

The Elections of West Europa Simulation

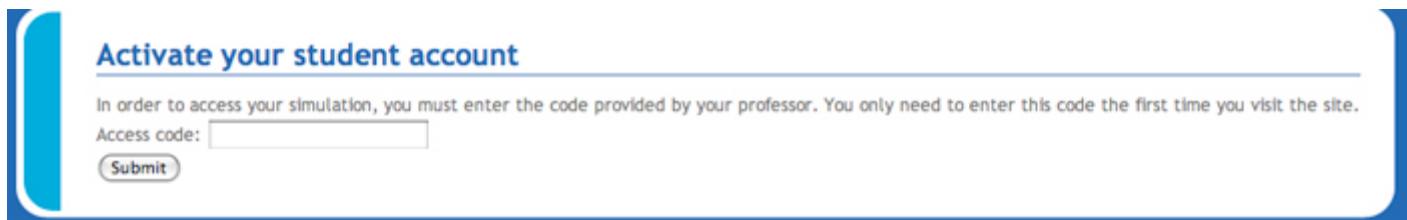
Systems Support		
	Yes	No
Operating Systems		
Windows	X	
Mac	X	
Browsers		
Chrome	X	
Internet Explorer	X	
Firefox	X	
Safari	X	
Mobile		
iPhone	X	
iPad	X	
Android Smartphone	X	
Android Tablet	X	
Kindle	X	

1. How do I Register for the Site?

Please use the registration code on the card that came with your textbook or you received via email.

Instructors: We monitor all instructor registrations. Please allow up to one business day for the approval process.

Students: Once you've registered and logged in, the system will ask for your simulation access code. This code is provided by your instructor and will link you to your course's specific simulation. You will only need to input the access code once.



Activate your student account

In order to access your simulation, you must enter the code provided by your professor. You only need to enter this code the first time you visit the site.

Access code:

2. How do I Build a Simulation?

At the Manage Simulations page, instructors can:

- create new simulations,
- view all prebuilt modules and parties,
- or create their own modules and parties.

Tuesday, May 05, 2009 • Hello, Dwain!

Manage Your Simulations

You have not yet created any simulations.

[Create New Simulation](#)

Manage Modules and Other Items

Preset Modules

- [The Country: Learning about West Europa](#)
- [The Group: Organizing Your Party](#)
- [The Message: Drafting a Party Platform](#)
- [The Image: Planning a Media Campaign](#)
- [The Pitch: Preparing for the Debate](#)
- [The Aftermath: Forming a Government](#)

Preset Parties

- [Party 1](#)
- [Party 2](#)
- [Party 3](#)
- [Party 4](#)
- [Party 5](#)
- [Party 6](#)

User Created Modules

You have not yet created any custom modules

[Create New Module](#)

User Created Parties

You have not yet created any Parties

[Create New Party](#)

Each simulation is a combination of modules and parties. Modules are the topical parts of the simulation, for example, “The Country: Learning about West Europa.”

The Country: Learning about West Europa

Welcome to West Europa. This established European democracy situated in the heart of Europe stands ready to hold parliamentary elections. As party activists representing six different parties—each with its own unique message and constituency—you will compete for the loyalty and votes of the West European electorate. The election campaign that you will collectively stage will decide the future of West Europa.

Learning Objectives

In this module, you will:

- Learn the demographic, socioeconomic, and geographic profile of West Europa
- Understand the main electoral trends and backgrounds of the parties you will be representing
- Appreciate the challenges facing West Europa, which are similar to those facing real countries in Europe today
- Summarize key information for a briefing
- Organize and plan the ongoing work of a small group

Specific Tasks

1. Organize Party Groups

General overview: Your professor will assign you to a group. Group members will set up a reliable means of group communication.

Each module contains learning objectives, specific tasks, and additional resources.

Note to the Instructor

If you have two classes that are simultaneously running the full simulation, consider holding two debates, back to back.

