



Department of History and Politics

Module Handbook

MA Britain in Global Politics

15 credits option

SAMPLE

Module Leader: Dr Catalina Montoya-Londono

Taught by: Dr Danny Rye

Contact Details: ryed@hope.ac.uk

Objectives:

- Gain a greater understanding of Britain's foreign policy history and Britain's current position in the world
- Gain a greater understanding of the relationships, which Britain has forged with other nations and the benefits, and costs of those relationships.
- To have an understanding and appreciation of the wider literature related to the subject.
- Be able to consider Britain's role within international organisations and supranational groups.

Introduction to the Module

This module examines the historical development of Britain's international relations from the 20th century to the present day. It concentrates on a number of key themes and issues, such as the UK's changing global role from imperialism to decolonisation, its relationship with Europe, and its 'special relationship' with the United States. The module explores how Britain fits in to a structure of global politics and how this has changed over time, and analyses the main driving factors behind the evolution of Britain's global relations.

This is a Masters level 15-credit (6-week) course, available both for students on the MA International Relations and the MA History degree(s).

The course will focus on the analysis and interpretation of a number of key issues in British policy in the contemporary period. The themes and topics to be covered may include the following:

Themes to be covered over the module include:

- Foreign Policy and British Politics.
- Relations with the European Union.
- Theoretical Interpretations.
- Issues of security and conflict.
- Britain and Global Conflict
- Britain and NATO.
- Britain and Interventionism.
- The Special Relationship with the United States.
- Britain and Globalisation.

Assessment

The assessment for this module is one 3,000-word essay due on TBC. You are required to answer **one** of the following questions at the end of the module. The questions are:

- 1: What are the main elements of and influences on British foreign policy?
- 2: Is the British approach to foreign policy and international relations ethical?
- 3: How successful has Britain been in finding a new role in the world since 1945?
- 4: Does the 'special relationship' with the United States strengthen Britain's global role and influence?
- 5: How has economic globalisation affected Britain's relationship with the world?

Electronic submission via Turnitin on the course Moodle page.

Lecture and Seminar Plan

It is vital that for each session you undertake the key reading as set out in the reading list below. This module will be delivered using interactive lectures and seminar format and as such requires you to come to classes prepared. The planned sessions are designed to give you a focused understanding of Britain in Global Politics.

The sessions are:

- 1: Introduction / British Foreign Policy and its Place in the World Since 1945
- 2: No Class – Reading Week [University Learning and Teaching Day]
- 3: Making British Foreign Policy
- 4: Britain's Atlanticism: NATO and the 'Special Relationship'
- 5: Britain and the European Union
- 6: Intervention, Security and Counterterrorism

Reading Lists

To maximise your grade potential it is strongly recommended that you engage in an extensive range of reading in order to compliment the content of the lecture and seminars.

As such, it would be worth researching a range of journal articles and books. The indicative reading below acts as a preliminary introduction to the more substantive reading required for each session.

Indicative Reading

It is important to remember that no one text will tell you everything you need to know about this subject, or indeed everything you need to know to pass this module. However, the following texts provide good general/introductory guides to the themes and topics under discussion. **Please be sure to draw widely from the reading lists in order to gain the most from this module.**

General Reading

Baylis, J & Smith, S, (1997), *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*, Oxford University Press.

Beeson, M, Bisley, N, (2010), *Issues in 21st century world politics*, Palgrave Macmillan.

Curtis, M. (1998). *Ambiguities of power; British foreign policy since 1945*. London, Pluto Press. *A rare radical critique*.

Curtis, M. (2008). *Web of deceit: Britain's real role in the world*, Random House/Vintage.

Diamond, P. (2008) *Bridging the divide? Europe, America and the future of Britain's global policy*, Politicos.

Frankel, J. (1963) *The Making of Foreign Policy*, Oxford University Press.

Hill, C. (2003) *The Changing Politics of Foreign Policy*, Palgrave Macmillan.

Holsti, K. (1995) *International Politics: A Framework for Analysis*, 7th Edition, Prentice-Hall international.

Hudson, V. (2006) *Foreign Policy Analysis: Classic & Contemporary Theory*, Rowman & Littlefield. Gaskarth, J (2013) *British foreign policy: crises, conflicts and future challenges*, Polity

Gowland, D. et al. (2009) *Britain and European integration since 1945: on the sidelines*, Routledge

Liddle, R. (2013) *Engaging with Europe: Britain and the future challenges of European integration*, IB Tauris.

