DEPARTMENT OF GERMANIC STUDIES
CENTER FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

Course: GRC 360E (37185) / GOV 365N (37960) / EUS 361 (34840)
Title: Switzerland and Europe: Integration or Isolation?
Time: Spring 2006, T/Th 12:30-2:00, RAS 313A
Instructor: Peter Hess (232-6362); EPS 3.126; phess@mail.utexas.edu
Office: T/Th 2-3 and by appointment

DESCRIPTION:

This course is built around the themes of integration and integrative patterns versus isolation and the ideology of exceptionalism in a small European country. We will identify unique patterns of conflict resolution and consensus building which have historically grown, are culturally determined and institutionally anchored. We will study how these patterns evolved historically and how the impact contemporary Swiss society, both internally (integration of women, immigrants) and externally (EU, UN, NATO). Additionally, we will examine how globalization pressures impact a small, affluent country, what defense mechanisms, both integrative and isolationist, they elicit, what identity issues they provoke accentuate.

The Swiss Confederation has evolved from an insignificant defensive pact among three small alpine valleys in 1291 into a wealthy federal state comprising 26 cantons and four different cultures (German, French, Italian, and Romansch). This course is designed to give an introduction into historical and contemporary Switzerland and will examine cultural, social, historical, economical, and political aspects. The example of Switzerland shows how current developments on the European continent (the creation of a European common market and common currency, the enlargement of the EU, and the ongoing realignment of European alliance and security systems) impact all of Europe--even a country like Switzerland that has no formal part in any of these developments.

The course will consist of three parts:
I. Introduction to Swiss history from 1291 to 2003: anti-feudalist expansion (1291-1515), consolidation (1515-1798), French occupation, restoration, and revolution (1798-1848), the modern federal state (1848-present), the role in WW II.
III. Switzerland and Europe: Contemporary responses to Swiss role in WW II: the question of the Nazi gold and the Jewish accounts. European nationalism: nation state vs. multi-ethnic state; small-country nationalism. Switzerland and the state of the European integration: economic, political, strategic; cooperation issues; bilateral treaties. Migration issues: political refugees, immigration, citizenship. Neutrality and political isolation: concepts of neutrality (Sweden, Finland, Austria, Switzerland); the meaning of neutrality after 1989; recent UN membership; Gulf War II and the new humanitarianism.
integration: high-wage economy, de facto EU integration, the Euro, outsourcing.

TEXTS: photocopied anthology (available at IT Copy, 512 W. MLK, next to the fire station)

EVALUATION:
1) research paper, peer reviewed, rewritten (minimum 10 pp.) 40%
2) short paper (minimum 2 pages) 10%
3) peer review 5%
4) mid-term exam 15%
5) final exam 25%
6) class participation, homework, quizzes 5%

Note: This course contains a substantial writing component.
INTRODUCTION

Swiss history
- Steinberg: "Why Switzerland? History"

Swiss history after 1945
- Church: "The Political and Economic Development of Switzerland 1945-1991"

Political institutions I: federalism
- Sigg: "Switzerland's Political Institutions" (7-22)
- Linder/Vatter: "Institutions and Outcomes of Swiss Federalism"

Political institutions II: parties, elections, and voting
- Sigg: "Switzerland's Political Institutions" (23-59)
- Steiner: "Parliamentary Elections"

Political institutions III: direct democracy
- Trechsel/Kriesi: "The referendum and initiative as a centrepiece of the political system"
- Papadopoulos: "How Does Direct Democracy Matter?"

Current issues in politics
- Church: "The Swiss Elections of October 1999"
- Church: "The Swiss Elections of October 2003"
- Linder: "Swiss Politics Today"

February 7 (12:30): SHORT PAPER DUE

Switzerland and WW II: violations of neutrality?
- Aichinger: "What Actually is Neutrality?"
- Schwok: "Neutrality and the Aporias of Official Revisionism"
- The 1907 Hague convention on neutrality http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/lawofwar/hague05.htm
- http://www.giussani.com/holocaust-assets/
  [links to Eizenstat, Volcker, and Bergier reports]
- Bütler: "Neutral Switzerland - Humanitarian Switzerland: A Contradiction?"
- Schindler: "Contested Swiss Neutrality"
- Vagts: "Switzerland, International Law and World War II"

2/14 Switzerland and WW II: Nazi gold, Jewish accounts, and anti-semitism
- Blocher: "Switzerland and the Second World War - a Clarification"
- Eizenstat: "Note on Neutrality"
- Friedman: "Cynical, Immoral, Neutral"
- Hier: "At Best, Selective Neutrality"
- Borer: "Distortion, Guilt by Association"
- Weingarten: "Why is it Imperative to Press Sanctions Against Swiss Financial Institutions"