Consider offering extra credit to students who bring along their own supporters to the debate—perhaps even equipped with campaign materials and questions for the debaters.

A week before the debate begins, each party leader should randomly draw another party's name so that a question for that party's leader can be prepared. Students should be instructed not to share their questions with other parties.

Gray boxes indicate instructor specific material. These are invisible to students and include:

- additional context,
- guidance,
- suggestions on alternative assignments,
- and templates for activities and tasks.

West Europa has six political parties, each with its own political history and policy positions.

Party 1

Founded in 1908, [Party #1] is West Europa's oldest and historically most powerful political party. Since World War II, it has been a member of the country's governing coalition for more than forty years. Originally created as a political organization representing the country's majority Roman Catholics, it has since become an inclusive, center-right party running on a social-conservative agenda. Its platform appeals primarily to the nation's upper-middle class and rural farmers. It reached its political dominance in the early 1980s, when it replaced a deeply unpopular [Party#2] with a coalition government that also included [Party#3]. The electoral success of [Party #1] was founded on the promise of reforming the West European economy by reducing the influence of the country's trade unions and modernizing its industrial sector. The subsequent economic growth that occurred during the 1980s reinforced the party's image as good economic managers—a reputation that helped secure its position as the dominant party until 2000.

[Party #1]'s constituents are divided between its rural base, which includes practicing Catholics primarily interested in the party's social agenda, and a more

When building your simulation, choose the number and type of modules to assign and the number and type of parties into which to divide your class. Each simulation must include at least one module and one party. It is highly recommended that you choose the first module “The Country: Learning about West Europa” as it contains valuable background information on the fictional nation.

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Edit Simulation

Simulation name: My Simulation

Select modules for this simulation (click on a link to see a description of the module)

[The Country: Learning about West Europa](#)
 [The Group: Organizing Your Party](#)
 [The Message: Drafting a Party Platform](#)
 [The Image: Planning a Media Campaign](#)
 [The Pitch: Preparing for the Debate](#)
 [The Aftermath: Forming a Government](#)

Please select which parties you want to appear in your simulation

[Party 1](#)
 [Party 2](#)
 [Party 3](#)
 [Party 4](#)
 [Party 5](#)
 [Party 6](#)

[Save Your Simulation](#) [Cancel](#)

Saving the simulation will generate an access code. Your students will need this code to enter the simulation, so be sure to distribute it on the first day of class or put it in the course syllabus.

Manage Your Simulations

Simulation Name	Access Code 
My Simulation	SMITHXXXX1

Modules:

- The Country: Learning about West Europa
- The Group: Organizing Your Party
- The Message: Drafting a Party Platform
- The Image: Planning a Media Campaign
- The Pitch: Preparing for the Debate

[Create New Simulation](#)

3. How do I Edit Content in the Simulation?

Text with a dashed underline can be changed by the instructor. For example, instead of the students handing in a sheet, you might prefer they post on the message board.

Which role best fits with your strengths, abilities, and class schedule. You will have one's preferences are taken into account.

Create a [role assignment sheet](#) and submit it to the professor .

Click on the text (or the icon next to it) and type the new instructions:

Click save and the new text is saved:

Which role best fits with your strengths, abilities, and class schedule. You will have one's preferences are taken into account.

Create a [role assignment sheet](#) and post in the message board   .

Click on the text (or the icon next to it) and type the new instructions:

Click save and the new text is saved:

Which role best fits with your strengths, abilities, and class schedule. You will have one's preferences are taken into account.

Create a [role assignment sheet](#) and post in the message board .

Click on the text (or the icon next to it) and type the new instructions:

Click save and the new text is saved:

4. How do I Use the Discussion Board?

Each individual simulation has its own discussion board. Instructors can communicate with simulation participants, provide more specific instructions, or post news stories.

Students can use the discussion board to post party logos, share drafts of platforms, or debate party names. It is probably useful for someone in each group to set up a topic specifically for their party.

