

Spring Semester 2011  
HIS 362G: Britain in the Twentieth Century  
Unique Number: 39820  
(also meets as EUS 346, unique number 36495)

WAG 214  
MW 3:30-5:00 p.m.

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This class will consider the course of British history over the twentieth century, a time in which Britain moved from considerable authority in the world to a much reduced status, politically and economically most especially. Since so much of Britain's power derived from its extensive imperial possessions, the British Empire is as central to this course as are considerations of domestic British history.

Alongside this global decline, however, the twentieth century saw dynamic change in British society: in the mid-century years, Britain was transformed into a multi-racial and multi-ethnic society. It shaped one of the dominant welfare states of the century and dominated popular culture for at least a decade before reverting back to a deep conservatism in the 1980s under the long leadership of Margaret Thatcher.

This varied and vibrant history – cultural and social as well as political and economic – is what we will study this semester.

### **Course Website**

This class uses Blackboard, a Web-based course management system with password-protected access at <http://courses.utexas.edu>. If you need support using Blackboard, contact the ITS Help Desk at 475-9400, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Blackboard site contains a copy of the syllabus, advice about writing, exam-taking and a breakdown of minimum grading requirements, as well as an FAQ. Any class announcements will be posted to this site. It will be your responsibility to check the website frequently to make sure you know what's going on.

### **Required Texts**

There is only one required text for this class. We will be relying heavily on primary sources available on the web. Please regard the text as a reference work providing additional information and clarification, a useful tool for verifying facts and expanding your knowledge of particular topics. It will **not** provide sufficient material for you to earn good grades, particularly in the case of your term paper. The text you will need to buy is Peter Clarke, *Hope and Glory: Britain 1900-2000* (Penguin, 2008) and copies are available at the Co-Op.

We will be using student response clicker technology throughout this course. You will need an i>clicker polling device (also available at the Co-Op) and you must have it with you at all lectures. This device can be used in any class which employs this technology, and should last you for your entire UT career. Instructions on how to register your i>clicker are available on the course Blackboard site. Please register your device no later than January 31.

I have suggested additional readings for many topics; these are not required.

### **Course Mechanics**

Please ensure you have turned off any pagers, cell phones, or other noise-emitting devices before coming to class. If you disturb a class period with any such device, you will be required to leave for the remainder of the day's class. A second such disturbance will reduce your final grade in the course by a full grade fraction.

### **Daily Scribble**

Every Monday and Wednesday (other than exam days), please bring with you to class a question you would like to raise or ask about the topics and readings for that week, or a comment on one of the readings, discussions, or lectures. This paper should bear your name and the date. These are not graded, but continued failure to respond will result in the lowering of your grade. These "daily scribbles" will also be used as proof of attendance. While it is fine to ask about something in a previous class that you have not understood, please do not use this exercise exclusively for that purpose; the point is to demonstrate that you have thought about the readings for the week in question.

### **Assignments and Grading Policies**

Grading will be on the following basis, and will include +/- grades  
Assessment in this course is based on two mid-term in-class exams and one research paper. Each is worth 30% of the total grade. The remaining 10% of your grade will reflect participation in the class.

### **Grading Scale:**

A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89

B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	Below 60

Grades ending in .5 or above will be rounded up; grades ending in .49 and below will not.

Your research paper will be due on Monday May 9. The assignment instructions can be found in the Assignments section of Blackboard.

You will need to deliver hard copy to the History Department office (GAR 1.104 ) and at the same time deposit an online copy through Blackboard to Safe Assign. To get to Safe Assign, go to "Assignments" within Blackboard and click on the "Safe Assign" option. Upload, and you are done. Please be aware that this is a facility specifically designed to highlight plagiarism.

Assignments handed in late will be marked down by a grade fraction for each **24 hour** period beyond their due date and time, and no papers will be accepted more than **48 hours** beyond their original due date. It is important to know this, since you will automatically fail the course unless you complete **every** assignment and exam.

In grading your assignments, we look at depth of analysis (do you really try to think carefully about the implications of the readings, or do you simply summarize or state the most obvious points about the texts?), ability to synthesize, insights from a variety of different texts, and quality of writing.

### **Academic Conduct**

Students are required to uphold the standards of academic honesty set by the University of Texas at Austin. The standards and regulations for scholastic dishonesty are available online at: <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis.php>.

All work must be your own and all cases of plagiarism will automatically result in a failing grade for the course as a whole. There will be no deadline extensions or incomplete grades unless the instructor is presented with a legitimate excuse (medical, etc.) in advance of the due date.

