DESCRIPTION:
The number of regional integration schemes around the globe has mushroomed in the last decades, often with consequences as important as (or more important than) those wrought by global factors and forces. How can we explain the proliferation of regional integration schemes? Why do states participate in forms of regional integration instead of pursuing multilateral or global integration? Why do we see such a diversity of institutional forms in regional integration? And what are the economic and political consequences of regional integration?

This graduate course addresses these questions. Our focus will be on the causes and consequences of regional integration as well as on a comparative perspective of the diversity of regional integration schemes. Part I of the course introduces the topic of regional integration and provides some background to the theory of regional cooperation and organizations. Part II will focus on a more in-depth study of the European Union as the most prominent example of political integration as well as on economic integration schemes in the Asia Pacific and North America. We will pay specific attention to a comparison between these different models of regional integration. Part III will concentrate on a discussion of the economic and political consequences of regional integration.

REQUIREMENTS:
There are four major requirements for this course, with the percentage of the course grade that each constitutes shown in parentheses:

1. **Class Participation (20%)**. I expect that you come to class prepared and participate actively. The success of this course crucially depends on your participation and you should therefore take this component very seriously. Most of our sessions focus on different (and sometimes contradicting) explanations and I might well ask you to defend and discuss a particular theory from the readings in class.

2. **Discussion Leadership (20%)**. You will be expected to lead the discussion in one or more classes (depending on the number of course participants). When you prepare for your discussion you want to think about aspects that are particularly relevant for your topic, and prepare a number of ‘big’ questions that you want to discuss during class time. These topics should include a discussion of comparative regional integration where feasible. This means that you may need to read some additional work on the topic or do
some research on work in other areas that may be of relevance. Feel free to talk to me about your discussion leadership if you need any guidance. I am also happy to talk to you individually about your performance as discussion leader. A good discussion leader will guide the other participants along one or two main topics drawing from the readings (rather than just discussing the articles subsequently without putting them in greater context) and put the readings into greater context.

3. **Referee Report (20%).** You will submit one two-page single-spaced (12pt) referee report. Please indicate clearly in your report whether your opinion is reject, accept, R&R with some revisions, or R&R with major revisions. The report will be on Julia Gray’s ‘Life, Death, or Zombies? The Vitality of International Economic Organizations.’ It will be **due at beginning of class in week 3.** Be prepared to defend your position during class discussion.

4. **Research Paper (40%).** You will write a 15-page research paper which will be **due to me by Monday, December 11th.** The topic has to be cleared with me first. Do NOT wait until the midterm to discuss the topic with me. We will discuss research topics in week 5 so you will get some input on your ideas from your colleagues before writing up the design. You have three options:

   - You can write a research proposal that proposes to resolve some of the limitations of the literature that we discuss in class. The proposal has to identify a question or puzzle, discuss how you would try to answer that question (theoretical argument, hypotheses, and research design), lay out the necessary steps of the project, and suggest how this project would advance the literature.
   - You can evaluate one of the theories we have discussed using one or multiple regional organizations, or alternatively, compare theories using case studies.
   - You can advance a research paper that you wrote for a different course and turn it into a (publishable) conference paper. In this case, you need to discuss with me how you propose to advance on your previous work. For example, if you have a research design paper you can conduct the empirical analysis.

**READINGS:**

**Week 1: An Introduction to Theories of Regional Integration**


*Updated: September 7, 2017*
Recommended Readings:


**Week 2: The Causes of Regional Integration**


**Recommended Readings:**


**Week 3: The Design of Regional Integration Agreements**


**Recommended Readings:**


*Updated: September 7, 2017*


**Week 4: The Scope of Regional Integration**


**Recommended Readings:**


**Week 5: Political Integration in the European Union**


*Updated: September 7, 2017*

• Does the European Union Represent an n of 1? (http://aei.pitt.edu/54/01/N1debate.htm)

Background Readings on the EU:


Recommended Readings:


• Ernst B. Haas. 1958. The Uniting of Europe. Stanford: Stanford University Press.


Updated: September 7, 2017
Week 6: Comparative Regional Integration


**Recommended Readings:**


• Rolf Langhammer and Ulrich Hiemenz. 1990. “Regional Integration Among Developing Countries: Opportunities, Obstacles and Options.” *Kieler Studien* No. 232.


### Week 7: Regionalism and Multilateralism


**Recommended Readings:**

*Updated: September 7, 2017*


**Week 8: Economic Consequences of Regional Integration**


**Recommended Readings:**


**Week 9: Political Consequences of Regional Integration**


**Recommended Readings:**


*Updated: September 7, 2017*


Week 10: Regional Agreements and Democratic Governance


Recommended Readings:


