

The European Union has faced ongoing crisis since 2010, now worsened by the threat of disintegration posed by Brexit. Professor Magnus Ryner presents some of the key themes from his book, co-authored with Alan Cafruny, which addresses the historical development of the EU and its position within global capitalism, and the way in which this has resulted in crisis. The book focuses on a number of questions central to contemporary Europe: Does the EU help or hinder Europe's 'social models' to face the challenges of globalization? Does the EU represent a break from Europe's imperial past? What were the causes of the Eurozone crisis?

The talk will be especially interesting for those wanting to hear about political economy, Europe, capitalism, and the current crisis - i.e. how we got in the mess that we are in.

Professor Magnus Ryner is Professor of International Political Economy and Head of Department in King's College London's Department of European & International Studies. He is a leading critical political economist and has focused in recent years on European integration, European Monetary Union and the Eurozone crisis. He has recently published *The European Union and Global Capitalism*, and before that, *Europe at Bay: In the Shadow of US Hegemony* (2007), and *Capitalist Restructuring, Globalisation and the Third Way: Lessons from the Swedish Model* (2002). His work on the Euro can justifiably claim to have predicted exactly the problems and crisis that the Euro would face, ahead of the Eurozone crisis. He has also published a number of important articles advocating and developing a critical and heterodox political economy, in the *Journal of European Public Policy*, *Journal of Common Market Studies*, *New Political Economy*, and *Millennium*. He was also, at an earlier time, lecturer in POLSIS at the University of Birmingham.

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All welcome!