Lunn, J., V. Miller, et al. (2008). *British foreign policy since 1997*. House of Commons Library, report 08/56. Online.

Meyer, C. (2009). Getting our way. 500 years of adventure and intrigue: the inside story of British diplomacy. An insider's view from a former British Ambassador to Washington.

Morgenthau, H, (2006), *Politics among Nations. The Struggle for Power and Peace*, McGraw Hill.

Nicholson, M, (1998), *International Relations. A Concise Introduction*, Palgrave.

Payne, A, (2005), *Global Politics of Unequal Development*, Palgrave.

Ray, J & Kaarbo, J, (2005), *Global Politics*, Houghton Mifflin.

Reynolds, D. (1991). Britannia overruled; British policy and world power in the twentieth century. Harlow, UK, Longman. *There is a Second edition published in 2000; with one additional chapter on the 1990s .*

Sanders, D. (1990), .Losing an empire, finding a role : British foreign policy since 1945 , London, Macmillan.

Self, R. (2010) *British foreign and defence policy since 1945: challenges and dilemmas in a changing world*, Palgrave.

Smith M, (1991), *Perspectives on World Politics*, London.

Steve Smith, Amelia Hadfield, and Tim Dunne (eds.), (2012, 2nd ed) *Foreign policy; theories, actors, cases*, Oxford University Press

Turner, MJ (2009) *Britain and the world in the twentieth century: ever-decreasing circles*, Continuum.

Viotti, P. R, & Kauppi, M. V (2009) *International Relations Theory: Realism, Pluralism, Globalism, and Beyond*, Pearson.

Willetts, P, (1996), *The Conscience of the World: The Influence of Nongovernmental Organizations at the United Nations'*, Brookings Institution.

Young, J. W. (1997). Britain and the world in the twentieth century. London Arnold.

Memoirs

Shea, M. (1996). To lie abroad: diplomacy reviewed. London, Sinclair Stevenson.

Hannay, D. (2013). Britain's quest for a role: a diplomatic memoir from Europe to the UN. London, I.B. Tauris.

Cowper-Coles, S. (2013). Ever the Diplomat: Confessions of a Foreign Office Mandarin. London, Harper Press.

Craddock, P. (1997). In pursuit of British interests; reflections on foreign policy under Margaret Thatcher and John Major. London, John Murray.

Cook, R. (2003). The point of departure; diaries from the front bench. London, Pocket Books.

Hurd, D. (2003). Memoirs. London, Abacus.

Ross, C. (2007). Independent Diplomat: Dispatches from an Unaccountable Elite. London, Hurst. *Combines first-hand insights with a critique of the system.*

Blair, Tony (2010) *A Journey* (Hutchinson)

Straw, Jack (2012) *Last Man Standing* (MacMillan)

Useful Websites

Below is a small selection of websites that could be useful for supporting your work on this course.

Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/foreign-affairs-committee/>

Parliamentary Defence Committee -

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/defence-committee/>

Parliamentary International Development Committee

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/international-development-committee/>

Foreign and Commonwealth Office <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/foreign-commonwealth-office>

Chatham House, Royal Institute of International Affairs <http://www.chathamhouse.org/>.

They also have guides to materials, e.g.

http://www.chathamhouse.org/sites/default/files/library/9995_britfp1007.pdf

International Institute for Strategic Studies – IISS - <http://www.iiss.org/>

Foreign Policy Centre - <http://fpc.org.uk/about/>

<http://www.markcurtis.info/> - A radical critic of British Foreign policy.

Oxford Royale Academy

<http://www.oxford-royale.co.uk/articles/anglo-american-relations-special-relationship-myth.html>

HM Government Foreign Affairs Policy Area

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topics/foreign-affairs>

Substantive Reading

Session One: Introduction

Losing an Empire, Finding a Role: British Foreign Policy and its Place in the World Since 1945

Discussion: To what extent is Britain an influential actor in global affairs?

Essential Reading:

Wallace, W. (2005). "The collapse of British foreign policy." *International Affairs* 81: 53-68.

