

POP88134 — European Identity

Module Information	
Module Code	POP88134
Module Title	European Identity
Department	Political Science
Module Personnel	Dr Dino Hadzic
Academic Year	2026–27
Credit Weighting	5 credits
Semester	Semester 2
Contact Hours	10 hours of seminars (5 meetings)

Module Content	
Module Description	What is European identity? Does national identification hinder or complement identification with Europe? What drives Euroscepticism, and what does it tell us about the future of European integration? This module introduces students to key debates in the literature on European identification and attachment. Given the seminar format and the breadth of the field, the module does not aim to survey the literature comprehensively. Instead, it focuses on five core topics – the nature of European identity, its relationship to national identification, enlargement, solidarity, and Euroscepticism – with the aim of developing students’ capacity to identify gaps in existing research and formulate original research questions. Active participation is central to the module’s pedagogical approach.
Module Learning Aims	This module aims to introduce students to the major theoretical and empirical debates surrounding European identity. It develops students’ ability to engage critically with primary research literature, identify unresolved questions in the field, and formulate feasible research designs to address them. The module also aims to cultivate the seminar discussion and scholarly writing skills essential for postgraduate research.
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

Module Content

- Explain the major theoretical approaches to European identity, including civic, cultural, and nested conceptions of identification.
- Analyze the relationship between national and European identification, and evaluate competing claims about whether the two are complementary or in tension.
- Assess the implications of EU enlargement for European cohesion and identity.
- Evaluate the conditions under which European citizens express solidarity with one another and with other member states.
- Critically analyze the causes and expressions of Euroscepticism, including its relationship to national identity, party politics, and European integration more broadly.
- Identify gaps in existing research and formulate original, theoretically grounded research questions.
- Design a feasible research project – including theory, hypotheses, and research design – suitable for development into an MSc dissertation.

Assessment

Assessment Components

Research Paper/Proposal: 50%
Response Papers: 30%
Participation: 20%

Additional Information

Prerequisites

None

Co-requisites

None