

## HST 96: Special Relations: Britain and America since WWII.

This Foundation Seminar will examine (largely from the British perspective) the “special relationship” that is supposed to mark the Anglo-American world. We shall explore the various ways historians have engaged these issues—the questions they pose and the evidence they use to answer them. The course will not only be concerned with politics and diplomacy, but also with popular culture and the concept of “Americanization” in an age when global hegemony shifted from the British Empire to the U.S. The foundation seminar is a “colloquium” course that will meet once a week and focus on discussion of readings and short papers. Participation is an important element of this course and will be a significant part of your final grade. Four short papers will be required.

### Required Readings:

Christopher Hitchens, *Blood, Class and Empire* (2004)  
J. Tunstall and D. Machin (eds.), *The Anglo-American Media Connection* (2003)  
David Lodge, *Changing Places* [a novel] (1975)  
E. H. Carr, *What is History?* (1961)

[Other readings will be assigned from the Reserve Desk at Tisch or on Blackboard, including parts of: F.M. Leventhal and Quinault (eds.), *Anglo-American Attitudes* (2000) and John Dumbrell, *A Special Relationship* (2006)]

### Tentative Syllabus of Classes

Sep. 14:	Introduction	<i>[begin Carr and Hitchens]</i>
21:	Discussion of Carr and the practice of History	<i>[finish Carr; paper due]</i>
28:	Before the war	<i>[Gamble, Ch. 5 (Blackboard)]</i>
Oct. 5:	WWII: The American “Occupation” of Britain and after	<i>[D. Reynolds, Rich Relations, Intro., ch. 25]</i>
13:	The American Fifties in Britain: a Coca-Cola World of Cold War, spies, jazz, rock’n’roll, Suez and the Hilton Hotel	
19:	Pop: from the pirate era to Radio Wonderful; California Dreamin’: the Anglo-American Counterculture	<i>[finish Lodge; paper due]</i>
26:	Anglo-American Black Power	<i>[Egbuna]</i>
Nov. 2:	Women’s Lib and Gay Lib	<i>[Greer]</i>
9:	Malaise and “heritage:” tourists, nostalgia, and media	<i>[Tunstall]</i>
16:	Thatcherism as Americanization	<i>[Finish Hitchens; paper due]</i>
23:	No class	
30:	Anglo-American Foreign Policy from the Falklands to Afghanistan	<i>[selection from Dumbrell]</i>
Dec. 7:	The End of American Hegemony?	<i>[Last Paper due]</i>