

MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
FALL 2006-07
COURSE LEADER: DIMITRIS TSAROUHAS

IR 435 **British Foreign Policy**

Course Description

This course provides an insight to British Foreign Policy. Spanning the period from the spread of the British Empire to the present day, this module seeks to offer an overview of British foreign policy by concentrating on: a) the major actors involved b) the institutional and historical context of decision-making, and c) the relationship between domestic political factors and foreign policy initiatives/decisions. Particular emphasis will be placed on the period after 1945.

The module covers six thematic issues: 1) the Rise and Decline of the British Empire, 2) Decolonization and its Aftermath, 3) Anglo-American relations, 4) Britain in Europe, 5) Defence and Security Policy, 6) Foreign Policy and Domestic Factors. Two weeks' lectures will be devoted to each thematic issue. Efforts will be made to allocate time for debate at the end of each lecture – student participation is strongly encouraged.

Course Objectives

The objective of this module is to introduce students to the main tenets of British foreign policy and familiarize them with the main policy issues involved. This will enhance their understanding of the international system and its historical structures, and allow them to contextualize already accumulated knowledge regarding British foreign policy endeavours.

By the end of the course, students are expected to be able and: 1) demonstrate knowledge of Britain's key foreign policy decisions and initiatives, 2) understand the link between foreign policy decisions and domestic influences, 3) differentiate between British foreign policy and that of other major players in the international scene (e.g. US, Russia, France).

Course Evaluation

Students will be evaluated on the basis of a mid-term unseen exam and a final exam. Absence from more than 3 lectures will incur a penalty of 20% of the overall grade. Both exams will have equal (i.e. 50%) value.

Course Schedule

Week 1: Introduction
Week 2: The Rise of the Empire
Week 3: Decline and fall
Week 4: Decolonization
Week 5: Britain and the Commonwealth

Week 6: Anglo-American relations I
Week 7: Anglo-American relations II: A 'Special Relationship'?
Week 8: Mid-term exam
Week 9: Britain and Europe I
Week 10: Britain and Europe II
Week 11: Defence and Security Policy I
Week 12: Defence and Security Policy II
Week 13: Domestic issues in British foreign policy
Week 14: Concluding lecture, Q&A session

Recommended Reading

Students are advised to purchase or photocopy one or more of the following books. They provide a good overview of the module's main themes.

- Lowe, J. (1998) *Britain and Foreign Affairs, 1815-1885: Europe and Overseas* London: Routledge
- Lee, S.J. (1996) *Aspects of British Political History, 1914-1995* London: Routledge

Reading List

Weeks 2 and 3: The Rise, Decline and Fall of Empire

- Lowe, J. (1998) *Britain and Foreign Affairs, 1815-1885: Europe and Overseas* London: Routledge
- Dupont, C. (2003) History and Coalitions: The Vienna Congress (1814-1815) *International Negotiation* 8, 169-178
- Johnson, R. (2003) *British Imperialism* Palgrave: McMillan
- Karatani, R. (2002) *Defining British Citizenship: Empire, Commonwealth and Modern Britain* London: Frank Caas
- Kent, M. (1996) *Great Powers and the end of the Ottoman Empire* London: Frank Caas
- Krozewski, G. (2001) *Money and the End of Empire: British International Economic Policy and the Colonies, 1947-58* Palgrave: McMillan
- McKercher, B.J. (1999) *Transition of Power: Britain's Loss of Global Preeminence to the United States, 1930-45* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Lee, S.J. (1996) *Aspects of British Political History, 1914-1995* (chapters 2 and 8) London: Routledge
- Mahajan, S. (2002) *British Foreign Policy, 1874-1914: The Role of India* London: Routledge
- Wallace, W. (1991) Foreign Policy and National Identity in the United Kingdom *International Affairs* 67 (1): 65-80
- Parker, R.A.C. (1975) Economics, Rearmament and Foreign Policy: The United Kingdom Before 1939 – A Preliminary Study *Journal of Contemporary History*, 10 (4): 637-647
- O'Brien, P.K. (1988) The Political Economy of British Taxation, 1660-1815 *The Economic History Review*, 41 (1): 1-32
- Anderson, O. (1971) The Growth of Christian Militarism in Mid-Victorian Britain *The English Historical Review*, 86 (338): 46-72

