

History of Great Britain

History 224

Winter 2000

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Director: Mike Zmolek Class Time: Tuesdays & Thursdays: 3:00-4:15
Office: 310 Van Vliet Hall Class Location: Blades 204
Phone: 589-3188 Office Hours: Wednesdays: 1-4 pm
E-mail: <maz@zeus.ia.net> (or by appointment)

This course is intended to give students a practical overview of key events in British history, with an emphasis on the period between the English Civil War and the Industrial Revolution. The course will be divided into three parts: the Medieval to Modern Britain, the Eighteenth Century, and 'From Industry to Empire'. The course will engage students with British history at political, economic and cultural levels. Key ongoing debates and issues will be drawn to the attention of students, providing a framework for future reading and study in the area.

Format: As a rule, Tuesdays will involve lectures, and Thursdays will involve quizzes, completion of lectures, and open seminars for discussion. Study questions will be provided. Students will be required to write one book review and one essay. Several films will be shown during the course.

Evaluation:

Classroom Attendance and Participation	10%
Presentations or Book Review	20%
Quizzes	20%
Essay	25%
Final Exam	25%

Required Textbooks: Hill, Christopher (1961) The Century of Revolution, New York/London: W.W. Norton.

Hay, Douglas and Nicholas Rogers (1997) Eighteenth-Century English Society - Shuttles and Swords, Oxford/New York: Oxford University Press.

Hobsbawm, E.J. (1968) Industry and Empire from 1750 to the Present Day, Penguin.

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ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING

Grading Policy: Grades in this class are based upon a point system. You will be given both letter grades and point scores for each assignment. Your final grade will be derived from your performance in all the areas of the class, and based on your composite scores. The grading scale is 90-100 for an A, 80-89 for a B, 70-79 for a C, 60-69 for a D, and 59 or below for an F. Short quizzes will be given on most Thursdays. A review will be held before the final exam.

Attendance and Participation (10%) - Attendance will be taken daily, and will count towards half of your Attendance and Participation score. The other half will be a letter mark given to you based upon your performance in class. Performance means coming to class having read the assignments and being an active participant in the discussion, including asking questions.

Presentations (20%) - During the course, you will be asked to select three reading assignments which you will present on. You will read the assigned chapter(2) and prepare up to 10 minutes' worth of summary of the key points which you will present at the beginning of class. You are especially encouraged to conclude each presentation with a number of questions for discussion about the reading.

Book Report - If you prefer not to present up to 3 times, you have the option of presenting only once, and also doing a 4-5 page book report on a book that is relevant to the course. You must get my approval of the title that you choose. If you are having a hard time locating a title, please see me for suggestions. ***Due: February 29.***

Essay - You are required to write one essay on topic arising from the readings or lectures of the course. The essay will detail events in a particular period of British history, and will attempt to argue the significance of the main subject or focus. An 'A' essay will be at least 10 pages in length, will cite at least three sources not included in the course materials, will be typed, double-spaced on plain white 8 1/2" x 11" paper. Times 12 point font is preferable. I strongly encourage you to discuss your chosen essay topic with me. You are required to turn in a brief outline of your proposed essay showing what you will be covering and the sources you are working with. ***Outline Due: March 21. Final essay Due: April 18.***

Note: Please familiarize yourself with the University's policy on plagiarism.

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SYLLABUS & LECTURE SCHEDULE

Part I: Medieval to Modern Britain

Date Topic Reading

January 18 (Tu):	Introduction to the Course	
January 20 (Th):	Medieval Britain	
January 25 (Tu):	King Henry VIII - A Drive to Absolutism?	
January 27 (Th):	Mary, Edward VI, and Elizabeth (Film "Elizabeth R, part I")	
February 1 (Tu):	Britain and Spain: the Armadas & Ireland	
February 3 (Th):	Elizabeth, James I and Scotland	
February 8 (Tu):	King and Parliament: The Road to Civil War	[Hill I: 1-93]
February 10 (Th):	The Road to Civil War (continued)	
February 15 (Tu):	Civil War and the Interregnum	[Hill II: 94-165]
	[Film: "Puritan Revolution"]	
February 17 (Th):	Civil War (<i>continued</i>)	
February 22 (Tu):	The Restoration	[Hill III: 166-219]
February 24 (Th):	The Restoration (<i>continued</i>)	
February 29 (Tu):	The 'Glorious Revolution'	[Hill IV: 220-268]
	* Book Reports Due	
March 2 (Th):	After the 'Glorious Revolution'	

Spring Break

Part II: The Eighteenth Century

Date Topic Reading

March 14 (Tu):	Political Order: the Triumph of Law over Custom	[Hay 1-4: 1-70]
March 16 (Th):	Political Order (<i>continued</i>)	
March 21 (Tu):	Open Fields and Enclosures: the Agrarian Revolution	[Hay 5-7: 71-113]
	* Essay Outlines Due.	
March 23 (Th):	the Agrarian Revolution (<i>continued</i>)	
March 28 (Tu):	Currents that Shape Popular Beliefs	[Hay 9-12: 134-208]
March 30 (Th):	War and Peace, and Class	

Part III: 'From Industry to Empire'

April 4 (Tu):	The Early Industrial Revolution	[Hay 8: 114-133]
April 6 (Th):	Origins of the Industrial Revolution	[Hobsb 0-2: 13-54]
April 11 (Tu):	Images of the Industrial Revolution (slide presentation)	
April 13 (Th):	The Industrial Revolution (continued)	[Hobsb 3-4: 56-96]
April 18 (Tu):	Agriculture and 'the Second Phase'	[Hobsb 5-6: 97-132]
	* Essays Due	
April 20 (Th):	The Rise & Fall of the Empire	[Hobsb 7 & 9: 134-153 & 172-193]
April 25 (Tu):	The British Empire (continued)	
April 27 (Th):	After 1850	[Hobsb 8 & 10: 154-171 & 195-206]
May 2 (Tu):	World Wars and Society	[Hobsb 11-12: 207-248]
May 4 (Th):	Review	
May 9 (Tu):	Final Exam	

Note: It would be advisable to mark presentation dates, due dates and exam dates in your personal calendar.