

HISTORY 295.04
EARLY BRITISH HISTORY
(Roman Britain to 1660)

Professor George Drake
Office: Honkins 103
Email: drake@grinnell.edu

Fall Semester, 2012-2013
MW 2:15-3:35
ARH 318

The course will analyze the development of major British institutions from Celtic and Roman beginnings to the Restoration of the monarchy in 1660. There will be class discussion as well as interpretive lectures, often focusing on documents posted on Blackboard.

Assigned Readings:

Bede, *A History of the English Church and People*; Penguin, 1968
C. Warren Hollister, *The Making of England*; Houghton Mifflin, 2001
George O. Sayles, *The King's Parliament of England*; Norton, 1974
Lacey Baldwin Smith, *This Realm of England*; Houghton Mifflin, 2001
Hilary Mantel, *Wolf Hall*; Picador, 2009
Christopher Hill, *The Century of Revolution 1603-1714*, Routledge, 1980
Readings and documents on Blackboard

Assignments and Evaluation:

Assignments and grading will be divided among: 1) Examinations (35%);
2) Papers (55%); and 3) Class Participation (10%).

1. *Examinations*: Mid-Term: Wednesday, October 17 (15%)
Final Examination: Friday, December 21, 2:00 p.m. (20%)

2. Papers

ESSAY: There is one essay (approximately 5 pages) which will be discussed in a tutorial. The essay will be due on Wednesday, September 26, and your choice of topic will be due on Wednesday, September 26. (15%)

The essay will be discussed in small group tutorials organized according to topics (following an exchange of essays with your tutorial colleagues). Your essay can be written from the assigned reading.

Choose one of these topics:

1. *What are the strengths and limitations of Bede's History of the English Church*

2. "Norman and Angevin Kinship was in many respects constitutional." Do you agree or disagree and why?

Following your submission of topic and available times on Wednesday, September 26, I will assign you to a tutorial group according to your topic and schedule. You will provide copies to me and your tutorial colleagues, due on Wednesday, October 3. Tutorials are scheduled in the week of October 8-12.

TERM PAPER: You will write a term paper (10-15 pages) on a subject to be chosen in consultation with me. This consultation will occur during the week of October 29 to October 31. You must submit your final draft after Fall Break. You are expected to use sources well beyond the assigned reading. The paper is due on Friday, May 14 at 4:00 p.m.

QUESTION/OBSERVATION PAGES: You will write three two-page Question/Observations due in class on Monday, September 10, Wednesday October 31 and Monday, November 19. (15%)

3. *Reading and Class Participation:*

You are expected to do the assigned reading in a timely manner. This is the heart of the course. Each of you is responsible for class attendance and discussion. Much of the quality of your experience depends on your willingness to participate in thought and word during class. (10%)

<u>Summary:</u>	<u>Percentage of Grade</u>
1. Examinations:	
Mid-Term	15%
Final	<u>20%</u>
	(35%)
2. Papers:	
Essay/Tutorial	15%
Term Paper	25%
Question/Observations	<u>15%</u>
	(55%)
3. Class Participation	<u>10%</u>
Total	(100%)

WEEK I

Friday, August 31

Introduction

WEEK II

Monday, September 3

Celtic and Roman Britain

Reading: Hollister: Chapter 1

Bede: Preface; Bk I, Chapters 1, 2, 3, 7, 12, 14, 15, 16, 22, 23, 24

Blackboard: # 1-2 (The number of the reading, not the page)

Wednesday, September 5

Roman Britain and the Anglo-Saxons

Reading: Hollister: Chapter 2 (to: Toward Political Consolidation: Mercia)

Bede: Book I, Chapters 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33

Blackboard: #3-4

WEEK III

Monday, September 10

The Anglo-Saxons

Reading: Hollister: Chapter 2 (Finish), Chapter 3 (to the Reign of Ethelred "the Unready")

Bede: Bk II, Chapters 2, 3, 5, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14; Bk III,

Chapter 25; Bk IV Chapters 1, 2, 4, 5; Bk V

Chapters 9, 10, 22, 23, 24

Assignment: Question/Observation pages on Bede due in class

Wednesday, September 12

The Anglo-Saxons, Manorialism and the Norman Conquest

Reading: Hollister: Chapter 3 (Finish), Chapter 4

Blackboard: # 6, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 24

WEEK IV

Monday, September 17

The Normans: Feudalism

Reading: Hollister: Chapter 5

Blackboard: # 29, 30, 32, 36; F.W. Maitland, The Feudal Heritage

Wednesday, September 19 *The Normans: Feudalism, Law and Angevin Kings*

Reading: Hollister: Chapter 6 (to Richard the Lion Hearted)

Blackboard: # 35, 36, 41, 44, 45, 37

WEEK V

Monday, September 24 *Henry II, John and Magna Carta*

Reading: Hollister: Chapter 6 (Finish)

Blackboard: #49, 50

Wednesday, September 26 *Magna Carta, Early Parliaments*

Reading: Hollister: Chapter 8

Sayles: Chapters 1-2

Assignment: Turn in choice of tutorial topic as well your schedule of time for a tutorial during the week of October 8-12

WEEK VI

Monday, October 1 *Parliaments and Statute Law*

Reading: Hollister: Chapter 9

Sayles: Chapters 3-7

Blackboard: #65

Wednesday, October 3 *Early Towns, Commerce, Countryside*

Reading: Hollister: Chapter 7 (to High Medieval Christianity)

Blackboard: Town Origins; #53, 54

Assignment: Submit your essay to Professor Drake and your tutorial colleagues by 4:00 p. m.

