The History of Modern Britain Since 1850



Class code

LONS HIUK 130S

Instructor Details Dr Nadja A. Janssen

Class Details

Summer 2012

Prerequisites

Class Description

From the middle of the nineteenth century the British people had to make a series of fundamental adjustments to new political, economic and social conditions as well as to changing foreign and imperial influences. This course aims to analyse this process of change over the last 150 years. It highlights particular issues which have great interest from the point of view of historical interpretation and debate, and at the same time looks forward to Britain's contemporary problems and issues, many of which have their origins in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

The course consists of lectures, seminars, films and field trips.

Desired Outcomes

- 1. An understanding of the key developments, chronology and terminology of Britain's past.
- 2. An appreciation of some of the sources relating to these developments and of the interpretations placed upon these events.
- 3. The ability to analyse and interpret conflicting arguments and judgements.
- 4. The development of oral, written and social skills and a scholarly concern for accuracy.

Assessment Components

Class presentation and participation 20%; essay 40%; exam 40%.

Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.

Assessment Expectations

Please refer to your Arcadia University student handbook for information regarding the London Study Centre's general marking criteria and assessment expectations.

Grade conversion

Please refer to your Arcadia University student handbook for the most up-to-date scale of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

| Degree Class | Numerical Grade | Arcadia Letter Grade |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| First Class | 75-100 68-74 65-67 | A+ A A- |
| Upper Second Class 2.1 | 60-64 55-59 50-54 | B+ B B- |
| Lower Second Class 2.2 | 47-49 43-46 40-42 | C+ C C- |
| Third Class 3 rd | 35-39 | D |
| Fail | 0-34 | F |

Attendance Policy

ARCADIA has a strict policy about course attendance. Illness or family emergencies may require a student's absence. Such an absence must be documented by a physician's note or by consultation with the Arcadia University London Office prior to the absence. The Office will inform the Director of the circumstances requiring the absence. The Director will have the final decision on the disposition of an absence. The absent student is always responsible for assignments missed.

Unexcused absences from exams are not permitted and will result in failure of the exam. If you are granted an excused absence from examination (with authorisation, as above), your lecturer will decide how you will make-up the assessment component, if at all (by make-up examination, extra coursework, or an increased weighting on an alternate assessment component, etc.).

Arrival at work or class more than ten minutes late or leaving the class early will be considered an absence.

Please note that for classes involving a **field trip or other external visit**, transportation difficulties are never grounds for an excused absence. It is the student's responsibility to arrive at an agreed meeting point in a punctual and timely fashion.

Late Submission of Work

Written work due in class must be submitted during the class time to the professor.

Required

Text(s)

M. Pugh: State and Society: British Political and Social History, 1870-2007 (Arnold, 2008)

Andrew Marr: The Making of Modern Britain: From Queen Victoria to V.E. Day (Macmillan, 2009)

K. Robbins: The Eclipse of a Great Power, 1870-1975 (Longman, 1994)

Text(s) purchased by

Arcadia
University

P. Brendon: The Decline and Fall of the British Empire (2007)

A. Marr: A History of Modern Britain (Macmillan, 2007)

K. Morgan: Twentieth Century Britain (OUP. 2000)

A. N. Wilson: After the Victorians (2006)

Internet

Research

Guidelines

Additional Required

Equipment

None

Session 1

Introduction to the course—what is History?

Reading: Pugh, M, State and Society (Arnold, 2008)

Week 1

Session 2

Victorian Britain

Reading: Pugh, M, op. cit. Chapters, 1-5

Week 1

Robbins, K, op. cit. Chapters 5-7

Session 3

The British Empire

Reading: Pugh, M, Chapter 6

Week 2

Robbins, K, op.cit. Chapters 2-4.

Session 4 Ireland and Britain

Pugh, M, Chapters, 5,9,14.

Week 2 Robbins, K, Chapter 13

Session 5

World War 1: Causes and Consequences

Reading: Pugh, M, Chapters 9-11

Week 3

Robbins, K, Chapter 10.

Session 6

Field Trip: Visit to Linley Sambourne House

Week 3

Session 7

Field Trip: Visit to the Tate Britain

Week 4

Submission of essay

Session 8

Britain in the 1920's and 1930's Reading: Pugh, M, Chapters 10-13.

Week 4

Marr, A, Making of Modern Britain, Part 3.

Session 9

British Foreign Policy between the Wars

Reading: Pugh, M, Chapter 14

Week 5

Robbins, K, Chapters 19-20

Session 10

Field Trip: Visit to Imperial War Museum

Week 5

Session 11

Britain Post 1945: Politics and Society Reading: Pugh, M, Chapters 16-17

Week 6

Marr, A, History of Modern Britain, Part 1

Robbins, K, Chapters 22-23,31-32,37-38

Session 12

Britain and the Wider World after 1945 Reading: Pugh, M, Chapters 18, 21

Week 6

Robbins, K, Chapters 21, 28-30,40-41

Submission of essay

None

Classroom Etiquette

Eating is not permitted in any classrooms. Please kindly dispose of rubbish in the bins provided.

Required Cocurricular Activities

Suggested Cocurricular

Activities

Students are encouraged to use London's amenities by visiting sites such as the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Museum of London and the National Gallery. In addition, they are encouraged to attend relevant public lectures and debates on political and historical issues.