

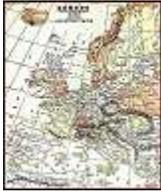
361

2015

THE EMERGENCE OF MODERN BRITAIN 1485-1660

[LECTURE SLIDES ARE HERE](#)

Semester II, 2015



This course will explore a decisive period in the making of modern Britain, and of the western world today. Though the social, economic and intellectual aspects of the period will not be neglected, the main focus of the course will be on political and constitutional change. The course will begin with a broad introduction to early-modern Britain. Then we will examine how the turbulent period of the Wars of the Roses was ended, and how the Tudor monarchy broke the independence of the "over-mighty magnates" of late-medieval England.



The Tudors succeeded in introducing far greater unity and centralization than had existed earlier, and this will be the main theme of the first half of the course. Topics discussed will include the Reformation, the so-called "Tudor Revolution in Government," the bitter factional politics of the court of Henry VIII, the Marian Reaction and the "mid-Tudor crisis," and the re-establishment of royal power in the reign of Elizabeth - when an unprecedented flowering of English culture took place, and when English sea-power staved off conquest by Catholic Spain.



The succession of James, King of Scots to the English throne in 1603, united the Scottish and English monarchies but the new Stuart dynasty was soon faced with grave problems. The second half of the course will examine the ways in which financial, constitutional and religious issues combined to lead to civil war and to the execution of the King and the introduction of a republic in England in 1649. We will also see how the advent of a military despotism and the proliferation of radical ideas led the English to reintroduce monarchy in 1660.

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The [Course schedule](#) gives an outline of this course's content, summaries of the lectures, additional relevant information, and links to other internet sites.

This is a **three or four credit** course for undergraduates, and a **three credit** course for graduate students. If you are registered for the wrong number of credits, please visit your [MyUW site](#) and follow the links to update your current course information.

Requirements:

Undergraduates

- attend lectures (MWF 11-11:50; 4028 Vilas)
- do the required course reading.
- and explore the material on this site by clicking the hyperlinks (starting with Course schedule.)

Three credit undergraduates do two midterms (in class on 3/2 and 4/13.) and take the final (5:05PM, Thursday 5/14, **place to be announced**)

Four credit undergraduates do the same things and also write a term paper (due 3/27 in class.) **Drop the fourth in good time before 3/27 (through MyUW) if you don't get time to do the paper by the deadline; otherwise it can take a lot of time and paperwork to drop the credit.**

Your fourth credit term paper should be double-spaced and about 5-6 pages in length; in addition to the 5-6 pages of text, the paper should also include a bibliography, and references to things you have read, giving your sources, and it should show familiarity with at least two books or articles in addition to the course reading. See [this guide](#) on how to cite references in your paper.

The paper should be on either:

- (1) Why did the Reformation happen in England, and what effects did it have on English society and government?
 - (2) What problems confronted Elizabeth I in the course of her long reign, and how successful was she in overcoming them?
 - (3) What were the causes and consequences of the mid-seventeenth century civil wars?
- or
- (4) another topic, by arrangement.

Honors students: same as 3 or 4 credits students, but you do one extra paper; the requirements for this paper are the same as for the fourth credit papers (see above) except that the paper is due on 5/8. (So for 3-credit honors students, your term paper is due 5/8; 4-credit honors students do one term paper by 3/27 and another by 5/8.)

Graduate students:

Do 2 term papers (12-15 pp. including notes and bibliography; due 3/27 and 5/8.) Topics by arrangement.

Reading

Required Texts:

- (1) Susan Brigden, *New Worlds, Lost Worlds: the Rule of the Tudors 1485-1603*; Paper; Penguin; 2002 (ISBN-10: 0142001252 or ISBN-13: 978-0142001257.) This is the main textbook for the first half of the course.
- (2) Mark Kishlansky, *A Monarchy Transformed: Britain 1603-1714*; Paper; Penguin; 1997 (ISBN-10: 0140148272 or ISBN-13: 978-0140148275 .) Read the first nine chapters. This is the main textbook for the second half of the course.

NOTE ON READING ASSIGNMENTS: for detailed reading assignments see the course **SCHEDULE** below.

