

Name: Adrienne Roach		Course Title/Unit Title: Unit 8 – Part 1: Gender and Policy in the European Union
		Discipline: Political Science
Course/Module Narrative:	This unit will focus on the roles of the European Commission and the European Parliament in enacting public policy focused on achieving gender equality. Students will learn more about the feminist leadership of Ursula von der Leyen and the EU’s gender equality strategy and analyze and evaluate the impact of gender and feminist mainstreaming in the EU.	
Course Objectives:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Summarize key concepts related to the study of gender and politics. → Analyze the global history of gender and politics, women’s suffrage and other movements, and feminist political theory. → Evaluate the impact of women’s social movements in cross-cultural perspective. → Evaluate how political culture and party structures affect women’s political participation and elections. → Compare the effectiveness of methods to increase women’s representation in cross-cultural perspective. → Examine how gender affects representation and policy outcomes. → Analyze how gender and representation impact the functions of the state in cross-cultural perspective. → Examine the impact of social movements and women’s political participation by evaluating how governments and institutions today respond to gender-related issues, such as gender-based violence, health care, and workplace non-discrimination, among other issues. 		
Module Objectives/Learning Objectives:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Explore and summarize the role and functions of the European Commission and the European Parliament. → Analyze the concept of gender mainstreaming and examine how it has been employed in the European Union. → Evaluate the feminist leadership of Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and the EU’s gender equality strategy and action plan. 		
Assigned Readings		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Squires, J. (2010) “Is Mainstreaming Transformative? Theorizing Mainstreaming in the Context of Diversity and Deliberation” in Krook, M.L. & Childs, S. <i>Women, Gender, and Politics: A Reader</i>. Oxford University Press, pp. 283-290. → PDF Version of EU Publication (2022): <i>The European Union: What it is and what it does</i>: https://op.europa.eu/webpub/com/eu-what-it-is/en/ → Elomäki, A., & Kantola, J. (2023). Feminist Governance in the European Parliament: The Political Struggle over the Inclusion of Gender in the EU’s COVID-19 Response. <i>Politics & Gender</i>, 19(2), 327-348. doi:10.1017/S1743923X21000544 		
Content & Delivery		
Course Content	Instruction & Delivery (lecture, discussion, group work, etc.)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Online Course. Supplementary materials delivered through a weekly online content stream with the CourseArc platform. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Lecture, discussion forum, independent study, and essay writing. 	
Assessment		

- One-page comparative essay on Gender, Representation, and Policy Outcomes: EU vs. the US. The essay prompt will ask students to choose a current issue of interest to them related to gender equity and equality, such as equal pay, reproductive rights, family medical leave, addressing violence against women, and the like. Students will compare language in the EU's gender equality strategy and/or the Gender Action Plan with US political party platforms, the stated priorities of relevant US federal agencies, and currently circulating legislation in Congress to analyze how these issues are being addressed in the US vs. the EU.
- Discussion on Liberal Feminism and Ursula von der Leyen's leadership. Students will be asked to view von der Leyen's speech on International Women's Day and read other critical arguments surrounding Feminist governance to explore the nature of a Liberal Feminist approach to achieving gender equality.
- Seven to eight short answer, multiple choice, or T/F questions on the EU, the concept of gender mainstreaming, and/or Ursula von der Leyen's leadership will be included in a unit quiz.

Potential Resources and Materials to Supplement Assigned Readings

- Site on Legislative Procedure: https://www.europarl.europa.eu/infographic/legislative-procedure/index_en.html
- European Election Results and Ideological Groupings: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/election-results-2019/en>
- MEPs by Member State: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/home>
- Article by Elomäki & Kantola (2023). *Feminist Governance in the European Parliament: The Political Struggle over the Inclusion of Gender in the EU's COVID-19 Response*: <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/politics-and-gender/article/feminist-governance-in-the-european-parliament-the-political-struggle-over-the-inclusion-of-gender-in-the-eus-covid19-response/D54F9E2B461E018B8149DF311B40BC81>
- EU Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52020DC0152>
- EU Gender Action Plan: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_2184
- Ursula von der Leyen Speech (Video) on International Women's Day: https://multimedia.europarl.europa.eu/en/video/international-womens-day-celebration-statement-by-ursula-von-der-leyen--president-of-the-european-commission_1202775
- Current Democratic and Republican Party Platforms (US)
- US State Dept Office on Global Women's Issues: www.state.gov/bureaus-offices/secretary-of-state/office-of-global-womens-issues
- US DOJ: Office on Violence Against Women: <https://www.justice.gov/ovw>
- US Congress: <https://www.congress.gov/>

Picture for PowerPoint Slides



Description: Billboard outside the European Parliament