2/16 Switzerland and WW II: identity and self-understanding
- Heusser-Markun: "Switzerland: The Search for a New Self-Image"
- Kramer: "Manna from Hell"

2/21 International mediation: a surrogate for integration?
- Williams: "Finding a New Role in International Conflict Resolution"
- Fischer: "From Good Offices to an Active Policy of Peace"

2/23 The long road to emancipation: women in Switzerland
- Simmen: "Women in Switzerland since 1971"
- Aligisakis: "The Current Status of Women in Political Life"

2/28 Integration of foreigners: immigration, asylum, naturalization I
- Hoffmann-Novotny: "Switzerland: a non-immigration immigration country"

3/2 Integration of foreigners: immigration, asylum, naturalization II
- Fischer et al.: "Europeanisation of a Non-EU Country"

******* March 2 (12:30): PAPER OUTLINE DUE ******

3/7 Education, the media, culture, religion, leisure
- "Switzerland: Education and training"
- "Swiss learn lessons of educational failure"

3/9 Mid-term examination

SPRING BREAK

3/21 The four cultures I: description and general issues
- McRae: "Conflict and Compromise" (1-33; 39-74)

3/23 The four cultures II: politics of integration and of segregation
- McRae: "Conflict and Compromise" (74-92; 119-126)
3/28 **The four cultures III: state and ethnicity**
- Altermatt: "Multiculturalism, Nation-State and Ethnicity"
- Kriesi: "State Formation and Nation Building in the Swiss Case"

3/30 **The four cultures IV: Swiss multiculturalism?**
- Wimmer: "Nationalizing Multi-Ethnic Switzerland"
- Church: "Switzerland: A Paradigm in Evolution"

4/4 **Economy**
- Weiss: "The Future of Industry"
- Buchmann/Sacchi: "The Standard of Living"
- Senti: "Swiss Foreign Trade Policy"
- OECD Economic Survey of Switzerland 2006
  http://www.oecd.org/document/50/0,2340,en_33873108_33873838_35869554_1_1_1_1,00.html

4/6 **Banking and Finance**
- Hirszowicz: "Banking and Banking Confidentiality"

4/11 **Social structure and social integration**
- Leuthy: "Social Security"
- Arminger: "Institutionalizing the Swiss Welfare State"

4/13 **National Security Policy**
- Wenger: "Swiss Security Policy"
- Gabriel/Fanzun: "Foreign and Security Policy"
- Möckli: "The Long Road to Membership: Switzerland and the UN"

4/18 **European integration (EU) I: policies and agreements**
- Swiss integration policy
  http://www.europa.admin.ch/e/index.htm
- Bilateral agreements I (1999)
  http://www.europa.admin.ch/ba/expl/uebersicht/e/index.htm
  http://www.europa.admin.ch/ba/expl/factsheets/e/index.htm
- Bilateral agreements II
  http://www.europa.admin.ch/nbv/expl/factsheets/e/index.htm

4/20 **European integration (EU) II: impact on non-members**
- Sciarini: "How Europe hits home"
- Mach: "Economic Regulatory Reforms in Switzerland"

******* 20 April (12:30): RESEARCH PAPER DUE *******

4/25 **European integration (EU) III: perspectives for the future**
- Schwok: "Switzerland and the European Common Market" [107-119]
- Dupont/Sciarini: "Switzerland and the European Integration Process"
- Church: "Redefining Swiss Relations with Europe"

4/27 **European integration (EU) IV: backlash**
- Gstöhl: "Scandinavia and Switzerland"
- Olson: "A Billionaire Leads the Campaign"
- Stacher: "Why is Switzerland not a member of EU and NATO?"

5/2 **Switzerland, 'Swissness', and the forces of Globalization**
- "A special case. A Survey of Switzerland."
- "IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook 2005"
  http://www02.imd.ch/wcc/
- "Switzerland remains second most globalized nation"
- Hall: "Switzerland: Accolades fail to hide new uncertainties"
- Burkeman: "Real Lives: Paradise Lost"
- Interview with Kaspar Villiger: "Switzerland no longer an 'island' in the global community"

5/4 **Globalization and identity**
- "Switzerland: A fresh celebration of 'Swissness'"

5/16 **FINAL EXAM (9-12)**
List of Texts in Reader


Stacher, Peter. "Why is Switzerland not a member of EU and NATO?" October 1996. <www.ch-libre.com>


Williams, Andrew: "Finding a New Role in International Conflict Resolution. Switzerland after