Also read the material and follow the links in the pages on this site, beginning with the [Course schedule](#). Those who are interested, and people writing term papers, could also consult the much larger book list [here](#) - - and this [search engine](#) . A good collection of biographies is available in the [Oxford Dictionary of National Biography](#).

How much are the exams (etc.) worth:

Undergraduates:

- 3 credit: each midterm 25%; final 50%.
 - 4 credit: each midterm 18.75%; final 37.5%; term paper 25%.
 - 3 credit honors students: term paper 25%; each mid-term 18.75%; final 37.5%.
 - 4 credit honors students: each term paper 20%; each mid-term 15%; final 30%.
- Graduates: 50% for each paper.

A note on term papers and the Internet:

The term paper should cite at least two sources in addition to the course reading. This [booklist](#) provides many sources, and others are listed in the footnotes and endnotes of the course reading. [Addall](#) is a good link for buying books cheaply. For textbooks (including e-textbooks and rentals) try [chegg.com](#). One of the largest wholesalers of college textbooks is [CollegeBookRenter.com](#) (Textbook Rentals), an online resource for Renting, Selling, and Searching Text books.

Be careful about using sources from the Internet, as they are not always reliable. As a general rule, use printed, published sources (though it's fine to use them in pdf versions available on the Internet.)

A good guide on questions of style, grammar etc. is available at [The Wisconsin Handbook](#).

Finally, be aware that you should be careful to give proper citations for things you take from the Internet or from printed books and articles; take a look at [this information on academic misconduct](#).

[Hints on how to write [a good paper](#)]

SCHEDULE

Introduction: (01/21-01/26)

- (i) [Basic factors](#)
- (ii) [Economy and society](#)
- (iii) [Government](#)

READING: Brigden: Prologue and ch. 1.

The foundation of Tudor England: (01/28-02/02)

- (i) [The Wars of the Roses and their aftermath](#)
- (ii) [Henry VII](#)

READING: Brigden: ch. 2-3.

Henry VIII and Wolsey (02/04)

Henry VIII and the Reformation: (02/06-02/13)

- (i) from above
- (ii) from below
- (iii) the monasteries

READING: Brigden: ch. 4.

Henry VIII - government and society (02/16)

READING: Brigden: ch. 5.

Edward VI and: (02/18-02/20)

- (i) Somerset
- (ii) Northumberland

READING: Brigden: ch. 6.

Mary (02/23-02/25)

The reign of Elizabeth (02/27-03/11)

FIRST MIDTERM IN CLASS 3/2 (MONDAY)

READING: Brigden: ch. 7-8.

Elizabethan: (03/13-03/20)

- (i) Government
- (ii) Parliaments
- (iii) Puritanism
- (iv) Catholicism

READING: Brigden: ch. 9-10.

Elizabethan exploration and foreign policy (03/23)

READING: Brigden: ch. 11; Epilogue.

Stuart England 1603-1642 (03/25-7)

TERM PAPER DUE IN CLASS, 03/27

READING: Kishlansky ch. 1.

SPRING BREAK: 03/28-04/05

Jacobean England: (04/06-10)

- (i) the age of Salisbury
- (ii) the rule of the Howards
- (iii) James and Buckingham

READING: Kishlansky ch. 2-3.

SECOND MIDTERM, IN CLASS 04/13 (MONDAY)

Charles I and the crisis of 1625-9 (04/15-17)

READING: Kishlansky ch. 4.

Charles I: the personal rule 1629-40 (04/20-22)

READING: Kishlansky ch. 5.

The Civil War and its origins 1640-2 (04/24-27)

READING: Kishlansky ch. 6.

The first Civil War, 1642-6 (04/29-5/01)

READING: Kishlansky ch. 7.

The English Revolution, 1647-9 (05/04)

The Commonwealth and Protectorate 1649-58 (05/06)

READING (05/03-06) : Kishlansky ch. 8.

The end of the Protectorate and the Restoration, 1658-60 (05/06-08)

Science, thought, religion and culture in mid-seventeenth century England (05/08)

READING (05/06-08): Kishlansky ch. 9.

(Kishlansky ch. 10-13 is not required reading; it takes the story up to 1714.)

FINAL EXAM, 05/14 (THURSDAY), 5:05PM; PLACE TO BE ANNOUNCED