Morris, J. (2011) 'How Great is Britain? Power, Responsibility and Britain's Future Global Role', *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, Vol. 13, no. 3, pp. 326-347.

Beech, M. (2011) 'British conservatism and foreign policy: Traditions and ideas shaping Cameron's global view', *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, 13:3, 348-363.

Additional Reading:

Reynolds, D. (1991). Chapter 1, "Power", in: Britannia overruled; British policy and world power in the twentieth century. Harlow, UK, Longman.

Barnett, M. and R. Duvall (2005). "Power in international politics." *International Organization* 59 (1): 39-76.

Bulmer-Thomas, V. (2013). "Margaret Thatcher's Foreign Policy Legacy ".

<http://www.chathamhouse.org/media/comment/view/190635>

Cooper, R. (2010). The World We Face, and the World We Would Create. Intro in The Future of UK Foreign Policy LSE Ideas. <http://www.lse.ac.uk/IDEAS/publications/reports/pdf/SR006/04-Intro.pdf>

Halliday, F. (1994). "Lying abroad." London Review of Books.

Reynolds, D. (1991). Chapter 3, "Cold War 1899-1914", in: Britannia overruled; British policy and world power in the twentieth century. Harlow, UK, Longman.

Sanders, D. (1990), .Losing an empire, finding a role : British foreign policy since 1945, London, Macmillan.

Self, R. (2010) *British foreign and defence policy since 1945: challenges and dilemmas in a changing world*, Palgrave. Chapters 1-3.

Thompson, A., Ed. (2012). Chapter 1, "1. Britain as a Global Power in the Twentieth Century", in: Britain's experience of empire in the 20th century. Oxford, O.U.P. E-text

Session Two

Making British Foreign Policy

Discussion Question: What or who are the key influences on the making of British foreign policy?

Essential

Gaskarth, J. (2013). Chapter 2 (The actors in British foreign policy) and 3 (How is British foreign policy made?) in: British foreign policy. Cambridge, Polity.

Williams, P. (2004). "Who is making UK foreign policy?" International Affairs 80 (5): 911-29.

Reynolds, D. (1991). Chapter 2, "Policy" in: Britannia overruled; British policy and world power in the twentieth century. Harlow, UK, Longman.

Additional Reading

Hall, I. (2013). "Rebuilding the global network? The reform of the FCO under new labour." British journal of politics & international relations 15(2): 228-245.

Dickie, J. (2004). Chapter, "The formulation of foreign policy", in, The new mandarins: how British foreign policy works. London, I.B. Tauris.

Dickie, J. (2004), Chapters 8 ('Campaigners for change') and 9 ('Influence seekers'), in 'The new mandarins: how British foreign policy works, I.B. Tauris.

Sampson, A. (1982). Diplomats: salesmen and spies. Chapter 16 in: The changing anatomy of Britain. London, Coronet: 259-275.

Clarke, M. (1992). Chapter 7 "Party politics...", in: British external policy-making in the 1990s. Basingstoke, Macmillan for the Royal Institute of International Affairs.

Riordan, S. (2003). Chapter 2, "Traditional diplomatic structure...", in: The new diplomacy. Cambridge, Polity

Christopher Hill, (2003), Chapter 9 "Domestic sources", in: The changing politics of foreign policy, Palgrave, 2003.

Halliday, F. (1994), Chapter 4, "State and Society in international relations", in: Rethinking international relations, Macmillan.

Alden C. and A. Amnon, (2011), Chapter 4, 'The domestic sources of foreign policy', in: Foreign Policy Analysis – new approaches, Routledge, 2011.

Session Three

Britain's Atlanticism: NATO and the 'Special Relationship'

Discussion: To what extent is Britain's role in international affairs defined by Anglo-American relations?

Essential:

Wallace, W. & Phillips, C. (2009) 'Reassessing the Special Relationship', *International Affairs*, Vol. 85, no. 2, pp. 263-284.

Dumbrell, J. (2009) 'The US-UK Special Relationship: Taking the 21st Century Temperature', *British Journal of Politics and international Relations*, Vol. 11, no. 1, pp. 64-78.

Dunn, D. (2009) 'Assessing the Debate, Assessing the Damage: Transatlantic Relations after Bush', *British journal of Politics and International Relations*, Vol. 11, no. 1, pp. 4-24.