The screenshot shows a web-based discussion board interface. At the top, a blue header bar says "My Simulation". Below it is a button "+New Topic". The main area is titled "Topics" with a "collapse" link. A table lists six topics created by Dwain Smith on May 5, 2009, at various times between 3:14:47 PM and 3:14:53 PM. Each row includes links for "[Delete Topic]" and "[Edit Topic]". Below the table is a "Messages" section with a "Page 1 of 1 (0 messages)" indicator. At the bottom of the page is a "+New Message" button.

Topic Title	Creator	Creation Date	
Party_1	Dwain Smith	5/5/2009 3:14:47 PM	[Delete Topic] [Edit Topic]
Party_2	Dwain Smith	5/5/2009 3:14:48 PM	[Delete Topic] [Edit Topic]
Party_3	Dwain Smith	5/5/2009 3:14:32 PM	[Delete Topic] [Edit Topic]
Party_4	Dwain Smith	5/5/2009 3:14:17 PM	[Delete Topic] [Edit Topic]
Party_5	Dwain Smith	5/5/2009 3:14:08 PM	[Delete Topic] [Edit Topic]
Party_6	Dwain Smith	5/5/2009 3:13:53 PM	[Delete Topic] [Edit Topic]

Within this topic, users can post message or subtopics.

The screenshot shows a discussion board for a specific topic. The top bar says "My Simulation > Party 2". Below it is a "+New Topic" button. The main area is titled "Messages". Underneath is a "+New Message" button. A message from Dwain Smith dated Tuesday, May 05, 2009, at 03:16 PM is displayed. The message content is "What should our party name be?". At the bottom of the message are three buttons: "Edit", "Delete", and "Reply".

5. Can I Add User-Created Content?

Do you have extra content for modules or additional parties you'd like to load into the simulation? From Manage Simulations, click on "Create New Module" or "Create New Party."

Tuesday, May 05, 2009 • Hello, Dwain!

Manage Your Simulations

You have not yet created any simulations.

[Create New Simulation](#)

Manage Modules and Other Items

Preset Modules

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- [The Group: Organizing Your Party](#)
- [The Message: Drafting a Party Platform](#)
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- [The Aftermath: Forming a Government](#)

Preset Parties

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User Created Modules

You have not yet created any custom modules

[Create New Module](#)

User Created Parties

You have not yet created any Parties

[Create New Party](#)

Use the text editor to enter the content. Most Microsoft Word functions (including copy and paste) are available.

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Create New Party

New Party Name:

Party 7

Party 7 is ...

New Party Description:

[Save](#) [Cancel](#)

The new party or Module will appear on the Manage Simulations page:

Manage Modules and Other Items

Preset Modules

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Preset Parties

- [Party 1](#)
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- [Party 4](#)
- [Party 5](#)
- [Party 6](#)

User Created Modules

You have not yet created any custom modules

[Create New Module](#)

User Created Parties

Party Name

Party 7 [Edit](#) [Delete](#)

[Create New Party](#)

And will be available for any simulation you build:

Create New Simulation

Simulation name:

Select modules for this simulation (click on a link to see a description of the module)

- [The Country: Learning about West Europa](#)
- [The Group: Organizing Your Party](#)
- [The Message: Drafting a Party Platform](#)
- [The Image: Planning a Media Campaign](#)
- [The Pitch: Preparing for the Debate](#)
- [The Aftermath: Forming a Government](#)

Please select which parties you want to appear in your simulation

- [Party 1](#)
- [Party 2](#)
- [Party 3](#)
- [Party 4](#)
- [Party 5](#)
- [Party 6](#)
- [Party 7](#)

[Save Your Simulation](#) [Cancel](#)



To add the party or module to an existing simulation, click on the edit button next to the simulation. You can always add more parties and modules to a simulation.

6. Is this compatible with my LMS?

There is not currently a course cartridge available for the simulation.