

Department of History
University of Wisconsin
Semester 1, 1987-88

Prof. Michael MacDonald
5118 Humanities
Office Hours: M 1-2, W 1-3

History 123: England to 1688

This course introduces students to the history of England from the Anglo-Saxon conquests until the Revolution of 1688. Its focus is necessarily on the main developments and most momentous events in the millennium of history it covers.

The first half of the course deals with the formation and consolidation of the English nation and the shocks it endured in the Middle Ages. The development of the monarchy and the church, the nature of English feudalism and the massive demographic calamities of the fourteenth century are among the themes that will be discussed.

The second half of the course covers the dissolution of medieval institutions and society and the creation of a new kind of state and culture. The chief developments that will be discussed are the Tudor reforms in government, the Protestant reformation, the growth and redistribution of the population and the expansion of the economy. The course will end with a discussion of the political revolutions of the seventeenth century and their significance.

Required Texts:

C. Warren Hollister,	<u>The Making of England</u>	Heath
Lacy Baldwin Smith,	<u>This Realm of England</u>	Heath
W.L. Warren,	<u>King John</u>	California
Richard Barber, ed.	<u>The Pastons</u>	Penguin
Lacy Baldwin Smith,	<u>Elizabeth Tudor</u>	Little, Brown
Alan Macfarlane,	<u>The Family Life of Ralph Josselin</u>	Norton

Required tasks:

All students will be required to attend lectures and section meetings, take two mid-term examinations and take a final examination. Students wishing to take the class for four units will write a term paper or two short essays or to carry out another appropriate project cooked up in consultation with the instructor and/or the teaching assistant.

Course Schedule

You are responsible for keeping up with the readings and preparing for discussion sections. The pace of the lectures and the topics for weekly discussions may vary somewhat from this schedule, which is intended as a guideline, but you will find the course easier and more rewarding if you adhere to the weekly reading assignments given below.

Week		Lectures and Reading Assignments
I	9/2-4	The Formation of England Hollister, chs. 1-2
II	LABOR DAY, 9/9-11 ¹	Anglo-Saxon England Hollister, chs. 3-6
III	9/14-18	The Norman Conquest Warren, pp. 1-173
IV	9/21-25 ²	Kings and Barons Warren, pp. 174-259
V	9/28-10/2	Medieval Government Hollister, chs. 7-12
VI	10/5-9 EXAM, 10/9	The Black Death Smith, <u>Realm</u> , chs. 1-5
VII	10/12-16	The Waning of the Middle Ages <u>The Pastons</u>
VIII	10/19-23	The Tudor Regime Smith, <u>Realm</u> , chs. 6-10
IX	10/26-30 ³	Henry VIII Smith, <u>Elizabeth</u> , pp. 3-117
X	11/2-6	The Reformation Smith, <u>Elizabeth</u> , pp. 118-219
XI	11/9-13	Elizabethan England Smith, <u>Realm</u> , ch. 11
XII	11/16-20 EXAM, 11/14	James VI and I Smith, <u>Realm</u> , chs. 12-14
XIII	11/23-25, THANKSGIVING	English Society Macfarlane, pp. 1-78
XIV	11/30-12/4	Crown and Parliament Macfarlane, pp. 81-223
XV	12/7-11	The English Revolution Smith, <u>Realm</u> , chs. 15-16
XVI	12/14	The Restoration

¹Last day to add the course or a fourth unit, September 11.

²Last day to drop without permanent record, September 25.

³Last day to drop course or fourth unit, October 30.