Anglo-American Relations in the 20th and 21st Centuries: A ‘Special Relationship’?
ADHS1168.01

Four Credit Course
Fall 2017 Semester, September 2 – December 16
Saturday 9 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.

Instructor: Michael Paul
Class Location: TBA
Class Time: Saturday 9.00-12.00 p.m.
Office Location: Haley House 175
Office Hours: S 12.00-1.00 p.m. and by appointment
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Boston College Mission Statement
Strengthened by more than a century and a half of dedication to academic excellence, Boston College commits itself to the highest standards of teaching and research in undergraduate, graduate and professional programs and the pursuit of a just society through its own accomplishments, the work of its faculty and staff, and the achievements of its graduates. It seeks both to advance its place among the nations finest universities and to bring to the company of its distinguished peers and to contemporary society the richness of the Catholic intellectual ideal of a mutually illuminating relationship between religious faith and free intellectual inquiry.

Boston College draws inspiration for academic societal mission from its distinctive religious tradition. As a Catholic and Jesuit university, it is rooted in a world view that encounters God in all creation and through all human activity, especially in the search for truth in every discipline, in the desire to learn, and in the call to live justly together. In this spirit, the University regards the contribution of different religious traditions and value systems as essential to the fullness of its intellectual life and the continuous development of its distinctive intellectual heritage.

Course Description
Course examines the actions of Anglo-American relations in a global context during key events of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, including World War I, World War Two, the Cold War, and the recent wars in the Middle East, to discover whether or not the U.S. and Britain followed parallel policies on the world stage based on an idea of a ‘Special Relationship’.

Methodology
This course will examine the major events that affected Britain and the United States in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. We shall be looking to see if the two countries enjoyed a ‘special relationship’ during this time. We will test the hypothesis that Britain and the U.S. acted in concert throughout this period as a result of the existence of a ‘special relationship’. We will also examine the other side of the coin: the theory that Britain and the U.S. did not, and have never, enjoyed a ‘special relationship’. Throughout the course, our main aim will be to discover why Britain and the United States have often followed parallel paths during the twentieth century and into the twenty-first century.
Textbooks and Readings (Required)


Textbooks and Readings (Recommended)

Canvas
Canvas is the Learning Management System (LMS) at Boston College, designed to help faculty and students share ideas, collaborate on assignments, discuss course readings and materials, submit assignments, and much more— all online. As a Boston College student, you should familiarize yourself with this important tool. For more information and training resources for using Canvas, please click here.

Course Objectives
1) Students will demonstrate knowledge, skill, and competency across cultural settings, and will learn the impact of culture, gender, and age in twentieth and twenty-first century U.S. and British history as demonstrated by written and oral presentations.
2) Students will demonstrate ethical knowledge, skill, and competency in twentieth and twenty-first century U.S. and British history as demonstrated by written and oral presentations.
3) Students will be able to communicate effectively, orally and in writing.
4) Students will be able to apply an ethical framework to the interpretation of historical events.

Criteria For Grading
Grading will include the assignment of plus and minus grades at the transition lines with the exception of ‘A+’, which is not assigned at Boston College. In general terms, students will be assessed according to the following criteria:
‘A’: Course requirements fulfilled. Material handled cogently and reflectively, and characterized by creative insights.
‘B’: Course requirements fulfilled. Material handled cogently and reflectively.
‘C’: Course requirements fulfilled. Adequate understanding of material demonstrated.
‘D’: Work submitted, but poorly prepared, reflecting inadequate effort and/or understanding.
‘F’: Irresponsible behavior. Work not submitted, or not seriously attempted.

The Undergraduate Grading System for Woods College of Advancing Studies (WCAS) students is as follows:
A (4.00); A- (3.67)
B+ (3.33); B (3.00); B- (2.67)
C+ (2.33); C (2.00); C- (1.67)
D+ (1.33); D (1.00); D- (0.67)
F (0.00)

Grade Reports
All students can access Final Grades through Agora after the grading deadline each semester. Students who complete course evaluations can access grades earlier, as they are posted.