Recommended:

Dumbrell, J. (2001/2006) *A Special Relationship: Anglo-American relations from the Cold War to Iraq*, Palgrave.

Dumbrell, J. (2009) *Clinton's Foreign Policy; Between the Bushes 1992-2000*, Routledge.

Dunn, D. (2008) 'The Double Interregnum: UK-US relations beyond Blair and Bush', *International Affairs*, Vol. 84, no. 6, pp. 1131-1143.

Hollowell, J. (ed.) (2001) *Twentieth-Century Anglo-American Relations*, Palgrave.

Louis, W.R. and Bull, H. (ed.) (1986) *The Special Relationship: Anglo-American Relationships since 1945*, Clarendon.

McCausland, J. & Stuart, D. (eds.) (2006) *US-UK relations at the start of the 21st century*, U.S. Army War College, Strategic Studies Institute, Carlisle, PA, Strategic Studies Institute.

Meyer, C. (2006) *DC Confidential; the controversial memoirs of Britain's ambassador at the time of 9/11 and the run up to the Iraq War*, Phoenix.

Pelling, H. (1956) *America and the British Left*.

Peterson, John; Steffenson, Rebecca. "Transatlantic Institutions: Can Partnership be Engineered?" *British Journal of Politics & International Relations*. Feb2009, Vol. 11 Issue 1, p25-45.

Phythian, M. (2011), Chapter, "From asset to liability: Blair, Brown and the "special relationship", in: Daddow, O. and J. Gaskarth, Eds. (2011). *British foreign policy : the New Labour years*. Basingstoke, Palgrave.

Reynolds, D. (1991/2000). Chapter 10, "Thatcher" in: Britannia overruled; British policy and world power in the twentieth century. Harlow, UK, Longman.

Reynolds, D. (1991/2000). Chapter 7, "Superpowers, 1947-55, in: "Britannia overruled; British policy and world power in the twentieth century. Harlow, UK, Longman.

Riddell, P. (2003). Hug them close: Blair, Clinton, Bush and the "special relationship". London Politico's.

Sanders, D. (1990). Chapter 6, the changing "special relationship" 1956-87; in: Losing an empire, finding a role : British foreign policy since 1945 London, Macmillan.

Self, R. (2010) *British foreign and defence policy since 1945: challenges and dilemmas in a changing world*, Palgrave. Chapter 4.

Williams, P. (2005). Chapter, "The Closest Ally", in: British foreign policy under New Labour, 1997-2005, Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan.

Session Four

Britain and the European Union

Discussion: Why is Britain regarded as an 'awkward partner' in its relations with the EU? Is that fair?

Essential:

Gamble, A. (2006) 'The European Disunion', *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, vol. 8(1), pp. 34-49.

Self, R. (2010) *British foreign and defence policy since 1945: challenges and dilemmas in a changing world*, Palgrave. Chapter 4.

Recommended:

Bache, I., George, S. and Bulmer, S. (2011) *Politics in the European Union*, third edition, Oxford University Press.

Bomberg, E. and Stubb, A. (ed.) (2008) *The European Union: How Does it Work?* second edition, Oxford University Press.

Cini, M. and Perez-Solorzano Borragan, N. (eds.) (2010) *European Union Politics*, third edition, Oxford University Press.

Conradt, D, et al, (2002), *Politics in Europe*, Palgrave, pp. 1-17

Gamble, A. (2003) *Between Europe and America*, Palgrave, chapter 6.

Glodblatt, D. (1997) 'Democracy in Europe, 1939-89' in Potter, D., Goldblatt, D., Kiloh, M., and Lewis, P. (eds) *Democratization*, Polity Press, pp. 95-117.

Hayton, R. (2014) 'Euroscepticism and the dynamics of party competition in Britain', in Adam Hug (ed.) *Renegotiation, Reform and Referendum: Does Britain have an EU future?* Foreign Policy Centre.

Hayton, R. (2010) 'Towards the Mainstream? UKIP and the 2009 Elections to the European Parliament', *Politics*, 30(1): 26-35.

Jorgensen, K., Pollack, M. and Rosamond, B. (2007) *Handbook of European Union Politics*, Sage.

Kaiser, W, et al, (2008), *The History of the EU*, Routledge.