Weeks 4 and 5: Decolonization and the Commonwealth

- Sanders, D (1990) *Losing an Empire, Finding a Role* Palgrave: McMillan
- Gardiner, M. (2004) A 'light to the world': British devolution and colonial vision, *Interventions*, 6(2): 264-281
- Connell, L. (2004) Scottish nationalism and the colonial vision of Scotland, *Interventions* 6(2): 252-263
- Kent, M. (1996) Great Britain and the End of the Ottoman Empire, 1900-1923 in Kent, M. (ed.) *Great Powers and the End of the Ottoman Empire* London: Frank Caas pp. 165-198
- Williams, R. (2003) A state of permanent exception: the birth of modern policing in colonial capitalism, *Interventions* 5(3): 322-344
- Fisher, A.G.B. (1944) The Commonwealth's Place in the World Economic Structure *International Affairs* 20(1): 32-42
- Land, I. (2001) Customs of the Sea: Flogging, Empire, and 'the true British Seaman' 1770 to 1870 *Interventions* 3(2): 169-185
- Sartre, J-P. (2001) Colonialism is a system *Interventions* 3(1): 127-140
- McIntyre, W.D. (1987) *The Commonwealth of Nations: Origins and Impact, 1869-1971* Minnesota: University of Minnesota Press
- Rattansi, A. (2000) On Being and Not Being Brown Black/British: Racism, Class, Sexuality and Ethnicity in Post-imperial Britain *Interventions* 2(1): 118-134
- During, S. (1998) Postcolonialism and globalization: a dialectical relation after all? *Postcolonial Studies* 1(1): 31-47
- Subrahmanyam, G. (2006) Ruling continuities: Colonial rule, social forces and path dependence in British India and Africa *Commonwealth and Comparative Politics* 44(1): 66-92
- Ross, K. (2001) The Commonwealth: working at diplomacy *Commonwealth and Comparative Politics* 39(3): 95-131
- Drawin, J. (2004) Imperial Twilight, or When Did the Empire End? in *Canada and the End of Empire* P. Buckner (ed.) Toronto: UBC Press, pp. 15-24

Weeks 6 and 7: Anglo-American relations and the 'Special Relationship'

- Dumbrell, J. (2001) *A Special relationship: Anglo-American Relations in the Cold War and After* Basingstoke: McMillan
- Bartlett, C.J. (1992) *The Special Relationship – A Political History of Anglo-American Relations since 1945* London: Longman
- Dobson, A. (2005) *Anglo-American relations in the Twentieth Century: The Politics and Diplomacy of Superpowers* London: Routledge
- Harbutt, F. (1988) *Iron Curtain: Churchill, America and the Origins of the Cold War* Oxford: Oxford University Press
- McKercher, B. (1999) *Transition of Power: Britain's loss of global Preeminence to the United States, 1930-45* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Gamble, A. (2003) *Between Europe and America: the future of British Politics* Basingstoke: Palgrave
- Evans, E.J. (1997) *Thatcher and Thatcherism* London: Routledge (ch.8)
- Buckner, P. (2004) *Canada and the End of Empire* Toronto: UBC Press (ch.5)

- Hopkins, M.F. (ed.) (2003) *Cold War Britain, 1945-1964: New Perspectives* London: Palgrave (chs.1-2, 10, 12-13)
- Azubuike, S. (2003) Still Buying Insurance: The Realism Behind Tony Blair's Post-September 11 Evangelization *The Review of International Affairs* 3(1): 64-80
- Dobson, A.P. (1997) Informally Special? The Churchill-Truman talks of 1952 and the state of Anglo-American relations, *Review of International Studies* 23, 27-47
- Aldrich, R.J. (1998) British Intelligence and the Anglo-American 'Special Relationship' during the Cold War, *Review of International Studies* 24, 331-351
- Marsh, S. (1998) The Special relationship and the Anglo-Iranian Oil Crisis, 1950-4, *Review of International Studies* 24, 529-544
- Scott-Smith, G. (2006) Searching for the Successor Generation: Public Diplomacy, the US Embassy's International Visitor Program and the Labour Party in the 1980s, *British Journal of Politics and International Relations* 8, 214-237
- Harris, R. (2002) The State of the Special Relationship, *Policy Review Online* June-July, 113
- Cook, R. (2004) 'The Special relationship has become a national delusion' *Guardian* 12 November 2004
- Freedman, L.D. (2006) The Special Relationship, Then and Now *Foreign Affairs* 85(3): xx
- Reynolds, D. (1989) Rethinking Anglo-American relations *International Affairs* 65(1): 89-111
- Ashton, N.J. (2005) Harold Macmillan and the "Golden Days" of Anglo-American Relations Revisited, 1957-63, *Diplomatic History*, 29(4): 691-723

