

Professorial Talks 2017

Neil Clark – Trump: What to expect?



On Monday 20th February 2017, Neil Clark gave a talk at Cherwell House entitled 'Trump: What Can We Expect?'. Neil is a journalist for a vast range of news outlets; he writes for Russia Today (RT), the Guardian, The American Conservative and the Morning Star, among others. He has also appeared on Sputnik, for RT UK, with George Galloway.

Donald Trump's election in November 2016 undoubtedly took the world by storm. It defied media expectations, and even the expectations of Trump's own Republican Party. Neil talked about how it came to be that the media so greatly misjudged the 2016 election result, and the quality of journalism that both contributed to and detracted from this result.

Neil spoke engagingly about the economic and social climate that endeared Trump to American voters, as well as about Trump's unique selling point as a politician; he wasn't part of the establishment. Neil impartially explained the pros and cons of Trump's election, and encouraged our students to engage with the bare facts of his election, rather than only the media hype. This refreshing and eye-opening approach to politics was hugely interesting to our students.

Neil also focussed on the potential impact of Trump's foreign policy on the global economy. This was discussed particularly in light of Trump's pro-Russia stance.

Basim asked some interesting questions about the longevity of Trump's presidency, which triggered some interesting discussion about Mike Pence and other republican alternatives to Trump.

We would like to extend our warmest thanks to Neil Clark for taking the time to come in and talk to us about this highly interesting and topical matter. We hope our students enjoyed it.