University of California, Berkeley
Institute of European Studies, International and Area Studies
Fall Semester 2008

Seminar: “Constitutional Politics in the European Union”
PEIS 150.2
MW: 4:00-5:30 – 206 Wheeler
Christine Landfried

Course Outline and Readings

Week I (August 27)

Introduction

Week II (September 3)

Constitutional Politics beyond the Nation State


Week III (September 8, 10)

Constitutional Politics in the European Union


Week IV (September 15, 17)

From the Common Market to the Political System of the European Union


Week V (September 22, 24)

The Political Challenges of the European Union at the beginning of the 21st Century

Chapter 2: “Why the European Union is more necessary than ever” and Chapters 3-5: “Policy gridlock”, “Lack of popular legitimacy”, “A democratic deficit”.

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Week VI (September 29, October 1st)

**The Constitutionalisation of the European Union**


Week VII (October 6, 8)

October 6:          October 8:  
Midterm Review      Midterm Exam

Week VIII (October 13, 15)

**The European Convention on the Future of Europe**


Week IX (October 20, 22)

**The Constitutional Discourse in the Convention**


Week X (October 27, 29)

**The Constitutional Treaty of 29th October 2004**

Chapter 4: “Changes in the institutions.”

Week XI (November 3, 5)

**The Ratification Crisis**


Week XII (November 10, 12)

**The Treaty of Lisbon of December 13, 2007**

Week XIII (November 17, 19)

**The Reform Treaty’s Answer to Policy Gridlock: The Case of Foreign Policy (CFSP)**


Week XIV (November 24, 26)

**The Reform Treaty’s Answer to the Democratic Deficit: The Case of National Parliaments**


Week XV (December 1, 3)

**Beyond Constitutional Politics in the European Union**

Simon Hix, What’s Wrong With the European Union & How to Fix It, Cambridge: Polity Press 2008, Part II.
Week XVI (December 8, 10)

**From Constitutional Democracy to Democratic Constitutionalism**

December 8:

December 10:
Review of our Seminar.