Weeks 9 and 10: Britain and Europe

- Lowe, J. (1998) *Britain and Foreign Affairs, 1815-1885: Europe and Overseas* London: Routledge
- George, S. (1998) *An Awkward partner: Britain in the European Community* (3rd ed.) Oxford: Oxford University Press
- Brivati, B. and Jones, H. (eds.) (1993) *From Reconstruction to Integration: Britain and Europe since 1945* Leicester: Leicester University Press
- Bulmer, S., George, S. and Scott, A. (eds.) (1992) *The United Kingdom and EC Membership Evaluated* London: Pinter
- Eltis, W. (2000) *Britain, Europe and EMU* London: Palgrave
- Gowland, D. and Turner, A. (2000) *Reluctant Europeans* London: Longman
- George, S. and Bache, I. (2000): 'Britain and the European Structural Funds: the Politics of Semi-Detachment?', *Current Politics and Economics of Europe* 9 (3): 361-376
- Wright, J. (2000) The Cold War, European Community and Anglo-French Relations, 1958-1998 in *Anglo-French Relations in the Twentieth Century* Glyn, S. (ed.) London: Routledge pp. 324-344
- Lee, S.J. (1996) *Aspects of British Political History, 1914-1995* London: Routledge (ch.19)
- Hopkins, M.F. (ed.) (2003) *Cold War Britain, 1945-1964: New Perspectives* London: Palgrave (ch.6-7, 9)
- Evans, E.J. (1997) *Thatcher and Thatcherism* London: Routledge (ch.7)
- Smith, J. (2005) *A missed opportunity? New Labour's European Foreign Policy 1997-2005* *International Affairs* 81(4): 703-721

- Garton Ash, T. (2001) Is Britain European? *International Affairs* 77(1): 1-13
- Wheeler, N.J. and Dunne, T. (1998) Good international citizenship: a third way for British Foreign Policy *International Affairs* 74(4): 847-870
- Dalton, R.J. and Duval, R. (1986) The Political Environment and Foreign Policy Opinions: British Attitudes towards European Integration, 1972-1979 *British Journal of Political Science* 16(1): 113-134
- Aspinwall, M. (2003) Odd man out: rethinking British policy on European monetary integration *Review of International Studies* 29, 341-364
- Baker, D., Gamble, A. and Seawright, D. (2002) Sovereign nations and global markets: modern British Conservatism and hyperglobalism *British Journal of Politics and International Relations* 4(3): 399-428