Please ensure you have taken the plagiarism test available in the Course Documents section of Blackboard on or before January 28. Though your score will have no effect on your grade, failure to take the test by this date will lower your final grade by a full grade fraction.

### **Students with Disabilities**

If you have a documented disability and require academic accommodations, please contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 512-471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (Video Phone) as soon as possible. If you have accommodations for exams, please remember that it is your responsibility to remind the instructor of any testing accommodations five **business** days before each exam.

### **Religious Holy Days**

By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, I will give you an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

## **COURSE OUTLINE & READINGS**

### **WEEK 1**

January 19: **Introduction**

### **WEEK 2**

January 24: **Overview of British Culture**

January 26: **Film -- *The 1900 House***

Required Readings: Clarke, chapters 1 and 2 (these will provide you with background for the first few weeks of the course)

### **WEEK 3**

**PART I: BRITAIN BEFORE 1918:** Clarke, chapters 1 and 2

January 31: **Class before 1918**

No required readings

Additional Readings:

David Brooks, *The Age of Upheaval: Edwardian Politics, 1899-1914* (Manchester 1995)

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200506/ldselect/ldconst/141/14104.htm>

February 2: **Domestic Politics, 1900-1918**

Required Readings:

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1914Pankhurst.html>

<http://homepages.iol.ie/~dluby/proclaim.htm>

Additional Readings:

Laura Mayhall, *The Militant Suffrage Movement : Citizenship and Resistance in Britain, 1860-1930* (New York, 2003)

[http://www.nli.ie/1916/1916\\_main.html](http://www.nli.ie/1916/1916_main.html) (this is a good source for browsing on Ireland)

<http://www.movinghere.org.uk/search/catalogue.asp?RecordID=77093&ResourceTypeID=2&sequence=6> (text of 1905 Aliens Act)

Anne Kershner, 'The 1905 Aliens Act' *History Today* 55 (2005): 13-19

## WEEK 4

### February 7: **The Beginnings of the Welfare State**

Required Readings:

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1913blease.html>

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1911hobhouse.html>

### February 9: **Culture in Edwardian Britain**

No required readings

Additional Readings:

Dean Rapp, 'The British Salvation Army, The Early Film Industry and Urban Working-Class Adolescents, 1897–1918,' *Twentieth Century British History* 7 (1996): 157-188

## WEEK 5

### February 14: **Britain Abroad before 1918**

Required Readings:

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/rulebritannia.html>

[http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th\\_century/balfour.asp](http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/balfour.asp)

Additional Readings:

Peter Cain, 'Empire and the Languages of Character and Virtue in Later Victorian and Edwardian Britain,' *Modern Intellectual History* 4 (2007): 249-273

Andrew S. Thompson, 'The Language of Imperialism and the Meanings of Empire,' *Journal of British Studies* 36 (1997): 147-177

J. A. Hobson, *Imperialism* (London, 1902)

### February 16: **Revision session for exam**

## WEEK 6

### February 21: **In-Class Exam**

February 23: **Film:** *The Two Winstons*

## WEEK 7

**PART II: INTER-WAR BRITAIN:** Clarke, chapters 3- 5

### February 28: **Discussion of research techniques and sources**

### March 2: **World War One and its Impact**

Required Readings:

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwone/humanfaceofwar\\_gallery.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwone/humanfaceofwar_gallery.shtml) (browse)

Additional Readings:

Nicoletta Gullace, *The Blood of Our Sons: Men, Women and the Renegotiation of Citizenship in the Great War* (New York, 2002)

Vera Brittain, *Testament of Youth* (London, 1933)

George Robb, *British Culture and the First World War* (New York, 2002)

**WEEK 8:**

**March 7: Class in the 1920s and 1930s**

Required Readings:

[http://www.george-orwell.org/The\\_Road\\_To\\_Wigan\\_Pier/6.html](http://www.george-orwell.org/The_Road_To_Wigan_Pier/6.html)

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/britain\\_wwone/jarrow\\_01.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/britain_wwone/jarrow_01.shtml)

Additional Readings:

James Cronin, *Labour and Society in Britain, 1918-1979* (London, 1984)

**March 9: Domestic Politics in the 1920s and 1930s**

No required readings

Additional Readings:

David Powell, 'The Decline of the Liberal Party,' *History Review* 64 (2009)45-50

Michael Childs, 'Labour Grows Up: The Electoral System, Political Generations, and British Politics 1890–1929,' *Twentieth Century British History* 6 (1995): 123-144

**SPRING BREAK: MARCH 14/16**

**WEEK 9**

**March 21 Britain Abroad in the 1920s and 1930s**

No required readings

Additional Readings:

