**American Studies 450: Special Topics in American Studies**  
**Political Science 595 Readings & Problems in Political Science**

**Winston Churchill and America: The Enduring Legacy**  
*A companion course to the Howard Baker Center – Churchill Archives Center Conference*

**Instructor:** Dr. Michael R. Fitzgerald  
**Spring 2006** Tuesday & Thursday @ 3:40 – 4:55 pm; FH 502  
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**Overview**

This seminar is intended for students with an interest in international affairs. No background in American Studies, Political Science, History, or international relations is assumed or required. Students simply must be highly motivated and academically ambitious. In addition to reading extensively about Churchill’s career and legacy in international affairs, students are required to undertake a term project in consultation with the instructor. This project will be tailored to the interests and needs of individual students. The instructor will help students prepare appropriate petitions to suit specific academic needs; e.g., apply it to a major/minor or as an Arts and Sciences Upper-Level Distribution, U.S. or Foreign Studies (writing emphasis) course. It is available for “Honors by Contract.”

In March of 2006 the Howard Baker Center for Public Policy at the University of Tennessee and the Churchill Archives Centre at Cambridge, UK will jointly sponsor an international conference on “The United States and Britain: The Legacy of Winston S. Churchill’s Atlantic Alliance.” This event will commemorate the 60th Anniversary of Churchill’s famous 5 March 1946 Iron Curtain Speech at Fulton, Missouri. Distinguished figures from the US and UK will gather to celebrate the life and legacy of one of the greatest leaders of the 20th Century. This remarkable event is certain to attract international attention to the University of Tennessee and is an opportunity to forge a long-term relationship between the UT and Churchill College, Cambridge.

To integrate this momentous event into the academic life of the University of Tennessee, the American Studies Program and the Political Science Department are offering this companion seminar to the conference. A critical course component will be student attendance at the international conference and the production of a précis of its major issues. Thus, in addition to our sponsored guest speakers, seminar members will have direct access to prominent American and international figures from academe and government to enrich their educational experience.
Seminar Goals

- To provide an in-depth examination of Sir Winston S. Churchill’s life and its contribution to the Anglo-American relationship that he endeavored so energetically to nurture;

- Systematically to explore the impact of the Anglo-American alliance on the Cold War and the contemporary implications of the special relationship for the global war on terror—emphasizing the current situation in the Middle East and its implications for the future of the Atlantic alliance;

- To prepare students for further study and writing on international affairs with a focus on the Atlantic Alliance; e.g., study abroad at the Churchill Archives and at Churchill College. It is expected that this seminar will provide the foundation for College Scholars and University Honors senior projects involving study abroad, MA & Ph.D. theses based on field work abroad—especially at the Churchill Archives Centre. Hopefully, this seminar will provide a foundation and encouragement for students to apply for Truman, Marshall, NEH, and NSF proposals to support study abroad in international affairs.

- To facilitate a focused interaction between current international students interested in American Studies and UT students interested in international affairs that broadens the perspectives of both groups on pressing global issues.

Textbooks

Required (these volumes are the focus of seminar discussions):

- Winston S. Churchill (ed.), *Never Give In!: The Best of Winston Churchill’s Speeches* (Hyperion, 2004)

Recommended (these volumes provide background to the seminar & conference):


**Also Recommended** (major works by Winston Churchill currently in print in paperback)

• *The River War* (Alan Rodgers Books)

• *The Story of the Malakand Field Force* (Alan Rodgers Books)

• *The World Crisis* (Simon & Schuster)

• *The Second World War* (6-volumes, Houghton Mifflin Company)

• *A History of the English Speaking Peoples* (6-volumes, Barnes and Noble Books)

**Seminar Projects**

Early in the semester students will meet with Dr. Fitzgerald to design a term project that meets their individual interests and needs. This might could a traditional term paper related to the issues and themes studied during the semester. The guiding principle here is flexibility. International students, for example, commonly are expected by their home university to undertake field work research while in America--this could be a term project. This research is not expected to result in a finished paper, but would produce the material upon which a thesis later is written at the home school. Alternatively, international students interested in returning to the U.S. for graduate work might well investigate appropriate programs and develop a plan for securing admission and funding. University Honors students and College Scholars must produce a senior project to complete their programs. The seminar project could be the development of a prospectus for this work with a detailed plan for its execution. Graduate students might
undertake projects to develop thesis and dissertation proposals--including a search for funding for travel and fieldwork. Advanced Ph.D. students might search for Post Doctoral opportunities abroad. All students will be strongly encouraged to undertake work with an international focus and to investigate opportunities for study abroad. During the semester, students will regularly consult with the instructor on their project. At the end of the term students will present a project report to the class and submit a written report for evaluation.

Seminar Evaluations

Seminar members are evaluated based on the quality of their performances through the semester with regard to: weekly session discussions; execution of reading and presentation assignments; an oral and written presentation of the seminar project. The approximate weight assigned for each performance element in the assignment of a final seminar grade is: weekly sessions--10%; reading/presentation assignments--10%; oral presentation of paper (30%); final written paper (50%). The instructor reserves the right to schedule an out of class final examination with 2-weeks advance notice.