



Comparing Democracies: Get to Know Europe Center for Education in Law and Democracy

As a result of this seminar, participants will

- enhance courses with updated knowledge about Europe
- use comparative approaches to help students learn about US democratic institutions and compare our system with European institutions.
- participate in professional exchange to test and enhance new lessons about the EU and US

Seminar Agenda

Friday, April 15, 2011

2:00 Registration: Downtown Comfort Inn

2:30 Depart for University of Denver Law School via chartered bus

3:00 Registration for local teachers at the University of Denver Law School (Atrium 199)

3:30 Opening Session Lecture Room 190
Welcome and Introductions

Delegations from each state/country will be called upon to report out on what they learned about how their community views Europe and the European Union based on survey results.

3:50 *The European Union: Perceptions and Misperceptions*

Professor Jupille will discuss common perceptions and myths about the EU held by Americans. His remarks will provide a starting point for the entire project.

Professor Joe Jupille, Colorado European Union Center for Excellence at University of Colorado
Responder: Marcela Maslova, Executive Director, ORAVA, Slovakia

4:15 *Comparing Governments: The United States of Europe?*

Lesson Demonstration and Lecture

Participants will assess how closely the European Union resembles the United States by analyzing how much independence European Union member states have compared to American states using case studies.

Ben Bohmfalk, Teacher, Roaring Fork High School and Professor Joe Julipille

5:30 Reception hosted by the Colorado European Union Center for Excellence, University of Colorado Atrium Room 199

6:00 *Achieving Justice: Comparing Courts in the European Union and the United States*

The focus will be comparing judicial systems with particular attention given to judicial selection, political pressure on judges and similarities and differences in the decision-making processes between European Union and United States.

Panelists: Sir David Edward, retired Judge, Court of Justice of the European Union
Honorable Carlos Lucero, Judge, Federal Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit,
Honorable Tom Phillips, retired Justice, Texas Supreme Court.
Moderator: Rebecca Kourlis, retired Justice, Colorado Supreme Court

7:15 Dinner and discussion Faculty Library Fourth Floor

Saturday, April 16, 2011

Location: Central City Room, Brown Palace

8:30 *Comparing EU and US Courts Through Case Study*
Sir David Edward, retired Judge, Court of Justice of the European Communities

We will continue the dialogue from last evening with case studies to further illuminate characteristics of judicial decision making in Europe and the United States. Participants will learn how the EU High Court of Justice has determined cases involving disputes between nations, age discrimination, and freezing assets of Saudi National based on UN regulations.

9:30 *Lesson Demonstration: Comparing Documents, Comparing Rights*

Participants will consider the differences between positive and negative rights as outlined in the European Union Charter of Fundamental Rights and the US Bill of Rights. A case study will be used to differences with history and experience with rights.

Suzanne de Lemos, Mountain Range High School

10:00 Break

10:15 *Jean Monnet and the Making of Modern Europe*

A short video will introduce Jean Monnet, considered to be the chief architect of European unity and founding fathers of the EU. How did the European Union evolve from an agreement between France and Germany 50 years ago to trade Coal for Steel to its current status of 27 member countries, 500 million people and the largest economy in the world?

Professor Don Smith, University of Denver Sturm College of Law

Lesson Demonstration: Evolution of the European Union

Working in small groups, participants will place events in chronological order and use selected events to explain important themes about the relationship of the EU to the US and the world.

Jackie Johnson, CELD

11:30 Lunch

12:30 *Understanding Social Contracts: The European Dream and the American Dream*
Aubrey Westfall, Assistant Professor, Virginia Wesleyan College

How do assumptions about the role of government impact European and American values and our expectations of governments? Why do Americans and Europeans have such differing views of social welfare programs?

1:45 Break

2:00 *Who are the Europeans? Towards a New European Identity*

Christiane Olivo, Assistant Professor of Political Science and Director of the Institute for Civic Education, University of Northern Colorado

The concept of a European identity is a goal of European integration. The EU has created opportunities for people to interact with one another that has, in turn, impacted who they are and how they view one another.

3:15 Reception: Cookies, Milk, Beer and Wine

Sunday, April 17, 2011

Brown Palace Hotel,

8:30 Registration for Adams State Credit and Recertification Certificates

8:45 *Comparing Eastern and Western Europe*
Marcela Maslova

Eastern and Western Europe have different histories and perceptions about the role of the European Union. This session provides a strategy for helping students to understand some of these differences.

9:45 *More Lessons—*
Carousel --table top exchange about specific lessons concepts that you want to teach.

11:00 *State Team Meetings: Planning, Next Steps*

Noon Farewells



Comparing Democracies: Get to Know Europe is sponsored by the Center for Education in Law and Democracy and funded by the European Commission. Partner Organizations: University of Denver Sturm College of Law, Colorado European Union Center of Excellence, University of Colorado, and the Center for Civic Education Civitas Program.