A Close-up on the Crises in Europe
Europe through Anthropological Eyes

ANTH V3719 – Seminar

Thursdays 12:10-14:00 – 963 Schermerhorn Ext.

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The Formation of the European Union in the mid-1990s was one of those political projects that were supposed celebrate and consolidate a “new world order” in aftermath of the Cold War. Twenty years later, things look more complicated. Europeans seem to disagree on everything from the fabric of their political union, through the meaning of supra-national citizenship, to their moral obligations and responsibilities as persons, nations, states, and a union.

In this seminar, we will examine these issues through recent anthropologies: from the stabilization of Western Europe as a spatio-political category in anthropology to the most recent rise of attention to austerity, sovereignty crises, and supranational consolidation projects. Our aims will be to learn what the formed the European project, what new realities and relationships have emerged, and how some of the project’s protagonists and subjects have experienced the process that ensued. After an introductory session, the course will be divided into three 3-4-week “modules,” each focusing on one of our main axes of analysis: The ingredients of the European Union; becoming and unbecoming Europe; and Migration, interdiction, and European Space.