THE STATESMANSHP OF WINSTON CHURCHILL

Books to be Purchased:

Winston S. Churchill, Savrola (Classic Books)
The World Crisis (Free Press)
The Gathering Storm (Rosetta Books)

ERES

Winston S. Churchill, Essays from Amid These Storms: Thoughts and Adventures
The World Crisis: The Aftermath

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

You have two basic responsibilities in this course: to do the assigned readings and participate in seminar discussions and, second, to plan, report on, and write a research essay on a topic of your choice related to the course reading.

1. Class discussions: I expect you to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned reading for that class. To assist you in this, each week I will give you on Tuesday evening, via email, a number of questions on the reading. I want you to respond to at least two of these questions (a paragraph or two) by Wednesday afternoon at 4:00 p.m.

2. Class essays: Each of you will write two, short (3-4 pages) essays on the assigned reading, the main point and argument of which will be presented in class. (In a week in which you write the essay you do not have to respond to the email questions.) These essays should focus on what you consider to be a particularly important, interesting, or controversial point in the reading. They should have a thesis, argument or point of view on that reading, that is, they should not be just a summary of the reading.

3. Research Essay: Everyone will write a research essay (10-20) pages on a topic related to the course. You should discuss this topic with me by the middle of October. Later in the semester each of you will give an oral report on your research essay. You may at that point turn in a copy of your essay to me for comments. The final copy of your essay is due on Sept. 10.

4. Final Exam: We will have a two hour final exam which will be comprised of essay questions on the reading circulated in advance of the exam.
5. Grading: Class discussion and responses 30-35%; class essays 15-20%; research essay 30%; final exam 20%. To pass the course you must complete the class essays, research essays, and final exam.

**COURSE OUTLINE AND ASSIGNMENTS:**

**AUGUST**

29 Introduction

**I. Churchill’s Political Thought**

W.S.C., “Painting as a Pasttime” **ERES**

“Hobbies”

**SEPTEMBER**

5 Reform, Revolution, & the Limits of Politics

W.S.C., *Savrola*

12 Leadership and Modernity

W.S.C., *Essays from Thoughts and Adventures*: **ERES**

“A Second Chance”

“Mass Effects in Modern Life”

“Fifty Years Hence”

“Shall We All Commit Suicide?”

The Military Art and Political Leadership

W.S.C., *Essays from Thoughts and Adventures*: **ERES**

“The U-Boat War”

“The Dover Barrage”

“Ludendorff’s ‘All or Nothing’”

19 Principle, Expedience and Consent

W.S.C., *Great Contemporaries*:

Essays on 1) The Earl of Rosebery 2) Philip Snowden 3) Joseph Chamberlain

W.S.C., *Essays from Thoughts and Adventures*: **ERES**

“Consistency in Politics”

“Cartoons and Cartoonists”

“Election Memories”

26 Statesmanship in Peace and War
W.S.C., Great Contemporaries:
  War and Peace: Essays on 1) Douglas Haig 2) H.H. Asquith 3) Clemenceau
  The Complete Statesman: Essays on 1) “F.E.” Smith, the First Earl of Birkenhead 2) George N. Curzon 3) Arthur James Balfour

Leadership and Constitutional Rule

W.S.C., Great Contemporaries: Essays on 1) The Ex-Kaiser 2) King George V 3) Leon Trotsky, alias Bronstein

Churchill in early 1930’s

William S. Manchester, The Last Lion: W.S.C. Alone, 1932-1940, Prorogue, pp. 3-36

II. Churchill’s Statesmanship: Responding to the Nazi Threat

OCTOBER

3 The Folly of the Victors and German Rearmament

Manchester, The Last Lion, Prologue and Part I, pp. 39-156

10 Loss of Military Parity and Hitler Strikes
The Gathering Storm, Chaps. VIII-XIV, pp. 117-231
The Last Lion, Part 2, pp. 157-236 & Part 3, pp. 236-70

17 Munich and the Loss of Czechoslovakia

The Gathering Storm, Chaps. XV-XIX, pp. 232-321
The Last Lion, Part 3, pp. 270-359 & Part 4, pp. 363-88

24 Russia, Poland & War

The Gathering Storm, Chaps., XX-XIV, pp. 322-403
The Last Lion, Part 4, pp. 388-439, Part 5, pp. 442-540

31 The Twilight War and the Fall of the Government

The Gathering Storm, Chaps., XXV-XXVI, pp. 404-34, XXXII, pp. 512-27, XXXVIII, pp. 593-601
The Last Lion, Part 6, pp. 542-684
Churchill’s Statesmanship: The Failure of the Dardanelles Expedition

**November**

7 The Coming of War


14 Deadlock, & Decision for the Dardanelles Expedition


28 Execution, Failure & Consequences


**December**

5 Reflections on the Great War, Democracy and Leadership


**Final Exam**