This seminar is designed as a reading course in history, literature, and politics, and as a class in professional writing. In addition to the required reading listed below, each student draws up an individual reading list (drawn from a prepared larger list) in consultation with the professor.

The scope of the seminar includes not only the literature, history, and politics of England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland but also the interaction of British and other societies throughout the world. One point of emphasis will be the history of the British Empire and Commonwealth in its Asian and African as well as early American dimensions.

Another point will be a focus on historical and literary biography—and autobiography—for example, not only Disraeli, Virginia Woolf, T. E. Lawrence, and George Orwell but also Gandhi.

The main requirements of the course are met by students reading a book or its equivalent each week and by submitting a weekly critique of the reading. Each of the weekly essays is circulated to all other members of the class who make annotations on style as well as substance. The class thus becomes as much a course in professional writing as one in which individual academic interests are pursued.

The class also meets on a voluntary basis with the British Studies faculty seminar 2:30-4:30 pm. on Fridays HRC 3.204-6.

The seminar upholds the principles of the Modern History Faculty at Oxford—to enhance (1) intellectual curiosity; (2) conceptual clarity; (3) accuracy and attention to detail; (4) lucid and succinct style; (5) capacity for hard work.

Grades are determined by attendance and participation in discussion (25%) and the quality of the weekly critiques (75%). The course carries Writing and Global Cultures flags.

Reading List—The following books are required – (plus other books, one a week, to be decided upon in consultation with the instructor):

Lytton Strachey, *Eminent Victorians* critique due September 3
Norman Davies, *The Isles* critique due September 17
Hermione Lee, *Virginia Woolf* critique due October 1
Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259.

Wm. Roger Louis
Kerr Professor of English History and Culture and Distinguished Teaching Professor

B.A. University of Oklahoma, 1959
M.A. Harvard University, 1960
D.Phil. Oxford University, 1962
D. Litt. Oxford University, 1979

Assistant and Associate Professor, Yale University, 1962-1970
Professor of History, University of Texas at Austin, 1970-1985
Director of British Studies, 1975 —
Kerr Professor 1985 —
Fellow of St. Antony’s College, Oxford, 1986 —
UT Distinguished Teaching Professor, 1999 —

Editor-in-Chief, Oxford History of the British Empire, 1992 —
Appointed Commander of the British Empire by the Queen for professional service, 1999
President of American Historical Association, 2001
Founding Director, AHA National History Center, 2001 —
US State Department Historical Advisory Committee, 2003 – 2009 (resigned on principle)
U.T. Professor of the Year, 2009
Kluge Chair, Library of Congress, 2010
Author or editor of some thirty books including Ends of British Imperialism (2006)

Edited books include Adventures with Britannia; More Adventures with Britannia; Still More Adventures with Britannia; Yet More Adventures with Britannia; Penultimate Adventures with Britannia; Ultimate Adventures with Britannia; Resurgent Adventures with Britannia; and Burnt Orange Britannia