McCormick, J. (2002) *Understanding the European Union: A Concise Introduction*, Palgrave, Chapter 3.

Nugent, N, (2006) *The Government and Politics of the European Union*, Palgrave.

Peterson, J. and Shackleton, M. (2006) *The Institutions of the European Union*, second edition, Oxford University Press.

Pinder, J. (1998) *The Building of the European Union*, third edition, Oxford University Press.

Richardson, J. (ed.) (2005) *European Union: Power and Policy-Making*, third edition, Routledge.

Rumford, C. (ed.) (2009) *Handbook of European Studies*, Sage.

Wallace H, & Wallace, W, (2000) *Policy-Making in the European Union*, Oxford University Press.

Watts, D. (2008) *The European Union*, Edinburgh University Press.

Session Five

Intervention, Security and Counterterrorism

Discussion: How has the British approach to international relations and foreign affairs changed in the light of the threat of international terrorism? Is its response justified?

Essential:

Daddow, O. (2009). "Tony's war'? Blair, Kosovo and the interventionist impulse in British foreign policy." *International Affairs* 85: 547-560.

Blair, T. (1999) 'The Doctrine of the International Community' Speech 24 April 1999
<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/www.number10.gov.uk/Page1297>

Pugha, J., Gabayb, C., William, A. "Beyond the securitisation of development: The limits of intervention, developmentisation of security and repositioning of purpose in the UK Coalition Government's policy agenda" in *Geoforum* Volume 44, January 2013, Pages 193–201.

McCormack, Tara (2011), Chapter 6, From "ethical foreign policy" to national security strategy : exporting domestic incoherence", in: Daddow, O. and J. Gaskarth, Eds. (2011). British foreign policy : the New Labour years. Basingstoke, Palgrave.

Recommended:

Butler, L. (2004). Review of Intelligence on Weapons of Mass Destruction. London, The Stationery Office.

<http://image.guardian.co.uk/sys-files/Politics/documents/2004/07/14/butler.pdf>

Gaskarth, J. (2013). Chapter 6. "Ethics and British foreign policy", in: British foreign policy. Cambridge, Polity

Dunne T. *Fighting for values: Atlanticism, internationalism and the Blair doctrine*, paper to ISA conference, March 2005.

<http://huss.exeter.ac.uk/politics/research/readingroom/dunneValues.doc>

Hollis, R. (2010). Chapter 5, "The road to war", in: Britain and the Middle East in the 9/11 era / Rosemary Hollis Oxford, Wiley-Blackwell.

Kampfner, J. (2003). Blair's wars, London, Free Press.

Kettell, S. (2006), *Dirty Politics?*, Zed, London. (Chapter 1)

Little, R. 'Conclusions, the ethics and strategy of Labour's third way', ch. 15 in: Little, R. Wickham-Jones, M. (eds), New Labour's Foreign Policy: A New Moral Crusade?, Manchester University Press, 2000

Meyer, C. (2005). D.C. Confidential. London, Weidenfield and Nicolson.

Plant, R. (2008). "Blair's Liberal Interventionism", in LM. Beech, Lee, S. (eds.) (2008) Ten Years of New Labour. Basingstoke Palgrave MacMillan.

Ralph, J. (2011). "After Chilcot: The -Doctrine of International Community- and the UK Decision to Invade Iraq " British journal of politics & international relations 13 (3): 304-325

Ross, C. (2007). Independent Diplomat: Dispatches from an Unaccountable Elite. London, Hurst.

Smith, K. Light, M. (eds.) Ethics and Foreign Policy, Cambridge University Press, 2001.

Wheeler, N. & Dunne, T. 'Good international citizenship: a Third Way for British Foreign policy', International Affairs, Vol. 74, no. 4.

Wickham-Jones, M. 'Labour's trajectory in foreign affairs: the moral crusade of a pivotal power?', chapter 1 in: Little, R. & Wickham-Jones, M. New Labour's foreign policy; a new moral crusade? Manchester University Press, 2000.

Williams, P. (2005). Chapter, "Healing a Scar on the World's Conscience" in: British foreign policy under New Labour, 1997-2005 Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan.

Williams, P. (2005). Chapter, "Healing a Scar on the World's Conscience", in: British foreign policy under New Labour, 1997-2005 Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan.