

## Descriptif d'enseignement / *Course descriptions*

3<sup>ème</sup> année internationale / International undergraduate program

*Semestre 1*

### Titre du cours - *Course title*

---

#### **Unsettled Questions About the European Idea**

**Type de cours :** Cours magistral

**Langue du cours/Language of instruction :** English

### Enseignant(s) – *Professor(s)*

---

Patrick Mardellat

Professeur

Contact : [patrick.mardellat@sciencespo-lille.eu](mailto:patrick.mardellat@sciencespo-lille.eu)

### Résumé du cours – **Objectifs** - *Course description – Targets*

---

The discussion thread of this course is the assumption that the European construction failures have their roots in the ambiguity of the idea of Europe. So, in order to strengthen the European idea, it is assumed that this very idea of Europe has to be cleared by deconstruction.

The premise to any success in the European construction not betraying the ideal of democracy, peace and hospitality - all virtues attached to the political ideal of Europe - is the deconstruction of the idea of Europe. So, the objective of the course is to go back up from some unsettled questions about the European idea to the idea of Europe that is to find in the writings of European philosophers, especially since Kant.

A distinction is made between the European idea and the Idea of Europe. By European idea I mean the constructivist idea of the European polity that the European unification attempts to realize by the creation of common institutions and common policies. So, the European idea refers to the implementation of the "founding fathers" project until the apparent failure of the European constitution. With the expression "idea of Europe" I mean the philosophical conceptions of Europe by European philosophers since Kant to Derrida through Valéry, Husserl, Patocka and many others. Philosophers thought Europe as apart from the rest of the world and of humanity, because of its intellectual achievement. They thought of a special connection between Europe and reason: Europe is self-declared as the birth-place of philosophy, and by this way of science; but they also thought of a special connection between Europe and democracy. Philosophy, science and democracy are conceived as essentially European inventions. In other words, philosophy, science and democracy are supposed to fulfil the idea of Europe. And we have by there the definition of Europe in a simple equation: Europe = reason, logos. And from this idea they claimed for Europe and Europeans a special destiny and a special mission in regard of the world that is called the destiny and mission of the universal.

The objective of the course is to call this pretension into question and to appreciate the achievements of the European idea from the commitments rooted in the European self-image.

### Evaluation - *Assessment*

---

An Essay of 10 pages, 1.5 spacing, margins: 2cm. Topic related to Europe.

## Plan – Séances - *Course outline*

1. From the Crisis of the European Humanity to the European Construction
2. How many languages can Europe sustain?
3. Cool memories?
4. How old is Europe?
5. Do we still need nations?
6. Can a weak Europe have an effective foreign policy?
7. Can hospitality be rationed?
8. Globalization or Europeanization?

## Bibliographie - *Bibliography*

- Baechler, Jean (2004-5). La finalité de la construction européenne. *Commentaire* (108) : 957-64.
- Beck, Ulrich, Grande, Edouard (2004). *Das kosmopolitische Europa*. Frankfurt am Main : Suhrkamp.
- Casanova, Jean-claude (1992). Sur le patriotisme européen. *Commentaire* (57) : 5-16.
- Cause Commune, n°1 (2007). *L'Europe réfléchie*. Paris : Ed. du Cerf.
- Césaire, Aimé [1955] (2004). *Discours sur le colonialisme*. Paris : Présence africaine.
- Derrida, Jacques (1991). *L'autre cap*. Paris : Minuit. English translation by P.-A Brault and M.B. Nass: *The Other Heading* (1992), Indiana University Press.
- Derrida, Jacques (1994). *Politiques de l'amitié*. Paris: Galilée. English translation by George Collins: *The Politics of Friendship* (1997), Verso.
- Ferry, Jean-Marc (2005). *Europe, la voie kantienne. Essai sur l'identité postnationale*. Paris : éditions du Cerf.
- Ferry, Jean-Marc (2010). *La république crépusculaire. Comprendre le projet européen in sensu cosmopolitico*. Paris : éditions du Cerf.
- Geremek, Bronisław, Picht, Robert, Eds. (2007). *Visions d'Europe*. Paris: Odile Jacob.
- Habermas, Jürgen. (2011). *Zur Verfassung Europas. Ein Essay*. Berlin: Suhrkamp.
- Habermas, Jürgen. (1992). *Citizenship and National Identity: Some Reflections on the Future of Europe*. *Praxis International* 12 (1): 1-19.
- Hobsbawm, Eric. (2008). « L'Europe : mythe, histoire, réalité. » *Le Monde* 25/09/08, p. 24.
- Husserl, Edmond [1935] (2006). *La crise de l'humanité européenne et la philosophie*. Edition électronique : [www.ac.grenoble.fr/Philosophie/file/husserl\\_depraz.pdf](http://www.ac.grenoble.fr/Philosophie/file/husserl_depraz.pdf) English version: [http://www.users.cloud9.net/~bradmcc/husserl\\_philcris.html](http://www.users.cloud9.net/~bradmcc/husserl_philcris.html)
- Husserl, Edmond [1954] (1976). *La crise des sciences européennes et la phénoménologie transcendantale*. Paris : Gallimard.
- Kagan, Robert (2002). *Power and Weakness*. <http://www.policyreview.org/JUN02/kagan.html>
- Kant, Immanuel [1784] (1991). *Idea for a Universal History with a Cosmopolitan Purpose*. *Kant's Political Writings* Edited by H.S. Reiss, 41-53. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Kant, Immanuel [1795] (1991). *Toward Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch*. *Kant's Political Writings* Edited by H.S. Reiss, 93-130. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Lacroix, Justine (2004). *L'Europe en procès. Quel patriotisme au-delà des nationalismes ?* Paris : éditions du Cerf.
- Magnette, Paul (2006). *Au nom des peuples. Le malentendu constitutionnel européen*. Paris : éditions du Cerf.
- Mak, Geert (2007). *Voyage d'un Européen à travers le XXè siècle*. Traduit du néerlandais par Bertrand Abraham. Paris : Gallimard.
- Middelaar, Luuk van (2012). *Le passage à l'Europe. Histoire d'un commencement*. Paris : Bibliothèque des Idées, Gallimard.
- Pagden, Anthony, Ed. (2002). *The Idea of Europe. From Antiquity to the European Union*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Patočka, Jan [1996] (2007). *L'Europe après l'Europe*. Lagrasse: Editions Verdier.
- Semprun, Jorge. (2010). *Une tombe au creux des nuages. Essais sur l'Europe d'hier et d'aujourd'hui*. Paris : Climats (Flammarion).
- Sloterdijk, Peter (1994). *Falls Europa erwacht. Gedanken zum Programm einer Weltmacht am Ende des Zeitalters ihrer politischen Absence*. Trad. Fr. par O. Mannoni: *Si l'Europe s'éveille* (2003), Mille et une nuits, Fayard.

Sternberger, Dolf. (1979). Verfassungspatriotismus. Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung 23rd May.

Valéry, Paul [1919] (1998). La crise de l'esprit. Variété I et II. Paris : Gallimard, Folio. English translation : <http://www.historyguide.org/europe/valery.html>