes of governance and multilevel policymaking as well as the dynamic relationship between the EU and the member states will be unveiled.

Grading will be based on seminar participation (including the presentation of discussion papers) and a major research paper.

Instructor: Professor Ingeborg Toemmel,
Visiting Professor, University of Osnabrueck, Germany

Schedule: January to April 2009

Time & Location: Please consult Carleton Central

Precludes additional credit for PSCI 5500