WEEK VII

TUTORIALS

Monday, October 8 *Christian Culture*

Reading: Hollister: Chapter 7 (Finish), Chapter 10

Blackboard: John of Salisbury, Roger Bacon (p 48);

Knowles: Four English Franciscan Thinkers

Wednesday, October 10 *The Late Middle Ages*

Reading: Hollister: Chapters 11, 12

Blackboard: # 74, 75, 77, 78, 79

WEEK VIII

Monday, October 15 *The Late Middle Ages*
Reading: Smith: Chapters 1-3

Wednesday, October 17 *Mid-Term Examination*

FAJL BREAK, OCTOBER 22-26

WEEK IX Individual Consultations re. Term Papers

Monday, October 29 *The Tudors: Henry VII and Henry VIII*
Reading: Smith: Chapters 4-6
Wolf Hall: Cast of Characters, Genealogies, Part I
Blackboard: # 115,116

(This is a lot of reading for one class period, but during spring and you will spend some time during break with this reading. Wolf Hall is an historical novel about Thomas Cromwell and Henry VIII. I believe that once you start reading it you will want to continue, so it might make excellent Fall Break reading.)

Wednesday, October 31 *The Renaissance*
Reading: Blackboard: Humanism

Assignment: Question/Observation pages on Humanism due in class

WEEK X

Monday, November 5 *The Reformation: Henry VIII*
Reading: Smith: Chapter 7
Wolf Hall: Part II

Blackboard: #83, 84, 88, Elton, *The Henrician Revolution*, 120, 122, 123, 126, 127, Guy: pp. 157-167

(The Wolf Hall readings begin to lag the pace of the course from this point. I am trying to mean somewhat equally from class to class, but

Reading: Smith: Chapter 8
Wolf Hall: Part III

Blackboard: # 131, 132

Film: A Man For All Seasons, 5:00 p.m on Sunday, November 11, at Professor Drake's House: 531 Mayflower Lane

WEEK XI

Monday, November 12 *Elizabeth I*

Reading: Smith: Chapter 9

Wolf Hall: Part IV

Blackboard: # 133, 134, 135, 136, 139, 141, 142

Wednesday, November 14 *Elizabeth I*

Reading: Smith: Chapter 10

Wolf Hall: Parts V, VI

Blackboard: # 147, 150, 153, 154, 155,

WEEK XII

Monday, November 19 *James I*

Reading: Smith: Chapter 11

Hill: Chapters 1-4

Blackboard: # 161, 162, 167, Notestein: The Rise of Commons

Assignment: Question/Observation pages on the House of Commons, due in class

Wednesday, November 21 *Charles I*

Reading: Smith: Chapter 12

Hill: Chapters 5-6

Blackboard: # 169, 170, 170

THANKSGIVING BREAK

WEEK XIII

Monday, November 26 *The Civil War*

Reading: Smith: Chapter 13
Hill: Chapters 7-8
Blackboard: Stone, Crisis of the Aristocracy

Wednesday, November 28 *The Civil War*

Reading: Hill: Chapter 9

Blackboard: FOCKOCK: CORE'S LEGAL and Political Doctrine; Cole's Legal and Political Doctrine

WEEK XIV

Monday, December 2 *The Civil War and Interregnum*

Reading: Hill: Chapter 10
Blackboard: The Putney Debates (pp. 134-135), #178

Wednesday, December 5 *The Interregnum*

Reading: Hill: Chapter 11

Blackboard: # 181, 182, 184, 185, 186

WEEK XV

Monday, December 10 *The Restoration*

Reading: Smith: Chapter 14 (pp. 319-335)

Hill: Chapter 12

Wednesday, December 12 *Review*

Term Papers due at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, December 14

EXAMINATION WEEK

Final Examination: Friday, December 21, 2:00 p.m.

EXPLANATION OF WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

I. Question/Observation Pages:

This is an exercise in writing concisely. Pick an issue or question from the reading that can be presented effectively within the scope of two double-spaced pages (or less).

II. Essays and Tutorials:

This is an exercise in constructing a persuasive historical argument in essay form. Each of the listed topics invites you to use primary as well as secondary sources. Your argument need not (should not) be exhaustive. Rather, you are expected to focus on the most persuasive evidence, presenting it in a coherent and well-organized and well-written argument.

Your essay can be written from the assigned reading, although, obviously, you are free to explore other sources.

The tutorial will provide an opportunity to explain and defend your thesis, while examining and questioning the ideas of your colleagues.

III. Term Paper:

You are invited to develop a topic in consultation with Professor Drake. This is a substantial piece of research and writing, and your paper should focus on a topic that challenges you to examine and analyze primary sources as well as differing interpretations.

It is expected that you will use sources that move well beyond the assigned reading.

IV. Examinations:

One of the principal benefits of examinations is that you will be obliged to review the assigned materials and class notes at least twice during the semester. In the process, you will develop deeper and deeper