Deadlines and Late Work
Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the specified dates. Late assignments will be graded accordingly.
In this class, penalties for late assignments will be assessed according to the following schedule: one third of a letter grade per missed class until the assignment is handed in.
Course Assignments

Anglo-American Relations in the 20th and 21st Centuries is assessed as a Four Credit course of Instructor-led time. As such, students and faculty will engage in specific, out-of-class, activities that will meet the requirements of Four Credit courses. In general, it is expected that eight hours per week of your study time will be spent on out-of-class assignments and exercises. These are listed below. Please note that some weeks will require more time and some less time, but the average is approximately eight hours per week over the semester. In addition to the Course Requirements specified below, students will be expected to complete the following out-of-class assignments:

Journals (Three)
Your Journals will consist of an analysis of the reading that you have done up to the point that each Journal is due. For each Journal, you should include a short narrative pertaining to the information that you have read in the textbook(s), have written in your notes, or have taken from class lectures and discussion (this should be two-to-three paragraphs in length). You should then provide an analysis of this information in order to demonstrate your level of understanding of the topic under discussion (this should be three-to-four paragraphs in length.

In total, your Journals should be three-to-four pages in length.

Journal Assignment 1
Begin Date: Sept 2
Topic: Presidential Power in U.S.
Exercise: Journal: Notes on U.S. Constitution re: Separation of Powers
Due Date: Sept 30

Journal Assignment 2
Begin Date: Sept 2
Topic: Prime Ministerial Power in Britain
Exercise: Journal: Notes on differing powers of: Prime Minister, Parliament, and the Crown
Due Date: Nov 4

Journal Assignment 3
Begin Date: Sept 2
Topic: Presidential Power versus Prime Ministerial Power
Exercise: Journal: Compare and Contrast the two forms of power
Due Date: Dec 02

These are intended to be informative, interesting, and fun assignments. You should be working on these assignments throughout the semester. As you complete your required readings each week, I would like you to be thinking about how the roles of the U.S. President and the British Prime Minister are similar, and yet, at the same time, are very different. Which position affords the office holder more power? Why is this so? What are the advantages/disadvantages inherent in each system of power? These are the kinds of questions I would like you think about as you keep your journals. For Journal 3, you should bring together all of your research to provide an analysis of the two roles in order to demonstrate your understanding of the differences and similarities present in each position.

Each Journal assignment should be three-to-four pages in length, typed, and double-spaced in a reasonably large font (Times New Roman 12 or equivalent).

Semester Essay
You will be given a prompt for the Semester Essay. You will be given further instructions as to the best approach to take in the completion of this Semester Essay as the course progresses.

Comments: Written Work and Discussion Portfolio
Each class meeting will consist of a combination of lectures and discussion. Class participation is a major part of this course. Therefore, you should plan on attending every class. Discussion will be based around
the main themes put forward within the week’s assigned readings of the text(s), as well as on video, streaming, and other multi-media options as appropriate.

As stated above: You will be graded according to the level and quality of your oral and written contributions to class.

To help stimulate discussion, you will be asked to complete Discussion Topic Sheets, assigned by the Instructor, for each Discussion. These Discussion Topic Sheets, constituting a Discussion Portfolio, will be collected at the Final Exam. They will represent the concrete element of your class performance during the Discussion aspects of the course.

Requirements

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td>(30%)</td>
<td>Oct 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semester Essay</td>
<td>(20%)</td>
<td>Nov 18</td>
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<td>Journal One</td>
<td>(5%)</td>
<td>Sept 30</td>
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<td>Journal Two</td>
<td>(5%)</td>
<td>Oct 28</td>
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<td>Journal Three</td>
<td>(5%)</td>
<td>Dec 02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>(5%)</td>
<td>Dec 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>(30%)</td>
<td>Dec 16</td>
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Class Schedule

Sept 2     Introduction  
Aims of the Course  
Discussion of books to be used  
Methodology  
History of Anglo-American Relations up to C20

Sept 09    1898: America enters the world stage  
Britain and Imperialism  
Read: Jones, Ch. 1; Reynolds, Introduction and Ch. 1

Sept 16    Goliaths of the New Century  
Read: Jones, Ch. 2; Reynolds, Ch.2

Sept 23    America, Britain, and World War One  
Read: Jones, Ch. 3; Reynolds, Ch. 3

Sept 30    World War One: Consequences  
_DUE: JOURNAL ONE_  
Read: Jones, Ch.4; Reynolds, Ch. 4

Oct 07     Versailles Peace Treaty: Who Benefits?  
Read: Jones, Ch.4; Reynolds, Ch. 3

