POSC 463: European Politics  
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00am-12:20 pm; VKC Rm 210  
Section 52148  

Instructor: Rebecca Oliver  

This course is designed to engage students in comparative analysis of political institutions and political processes across European countries with attention to the influence of developments within the European Union. At the national level, we focus primarily on the cases of the United Kingdom, Germany, Sweden and Italy, and France. We explore themes including the role of political parties, electoral systems, coalition government, citizen participation in politics, the formulation and implementation of policy, and developments in the political economy. These national case analyses will be integrated with broad cross-national issues such as the politics of immigration, changes in labor markets and social policy, and the domestic impact of European Union policy.

Rebecca Oliver is an Assistant Professor in the Political Science Department at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio who will be teaching at USC during the 2014-15 academic year. Her research interests are in comparative politics and political economy, with a focus on advanced industrial societies. Professor Oliver's research explores the relationships between labor market institutions and inequality. She is currently completing a book, entitled, "Negotiating Differences: Developments in Wage Inequality in Italy, Sweden and across Advanced Industrial Democracies."

This course fulfills the Comparative Politics sub-field requirement or an upper-division POSC elective.