Diarmaid Ferriter, *The Transformation of Ireland, 1900-2000* (London, 2004)

**March 23: Culture in the 1920s and 1930s**

Required Readings:

<http://www.screenonline.org.uk/film/cinemas/sect3.html>

**WEEK 10**

**March 28 Gender, Family and Sexuality, 1900-1945**

No required readings

**March 30: World War Two and its Impact**

Required Readings:

Clarke, chapter 6

**Film:** *The 1940s House*

**WEEK 11:**

**April 4: World War Two and its Impact**

Required Readings:

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/churchill-blood.html>

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/britain\\_wwtwo/nella\\_last\\_01.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/britain_wwtwo/nella_last_01.shtml)

Additional Readings:

Sonya Rose, *Which People's War?* (Oxford, 2004)  
Geoff Eley, 'Finding the People's War: Film, British Collective Memory and World War II,' *American Historical Review*, 105 (2001): 818-38  
<http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/%7Epy/munich/czdoc09.html>  
<http://www.britannia.com/history/docs/peacetime.html>

**April 6: Revision Session**

**WEEK 12:**

**April 11: In-Class Exam**

**PART III: POST-WAR BRITAIN**

Required Readings: Clarke, chapters 7 – 10

**April 13 Decolonization**

Required Readings:

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/modern/endofempire\\_overview\\_01.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/modern/endofempire_overview_01.shtml)

Additional Readings:

Wendy Webster, *Englishness and Empire, 1939-1965* (Oxford, 2005)

**Week 13:**

**April 18 The Welfare State after 1945**

Required Readings:

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1942beveridge.html>

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/modern/field\\_01.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/modern/field_01.shtml)

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1945labour-letsusface.html>

Additional Readings:

Martin Daunt, 'Payment and Participation: Welfare and State Formation in Britain, 1900-1951' *Past and Present* 150 (1996), 169-216

Stephen Brooke, ed. *Reform and Reconstruction : Britain After the War, 1945-51* (Manchester, 1995)

Martin Francis, *Ideas and Policies under Labour, 1945-1951 : Building a New Britain* (Manchester, 1997)

**April 20: Domestic Politics 1945-1979**

Required Readings:

<http://www.movinghere.org.uk/galleries/histories/default.htm> (choose a gallery)

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/modern/arrival\\_01.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/modern/arrival_01.shtml)

Additional Readings:

Wendy Webster, "'There'll Always Be an England': Representations of Colonial Wars and Immigration, 1948-1968,' *Journal of British Studies* , 40 (2001): 557-584

Andrea Levy, *Small Island* (London, 2005)

Harry Goulbourne, *Race Relations in Britain since 1945* (New York, 1998)

Brian Harrison , *Seeking a Role: The United Kingdom, 1951-1970* (Oxford, 2009)

Amy Whipple, Revisiting the “Rivers of Blood” Controversy: Letters to Enoch Powell,  
*Journal of British Studies* 48 (2009): 717-735

#### **WEEK 14**

##### **April 25: Class after World War Two**

No required readings

Film: *7 Up*

##### **April 27: Culture after World War Two**

No required readings

Additional Readings:

John Davis, ‘The London Drug Scene and the Making of Drug Policy, 1965–73,’  
*Twentieth Century British History* 17 (2006): 26-49

#### **WEEK 15:**

##### **May 2: Gender, Family and Sexuality after 1945**

Required Readings:

<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/stopes/married/1918.html> (preface and chap. 1)

[http://www.glbtc.com/social-sciences/wolfenden\\_report.html](http://www.glbtc.com/social-sciences/wolfenden_report.html)

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/september/4/newsid\\_3007000/3007686.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/september/4/newsid_3007000/3007686.stm)

[http://www.poetryconnection.net/poets/Philip\\_Larkin/4761](http://www.poetryconnection.net/poets/Philip_Larkin/4761)

Additional Readings:

Stephen Brooke, ‘Sexuality and the ‘Modernization’ of the British Working Classes, 1920s to 1960s’  
*International Labor & Working-Class History* 69 (2006): 104-122

##### **May 4: The Thatcher Years, 1979-1990**

Required Readings:

Clarke, chapter 11

<http://www.margaretthatcher.org/document/105763>

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/modern/thatcherism\\_01.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/modern/thatcherism_01.shtml)

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/in\\_depth/4447082.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/in_depth/4447082.stm)

Additional Readings:

Peter Clarke, ‘The Rise and Fall of Thatcherism,’ *Historical Research* 72 (1999): 301-22