Oct 14     Political and Economic Rivalry in the 1920s  
Read: Jones, Ch.5; Reynolds, Ch.5

Oct 21     MID-TERM EXAM (NINETY MINUTES)  
New Threats: Crisis of the 1930s  
Read: Jones, Ch. 6; Reynolds, Ch.5 (Reprise)

_N.B.: The Mid-Term Exam will take the form of either an In-Class Exam or a Take-Home Exam, depending upon the progression of class material to this point._
Oct 28  America, Britain, and World War Two: Here we go again? 
Read: Jones, Ch. 7; Reynolds, Ch. 6  
*DUE: JOURNAL TWO*

Nov 04  World War Two: The Grand Alliance  
FDR and Churchill: Special Relationship?  
Read: Jones, Ch. 8; Reynolds, Ch. 6

Nov 11  Cold War: A New Alliance  
Read: Jones, Chs. 9 and 11; Reynolds, Ch. 7

Nov 18  New Strains in the Alliance: Suez and Vietnam  
JFK and MacMillan: The Avuncular relationship?  
Read: Jones, Chs. 12-13; Reynolds, Ch. 8  
*DUE: SEMESTER ESSAY*

Nov 25  Thanksgiving Holiday: No Class

Dec 2  Divergence in the 1970s; Convergence in the 1980s  
Reagan and Thatcher: Meeting of the Minds?  
Read: Jones, Ch. 16; Reynolds, Chs. 9-10  
*DUE: JOURNAL THREE*

Dec 09  Coming Together Again  
Bush/Blair; Obama/Cameron: Special or Essential?  
Trump/May: The New Relationship  
Read: Jones, Chs. 17-18; Reynolds, Ch. 11 and Conclusion

Dec 16  Final Exam

**Written Work**  
Graduate and Undergraduate students are expected to prepare professional, polished, written work. Written materials must be typed in the format required by your instructor. Strive for a thorough, yet concise style. Cite literature appropriately, using Chicago style. Develop your thought fully, clearly, logically, and specifically. Proofread all materials to ensure the use of proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling. You are encouraged to make use of campus resources for refining writing skills as needed ([http://www.bc.edu/libraries/help/tutoring.html](http://www.bc.edu/libraries/help/tutoring.html)).

**Attendance**  
Attending class is an important component of learning. Students are expected to attend all class sessions. When circumstances prevent a student from attending class, the student is responsible for contacting the Instructor before class meets. Students who miss class are still expected to complete all assignments and meet class deadlines. Many Instructors grade for participation; if you miss class, you cannot make up participation points associated with that class. Make-up work may be assigned at the discretion of the Instructor. If circumstances necessitate excessive absence from class, the student should consider withdrawing from the class.

For this class, Anglo-American relations in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, ADHS 116801, two or more unexplained absences from class might seriously affect your participation grade.

Consistent with BC’s commitment to creating an academic community that is respectful of persons of differing backgrounds, we believe that every reasonable effort should be made to allow members of the university community to observe their religious holidays without jeopardizing their academic status. Students are responsible for reviewing the course syllabus as soon as possible, and for communicating with the Instructor promptly regarding any possible conflicts with Observed religious holidays. Students are responsible for completing all class requirements for days missed due to conflicts with religious holidays.
**Accommodation and Accessibility**
Boston College is committed to providing accommodations to students, faculty, staff and visitors with disabilities. Specific documentation from the appropriate office is required for students seeking accommodation in Woods College courses. Advanced notice and formal registration with the appropriate office is required to facilitate this process. There are two separate offices at BC that coordinate services for students with disabilities.
The Connors Family Learning Center (CFLC) coordinates services for students with LD and ADHD. The Disabilities Services Office (DSO) coordinates services for all other disabilities.

**Scholarship and Academic Integrity**
Students in Woods College courses must produce original work and cite references appropriately. Failure to reference properly is plagiarism. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not necessarily limited to, plagiarism, fabrication, facilitating academic honesty, cheating on exams or assignments, or submitting the same material or substantially similar material to meet the requirements of more than one course without seeking permission of all Instructors concerned. Scholastic misconduct may also involve, but is not necessarily limited to, acts that violate the rights of other students, such as depriving another student of course materials, or interfering with another student’s work. Please see Boston College policy on academic integrity for more information.

http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/schools/advstudies/guide/academicinteg.html