Brexit

Lecture Programme:

1. Britain – the reluctant European
2. The origins of Brexit
3. Brexit referendum
4. Brexit delivered, or not
5. The EU without Britain – who else might leave?
6. Britain – the reluctant European

This will be a brief overview of Britain’s relationship pre-membership as well as being a member of the EEC and subsequent iterations. Was Britain the only ‘reluctant’ member? What is a ‘reluctant European’?

Readings:

Jones, A. (2016); *Britain and the European Union* 2nd edition. See chapter 2 (this will be sent as an attached Word document for sharing with students)

Cinnirella, M. and Hamilton, S. (2007) “Are all Britons reluctant Europeans? Exploring European identity and attitudes to Europe among British citizens of South Asian ethnicity” *Ethnic and Racial Studies* vol 30-3. Available at <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/01419870701217530?casa_token=LQlcteCLueUAAAAA:y4vWhqVjMbd34DpR21aKkEZSHgOlU9dVJWkSsSIoguafYKJxOjDZLD9-M3TuwWKqteJdw4fkPw8>

McKinlay, A., Mercer, H. & Rollings, N. (2000); “Reluctant Europeans? The Federation of British Industries and European Integration, 1945–63” *Business History* vol. 42-4 Available at <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/00076790000000303?casa_token=YJZ2lW80DfgAAAAA:P8UHCicSpBIlUjkA5r5VZqdL9iJudFPVSTk0sKf9DMR2AVfFsUa1qJdbIm-ndKN3r2DcowqXREg>

Forster, A. (1998); “No entry: Britain and the EEC in the 1960s” *Contemporary British History* vol. 12-2. Available at <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/13619469808581483?casa_token=2iCULTU3UxEAAAAA:oxdXW5V_JodHIBebeLJiXbZPnsvYCgj_-89wwpDpgEr0ZmXTqbgin_BUVqzIinYvrg6lNvVdM0Q>

This is a review of several books on this topic

1. The Origins of Brexit

This session will focus on how Brexit came about. There are domestic political issues from the time of the Blair Government through to the government of David Cameron. The role of the media at this time period will also be covered.

Readings:

Jones, A. (2016); *Britain and the European Union* 2nd edition. See chapters 10 and 11 (these will be sent as attached Word documents for sharing with students)

Goodwin, M. (2017); “Brexit: Causes and Consequences” Royal Geographical Society, Monday Night Lectures Available at <https://www.jef.or.jp/journal/pdf/216th_Recent_JEF_Activity_02.pdf>

Arnorsson, A. and Zoega, G. (2018); “On the causes of Brexit” *European Journal of Political Economy* vol. 55 Available at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0176268016302701?casa_token=twmOLlgRmDMAAAAA:vp2H7MwnlQYP8awzFALJD3_QLRnBCaNRMnmKJBel6efOI9HSGk6DKibJ0K2XqrTF-Hu428Xd>

1. Brexit Referendum

This session will examine the referendum campaign. This will include the separate campaign groups, the individuals, and the role of the media. In many respects, this session will focus on lies, damned lies, and even more lies (from both sides).

Readings:

McNeil, A. and Haberstroh, C. (2023); “Intergenerational social mobility and the Brexit vote: How social origins and destinations divide Britain” *European Journal of Political Research* vol. 62 Available at <https://ejpr.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/1475-6765.12526>

Becker, S., Fetzer, T. and Novy, D. (2017); “Who voted for Brexit? A comprehensive district-level analysis” *Economic Policy*, Volume 32, Issue 92. Available at <https://academic.oup.com/economicpolicy/article/32/92/601/4459491>

Curtice, J. (2016); “Brexit: Behind the Referendum” *Political Insight* vol. 7-2 Available at <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/epub/10.1177/2041905816666122>

1. Brexit Delivered, or not

Has Brexit actually been delivered? The answer is ‘No’, as Brexit is a process rather than a single event – and Britain has left the EU. What have been the consequences? What is Britain’s role in the world today?