Weeks 11 and 12: Defence and Security Policy

- Buller, J. (2001) New Labour's Foreign and Defence Policy: External Support Structures and Domestic Politics in *New Labour in Government* Ludlam, S. and Smith, M.J. (eds.) Basingstoke: McMillan, pp.219-233
- Lee, S.J. (1996) *Aspects of British Political History, 1914-1995* London: Routledge (chs.17-18)
- White, B. (1992) *Britain, Détente and Changing East-West relations* London: Routledge
- Croft, S. (ed.) (1991) *British Security Policy: The Thatcher Years and the End of the Cold War* London: Harper Collins
- Speller, I. (2003) Defence or Deterrence? The Royal Navy and the Cold War, 1945-1955 in *Cold War Britain, 1945-1964: New Perspectives* Hopkins, M.F. (ed.) Basingstoke: Palgrave pp. 97-110
- Dockrill, M. (1988) *British Defence Since 1945* London: Blackwell
- Longden, M.A.L. From 'Hot War' to 'Cold War': Western Europe in British Grand Strategy, 1945-1948 in *Cold War Britain, 1945-1964: New Perspectives* Hopkins, M.F. (ed.) Basingstoke: Palgrave pp. 111-126
- Harbutt, F. (1988) *Iron Curtain: Churchill, America and the Origins of the Cold War* Oxford: Oxford University Press
- Epstein, L.D. (1960) Partisan Foreign Policy: Britain in the Suez Crisis *World Politics* 12(2): 201-224
- Evans, E.J. (1997) *Thatcher and Thatcherism* London: Routledge (ch.8)
- Curtis, M. (2004) Britain's Real Foreign Policy and the Failure of British Academia *International Relations* 18(3): 275-287
- Parker, R.A.C. (1975) Economics, Rearmament and Foreign Policy: The United Kingdom Before 1939 – A Preliminary Study *Journal of Contemporary History* 10(4): 637-647
- Dixon, R. and Williams, P. (2001) Tough on Debt, Tough on the Causes of Debt? New Labour's Third Way foreign policy *British Journal of Politics and International Relations* 3(2): 150-172
- Vickers, R. (2004) The New Public Diplomacy: Britain and Canada Compared *British Journal of Politics and International Relations* 6(2): 182-194
- Dover, R. (2005) The Prime Minister and the Core Executive: A Liberal Intergovernmentalist Reading of UK Defence Policy Formulation 1997-2000 *British Journal of Politics and International Relations* 5(4): 508-525

Week 13: Domestic issues in British Foreign Policy

- Stone, G. (2000) *Anglo-French relations in the Twentieth Century* London: Routledge
- Lee, S.J. (1996) *Aspects of British Political History, 1914-1995* London: Routledge
- White, B. (1992) *Britain, Détente and Changing East-West relations* London: Routledge (ch.4)
- Hopkins, M.F. (2003) Herbert Morrison, the Cold war and Anglo-American relations, 1945-1951 in Hopkins, M.F. (ed.) *Cold War Britain: 1945-1964: New Perspectives* Basingstoke: Palgrave, pp. 17-29
- Kandiah, M.D. (2003) The Conservative Party and the Early Cold War: The Construction of 'New' Conservatism in Hopkins, M.F. (ed.) *Cold War Britain: 1945-1964: New Perspectives* Basingstoke: Palgrave, pp. 30-40
- Karatani, R. (2002) *Defining British Citizenship: Empire, Commonwealth and Modern Britain* London: Frank Caas
- Evans, E.J. (1997) *Thatcher and Thatcherism* London: Routledge (chs.1-6)
- McKercher, B. (1999) *Transition of Power: Britain's loss of global Preeminence to the United States, 1930-45* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (ch.9)
- Wallace, W. (2005) The collapse of British foreign policy *International Affairs* 82(1): 53-68
- Williams, P. (2004) Who's making UK foreign policy? *International Affairs* 80(5): 909-929
- Baker, D., Gamble, A. and Seawright, D. (2002) Sovereign nations and global markets: modern British Conservatism and hyperglobalism *British Journal of Politics and International Relations* 4(3): 399-428
- Curtis, M. (2004) Britain's Real Foreign Policy and the Failure of British Academia *International Relations* 18(3): 275-287
- Dalton, R.J. and Duval, R. (1986) The Political Environment and Foreign Policy Opinions: British Attitudes towards European Integration, 1972-1979 *British Journal of Political Science* 16(1): 113-134
- Wallace, W. (1991) Foreign Policy and National Identity in the United Kingdom *International Affairs* 67(1): 65-80
- Dixon, P. (2000) Britain's 'Vietnam syndrome'? Public opinion and British military intervention from Palestine to Yugoslavia *Review of International Studies* 26, 99-121
- Aspinwall, M. (2003) Odd man out: rethinking British policy on European monetary integration *Review of International Studies* 29, 341-364
- Dover, R. (2005) The Prime Minister and the Core Executive: A Liberal Intergovernmentalist Reading of UK Defence Policy Formulation 1997-2000 *British Journal of Politics and International Relations* 5(4): 508-525
- Bryant, A. (1946) Factors Underlying British Foreign Policy *International Affairs* 22(3): 338-351
- Epstein, L.D. (1960) Partisan Foreign Policy: Britain in the Suez Crisis *World Politics* 12(2): 201-224
- Rasmussen, J. (1997) 'What kind of vision is that?' British Public Attitudes Towards the European Community During the Thatcher Era *British Journal of Political Science* 27, 111-155