

**The Special Relationship in search of a grand strategy. The United Kingdom, the United States and transatlantic relations**

The United Kingdom and the United States share a common history, they speak a common language and they are both inspired by liberal values. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century they fought together against German-led alliances in the First World War, and against Hitler's Germany and the Axis powers in World War II. They established intimate ties, and they are even today, after the British decision to leave the EU, still considered to be closer than any other countries in our times.

The seminar will look at the development of the *Special Relationship* in the Cold War period and thereafter, in order to identify lasting trends and predict future developments and how the relationship between the US and the UK will influence the future course of the world in which we live.

The seminar requests extensive readings. The course will break up into 5 to 7 sub-groups, in order to concentrate in greater detail on aspects of Anglo-American relations in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

*Seminar dates:* There will be an introductory session on **Thursday, September 8 at from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.**, a session on **Friday, September 9, from 2 to 5 p.m.**, and there will be a session with a guest speaker (Ambassador Prof. J.D. Bindenagel, University of Bonn), on **Saturday, September 10, from 9.30 to 5.30pm**. The regular seminar will be held on a **fortnightly basis on Mondays, from 5.45 to 7.15 pm, starting September 12.**

*Grading:* The final grade is composed of the final results of the written exam (120 min) in January 2017 (75%) , and the group work (25%) .

*Grading policies:*

There is no curve in this course. All superior work will receive a grade in the “5” range; all meritorious work will receive a grade in the “4” range; adequate (without marked merit or defect) work will receive a grade in the “3” range; work with significant flaws, but still worthy of credit will receive a grade in the “2” range, as well as recommendations or requirements to meet with me ; and incompetent, negligent, or non-existent work will receive a “1” grade.

*Group work:*

The Group project and your active participation in the seminar will count for 25 per cent of your grade.

You will form small groups within the seminar and present case studies:

You will have to prepare a short group briefing paper and an in-class presentation.

Submissions should include your proposed research questions, proposed methodology and a detailed list of primary sources to be used.

The results of the group work will be presented by each group on Monday, Sept. 26 already. It is requested that any participant will communicate in hierarchical order three priorities of the groups he/she wants to participate in, by September 7th, 10 am. The final group lists will be communicated by 8 September.

*Topics for group work:*

A: South Asia and Anglo-American relations

B: Africa and Anglo-American relations

C: The Middle East and Anglo-American relations

D: The Pacific and Anglo-American relations

E: The China problem and Anglo-American relations

F: The military relationship between the United States and the United Kingdom

G: Nuclear weapons and Anglo-American relations

H: The World Trading System and Anglo-American relations

Recommended reading list:

Bose, Meena and Rosanna Perotti (eds), *From Cold War to New World Order. The Foreign Policy of George H.W. Bush*, Westport CT 2002.

Charmley, John, *Churchill's Grand Alliance. The Anglo-American Special Relationship 1940-57*, New York et alt. 1996.

Dickie, John, "Special" no more. *Anglo-American Relations: Rhetoric and Reality*, London 1995.

Dimbleby, David and David Reynolds, *An Ocean Apart. The Relationship between Britain and America in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century*, London et alt. 1989.

Eden, Anthony, *Full Circle*, London 1960.

Eisenhower, Dwight D., *The White House Years: Mandate for change, 1953-1956*, 1963.  
Id., *The White House Years: Waging peace, 1956-1961*, 1961.

Gaddis, John Lewis, *The Cold War*, New York 2005.

Gilbert, Martin, *Winston Churchill Vol. VIII: Never despair, 1945-1965*, Hillsdale 2013.

Gowing, Margaret, *Britain and atomic energy*, London 1964.

Haig, Alexander, *Caveat: Realism, Reagan and Foreign Policy*, New York 1984.

Harper, John Lamberton, *The Cold War*, Oxford 2011.

Hogan, Michael J. (ed.), *The End of the Cold War. Its Meanings and Implications*, Cambridge 1992.

Kissinger, Henry, *White House years*, New York 1979.

Id., *World Order*, New York 2014.

Louis, WM. Roger and Hedley Bull (eds), *The "Special Relationship". Anglo-American Relations since 1945*, Oxford 1986.

Macmillan, Harold, 2 vols: *Tides of Fortune, 1945-55*, London 1969;  
Id., *Riding the storm 1956-1959*, London 1961

Owen, David, *Time to declare*, London 1992.

Reagan, Ronald, *An American Life*, reprint 2013.

Reynolds, David, *The creation of the Anglo-American alliance, 1937-1941*, 1981.

Roberts, Frank, *Dealing with Dictators*, London 1991.

Simms, Brendan, *Europe: The struggle for supremacy, 1453 to the present*, London 2013.

Thatcher, Margaret, *Downing Street Years*, London 1993.

Watt, Donald Cameron, *Succeeding John Bull. America in Britain's place 1900-1975*, Cambridge 1984 (reprint 2008).

*Seminar structure:*

1. The Anglo-American wartime alliance and what remains after the War.
2. Suez 1956: Tensions and disagreements
3. The Macmillan-Kennedy years
4. The transformation of the Commonwealth and the Special Relationship
5. The Reagan-Thatcher years
6. Unfinished business: Peace for the Balkans and the Anglo-American relationship in the 1990s
7. After 09/11: War on terror and the Afghanistan and Iraq wars
8. The decision to go to war on Libya and Operation Unified Protector: A defence relationship
9. Where do we go from here?: the United States and the United Kingdom in search of international order.