

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
Department of History

Semester SUM Year 78

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
362	The Emergence of Modern Britain	MacDonald

COURSE DESCRIPTION

History 362 opens with the death of a revolution and ends with the beginning of another. The central problem in this course will be to determine the social, economic and cultural conditions that enabled the landed classes to establish a stable politics, proof from absolutist ambitions by the monarch and revolutionary aspirations by the mob. The consequences of the English revolution of 1640-1660 for politics, society and religion will be discussed first. Then the causes and effects of the so-called Glorious Revolution will be examined, and the rise and decline of party politics described. The coagulation of the elite into a unified ruling class, stuck together by patronage and Restoration culture and propped up by a savage judicial system, will be analyzed. Finally, against these forces of stability the course will balance the agents of change, particularly the rapid growth of a teeming urban culture in London and the persistence of popular violence in the countryside. The course ends where America begins.

LECTURES

Daily during the summer; they will be supplemented by discussion sections

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

All students will write a mid-term and a final. Four-credit students will negotiate extra writing and discussion chores with the instructor.

GRADING SYSTEM

A-F. 15% for participation in discussions; 15% for the mid-term; 60% for the final.

REQUIRED READINGS

J. R. Jones, The Revolution of 1688  
J. H. Plumb, England in the Eighteenth Century  
J. H. Plumb, The Growth of Political Stability  
Danial A. Baugh, ed., Aristocratic Government and Society  
Douglas Hay, et alia, Albion's Fatal Tree  
James Boswell, Boswell's London Journal