Readings:

Jones, A. (2021); "Getting Brexit Done and the future of the UK-EU relationship" in Mair, J., Clark, T., Fowler, N., Snoddy R. and Tait, R. (eds.) *Populism, Pandemic and the Media* (this will be sent as an attached Word document for sharing with students).

Menon, A. and Salter, J. (2016); “Brexit: initial reflections” *International Affairs* 92-6 Available at <https://www.jstor.org/tc/accept?origin=%2Fstable%2Fpdf%2F45238134.pdf%3Fcasa_token%3DcPC2P-P7ka4AAAAA%3AzQTqYEAE1SpcV18QXG9s9JidNIRY6vwfIniteOQfAB0-bhqhXEf3PcSfleDOPR8o0XXubnrDuzcWGo1Xpn3x8g6e8WYz6zp5gz4U5QdG-A_099i0bA&is_image=False>

Sampson, T. (2017); “Brexit: The Economics of International Disintegration” *Journal of Economic Perspectives* vol 31-4 Available at <https://pubs.aeaweb.org/doi/pdf/10.1257/jep.31.4.163>

Glencross, A. (2023); “The origins of ‘cakeism’: the British think tank debate over repatriating sovereignty and its impact on the UK’s Brexit strategy” *Journal of European Public Policy* vol. 30-6 Available at <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/13501763.2022.2072371>

1. The EU without Britain – who else might leave

This session will examine two themes. The first is the extent to which the EU is managing without British membership. The biggest issue here was Britain’s net budgetary contribution. There is also the question as to who else might leave. Far-right parties, campaigning to leave the EU, have had electoral success – most recently in the Netherlands.

Readings:

Adam Łazowski (2013); “How to withdraw from the European Union? Confronting hard reality” *CEPS Commentary* Available at <https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/157509/How%20to%20withdraw%20from%20the%20EU.pdf>

Eichhorn, J., Hübner, C. & Kenealy, D. (2016); “The view from the continent: What people in other member states think about the UK’s EU referendum” Dpart – a thinktank for political participation. Available at <https://dpart.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/The-View-from-the-Continent.pdf>

B Whitlock (2018); “First Brexit, then Czexit? Unlikely - Czech attitudes to Europe are very different” LSE Brexit Available at <https://eprints.lse.ac.uk/88937/>

Michal Kopeček (2019); “Sovereignty, ‘Return to Europe’ and Democratic Distrust in the East after 1989 in the Light of Brexit” *Contemporary European History* vol. 28-1 Available at <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/contemporary-european-history/article/sovereignty-return-to-europe-and-democratic-distrust-in-the-east-after-1989-in-the-light-of-brexit/C7C25A37DE239977E490A8CF8D6D4151>

Gastlinger, M. (2019); “Brexit! Grexit? Frexit? Considerations on How to Explain and Measure the Propensities of Member States to Leave the European Union” Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies Research Paper No. RSCAS 2019/85, Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3489132> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3489132>

Florea, D. and Gales, N. (2021); “Polexit - Is the Exit of Poland from the EU a Viable Option?” *European Journal of Law and Public Administration* vol. 8-1 Available at <https://heinonline.org/HOL/Page?handle=hein.journals/ejlpa8&id=29&collection=journals&index=>

**Assignments:**

There will be a 1500-word essay, submission on 4 March 2024, on the following question (80% of assessment):

Although Brexit has not been the success story envisioned by Brexiteers, the good news for them is that Britain will never re-join the EU. Discuss.

Within this assignment, students will need to consider the extent to which the parts of the statement are accurate – that Brexit has been a disaster; and, that Britain will never re-join the EU. While there is a lot of material to explore the first part of the statement, the second part is more about conjecture. You might want to consider whether EU states want Britain to re-join, as well as whether the British public would want to re-join.

Each student will have to give a 3-minute presentation (20% of assessment):

This will comprise a self-reflection of the module. It could include their expectations, and the extent to which these were met, what they enjoyed about the module, as well as what they disliked. Comment could be made as to any omissions of content e.g. things they would have liked to have had included in the module. In all of this self-reflection, it is important to explain why.