Allied Airmen in World War Two Italy and England and Their Capture in Nazi Occupied Europe

HST 496 (#22263539) / 758A (#22263542)
Professor Eric Johnson

This seminar will study the backgrounds of American and British pilots, their relations with those around them in Italy and England from the airfields they flew out of, the risks they took, the strategies they pursued, and their capture, torture, interrogations, and prisoner of war camps. The seminar will encourage papers from students on the effects of these airmen’s experiences on their wives and families and also on those that survived the war.

The final product of the course will be a research paper of roughly 20-30 pages for undergraduates and a bit longer for graduate students. All students will read roughly three books on the air war by Steven Ambrose, Jorg Friedrich, and Richard Overy in the first weeks of the seminar and then they will develop their own research topics related to the main themes of the seminar.