

## SYLLABUS

History of England Since 1688  
History 264  
Spring 2000  
Rhodes College

Professor Lynn Zastoupil  
Office: Clough 307  
Office hours: T,Th, F 10:00-11:00 (and by appointment)  
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## COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course will introduce students to some of the major historical developments of modern Britain. Attention will be focused not so much on individuals or a chronological narrative of events, as on major issues, trends, events and crises of this period. Topics to be covered include: eighteenth century society and religion; corruption and reform in eighteenth century politics; origins of industrialism; impact of French revolution; reform legislation and movements of the nineteenth century; social and economic consequences of industrialism; radical movements in late nineteenth century; imperialism and British politics; the Irish question; impact of world wars one and two; Britain's decline; origins and nature of the welfare state; and British society and politics since 1945. These and other topics will be covered by a combination of lectures, readings, and discussions. It is intended that students will leave this course with a firm grasp of many of the leading developments in modern British history.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students will be expected to attend lectures regularly, do assigned readings on time, and participate in class discussions. Many class sessions will have some assigned readings, which will complement the lectures, and students must be prepared to discuss these readings. Occasionally an entire class session will be devoted to discussion of assigned readings. It is essential that students participate fully in the class discussions in order best to understand the complexities of the issues at hand. Students who find it difficult to speak up in class are urged to keep a journal of the readings which will help improve their grade for class participation. There will be two examinations which will be largely essay in nature. Students must also write a research paper on some topic, chosen in consultation with the professor. It is expected that students will work on this paper for the entire semester, and that the finished product will demonstrate a solid grasp of the issues and events relevant to the paper topic. The research paper must be submitted by class time on the date due; all late papers will be automatically reduced by one letter grade. Final grades will be determined as follows: class participation/journal - 25%; mid-term examination - 25%; research paper - 25%; final examination - 25%.

## BOOKS TO PURCHASE

B. Blakely and J. Collins, eds., Documents in British History, 2nd ed., vol. II  
Martin Gilbert, Atlas of British History  
Roy Porter, English Society in the Eighteenth Century  
Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice  
Charles Dickens, Hard Times  
Peter Stansky, Gladstone  
George Orwell, The Road to Wigan Pier  
Martin Wiener, English Culture and the Decline of the Industrial Spirit 1850-1980

## COURSE OUTLINE

Week I: Introduction

- January 12 Introduction
- January 14 Seventeenth century background

Week II: Glorious Revolution and Eighteenth Century Society

- January 17 No class (M. L. King, Jr. holiday)
- January 19 The Glorious Revolution (Blakely, pp. 1-11; Gilbert, 63-65)
- January 21 Social relations (Porter, Chpt. 1-2; Blakely, pp. 39-41)

Week III: Eighteenth-Century Religion and Politics

- January 24 Religion (Porter, Chpt. 4; Blakely, pp. 14-17, 20-23)
- January 26 Struggle for empire (Blakely, pp. 17-19, 76-78; Gilbert, 50-52, 55, 60, 68-72)
- January 28 Politics of corruption (Gilbert, 66-67)

Week IV: Intellectuals and Reform

- January 31 Parties and Kings (Porter, Chpt. 3 [pp. 113-37 {98-121}]; EHD handout)
- February 2 Enlightenment ideas (Blakely, pp. 59-66)
- February 4 Popular culture and politics (Porter, Chpt. 6; Blakely, pp. 28-34, 46-49)

Week V: Reform and Origins of Industrialism

- February 7 American Rebellion and reform movement (Blakely, pp. 50-52, 57-59; Gilbert, 73)
- February 9 Origins of industrialism (Porter, Chpt. 5; Gilbert, 74-76)
- February 11 Social and political consequences (Porter, Chpt. 8; Blakely, pp. 53-55, 67-75, 93-95)

Week VI: Jane Austin and the French Revolution

- February 14 Pride and Prejudice (Austin, all)
- February 16 French Revolution: narrative of events (Gilbert, 78-83)
- February 18 Reformers, revolutionaries and reactionaries (Blakely, pp. 82-86, 98-99)

Week VII: Revival of Reform

- February 21 Post-war radicalism (Gilbert, 84)
- February 23 1832 (Blakely, pp. 100-106, Gilbert, 85)
- February 25 MID-TERM EXAMINATION

Week VIII: 1830s and 1840s: The Condition of England

- February 28 1830s and Chartism (Blakely, pp. 107-114, 118-21; Gilbert, 88, 90)
- March 1 Peel
- March 3 Hard Times (Dickens, all)

SPRING BREAK MARCH 6-10

Week IX: Mid-Victorian Repose and Reform

- March 13 Age of Equipoise and Reform (Blakely, pp. 122-45, 152-59)
- March 15 Disraeli (Blakely, pp. 160-70)
- March 17 Gladstone (Stansky, all)

Week X: Forces for Change

- March 20 Labor and the second industrial revolution (Blakely, pp. 178-84; Gilbert, 88, 97)
- March 22 Empire (Blakely, pp. 185-86; Gilbert, 91-96)
- March 24 Origins of Feminism

Week XI: The crises of Edwardian Britain

- March 27 Edwardian political crisis (Blakely, pp. 195-99)
- March 29 Feminism (Lansbury, Chpt. 1, 4-7; Blakely, pp. 199-203)
- March 31 Ireland (Gilbert, 86-87, 98)

Week XII: The Great War

- April 3 Political Crisis (Gilbert, 98-101)
- April 5 Intellectual aftermath (Blakely, pp. 203-208)
- April 7 War and social change

RESEARCH PAPERS DUE APRIL 7

Week XIII: Aftermath of War

- April 10 Great Depression (Blakely, pp. 212-15, 219-21; Gilbert, 102)
- April 12 Political life (Blakely, pp. 209-211, 216-18, 231-32)
- April 14 Orwell's view (Orwell, all)

Week XIV: World War Two

- April 17 War and politics (Blakely, pp. 237-46; Gilbert, 106-111)
- April 19 War and social change (Blakely, pp. 247-50)
- April 20 Easter recess

Week XV: Post-War Britain

- April 24 Welfare state (Blakely, pp. 251-54; Gilbert, 104-105)
- April 26 Conservative revival/Britain today (Blakely, pp. 255-83; Gilbert, 113, 115-17, 120, 122-27, 129-30, 137, 140, 143-44)
- April 28 Britain's decline (Wiener, all)