COURSE NO.  572
COURSE TITLE  Undergraduate Seminar: Victorian England
INSTRUCTOR  Mr. Donnelly

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The continual reinterpretation of Victorian politics, society, and culture is one good measure of the persistent fascination of that era for later generations. In this seminar we will begin our studies with a major work of synthesis, partly in order to establish some common foundation of knowledge about the period, and partly to stimulate discussion about the defining characteristics and the dynamics of this society. We will then turn to a small number of the classic contemporary texts: to Engels, for an account of the consequences of early industrialism and the development of the class system; to Bagehot, for an analysis of how the political system worked before the coming of democracy; to Hughes, for treatment of the role of elite education and "muscular Christianity" in the culture; and to Darwin, for an appreciation of the intellectual revolution and the Victorian "crisis of faith."

LECTURES

Meetings once a week, each meeting to last two hours; all meetings to be devoted to discussion of the required readings.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS

A research proposal of about fifteen pages focusing on a question or a set of related questions needing scholarly investigation, and stating the methods and sources to be used in the search for answers.

GRADING SYSTEM

1. Research proposal (50 percent)
2. Informed participation in seminar discussions (50 percent)

REQUIRED READINGS

Beales, Derek, From Castlereagh to Gladstone, 1815-1885 (Norton paperback).
Briggs, Asa, Victorian People (University of Chicago Press paperback).
Burnett, John, ed., Destiny Obscure (Penguin paperback).
Hughes, Thomas, Tom Brown's School Days (Airmont paperback).
A BRIEF GUIDE FOR STUDENTS TO REFERENCE RESOURCES ON NINETEENTH-CENTURY ENGLISH HISTORY

Erwin K. Welsch, Memorial Library

This is intended as a preliminary guide to selected reference sources. It lists works which are available in the Reference Department of the Memorial Library (Room 262) and makes no pretense to being either comprehensive or complete.

This guide is arranged as follows:

I. Bibliographical guides

II. Current bibliographies

III. Handbooks and bibliographies of special subjects
   1. Social and economic
   2. Official publications and government documents
   3. Publications of local historical societies
   4. Periodicals and newspapers
   5. Handbooks and dictionaries
   6. Historical statistics
   7. Politics and government
   8. Labor history
   9. Guides to archives and collections

IV. The Bibliography Room

V. Collections elsewhere on campus
I. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL GUIDES

Z Madden, Lionel.  
2019 How to find out about the Victorian period; a guide to sources of  
1917  
Intended as an introduction for beginning students and consequently  
includes a lot of basic information on how to use a library effectively.  
It is not definitive but perhaps useful as a starting point.

Z Altholz, Josef L.  
A56  
This is one of the volumes in the "Bibliographical Handbooks" series  
sponsored by the Conference on British Studies. Much more comprehen­  
sive than the above, with 2,500 separate entries, perhaps its only  
problem--and that a small one--is the lack of a subject index. In­  
cludes both primary and secondary sources. The sections on bibliographies  
and catalogs, guides and handbooks are particularly useful.

DA Furber, Elizabeth Chapin, ed.  
1 Changing views on British history; essays on historical writing since  

The Conference on British Studies sponsored a series of articles pub­  
lished in various journals with a view towards summarizing recent  
historiography related to British history. The articles by Roger W.  
Prouty on "England and Wales, 1820-1870" and John Clive on "British  
history, 1870-1914" evaluate recent works on nineteenth- and twentieth­  
century Britain. Clive's is the more ambitious of the two.

Z Elton, Geoffrey R.  
2016 Modern historians on British history, 1485-1945; a critical bibliography,  
1970  
Elton seldom hesitates to criticize when he believes he sees fault.  
Interesting to compare his views with those of Prouty and Clive. The  
section on the nineteenth century takes up most of the book.

2011 B3  

Despite the appearance of numerous other guides, this is still a good  
way of identifying primary sources, particularly for those who stray  
outside the confines of political history into social history. See,  
for example, the list of Victorian periodicals.

Z Berkowitz, David Sandler.  
2016 Bibliotheca bibliographica brittanica, 1963-  
B45
II. CURRENT BIBLIOGRAPHIES

Z 2016 R88

Writings on British history, 1901-
A bibliography of books and periodical articles about British history. A multi-volume set covering 1901-51.

Z 2016 L6

Historical research for university degrees in the United Kingdom.
Annual publication issued by the University of London Institute of Historical Research in two parts: 1) Theses completed, and 2) Theses in progress. Many, but not all, of the completed theses may be obtained on interlibrary loan (apply in Room 230 of the Memorial Library), but the process is slow and cumbersome since in many cases the library which has the dissertation must have the permission of the author to reproduce it.

Z 6205 R65

Annual bulletin of historical literature, 1912-
A bibliography of works published by British historians rather than, strictly speaking, a bibliography of British history.

Z 2013 V5

Victorian bibliography, 1945-
A literary bibliography essentially, but includes all materials relevant to the period.

III. HANDBOOKS AND BIBLIOGRAPHIES OF SPECIAL SUBJECTS

1. Social and economic

Z 7165 G8 W7

Williams, Judith Blow.
A still useful guide to pamphlets and other printed materials published during this period and subsequently to about 1920. Although some of her judgements may be questionable, much of what she lists cannot be easily located in other sources. Limited to England, not Great Britain.
Martin, G.H. and Sylvia McIntyre. 
A bibliography of British and Irish municipal history. Leicester, 1972-

Catalogue; with data on cognate items in other Harvard libraries. Boston, 1940-

See vol. II, 1777-1817; vol. III, 1818-48; and vol. IV, Supplement, 1473-1848. A catalog of one of the most distinguished American libraries of economic materials. The English collection is remarkably strong.

London University. Goldsmith's Company's Library of Economic Literature. 
Catalogue compiled by Margaret Canney and David Knott. London, 1970-
Vol. I (printed books through 1800) and vol. II (printed books, 1801-50) are currently available; the third volume (serial publications) is nearing completion.

Black, R.D. Collison. 
A catalogue of pamphlets on economic subjects published between 1750 and 1900 and now housed in Irish libraries. Belfast, 1969.

An excellent catalog with comprehensive indexes of authors, titles and societies and institutions. The pamphlets are arranged chronologically. Naturally has more on Ireland than elsewhere, but still generally useful.

2. Official publications and government documents

Ford, Percy and Grace Ford. 
A guide to parliamentary papers; what they are, how to find them, how to use them. 3d. ed. Totowa, N.J., 1972.

The basic guide, which includes a bibliography of other works useful in guiding research in British parliamentary and non-parliamentary publications.

Ford, Percy and Grace Ford. 

See also the sessional indexes of the parliamentary papers which have been issued since 1806/07, and the various cumulations which began with the 1801-26 volume and became a regular decennial publication with that for 1870-78/79.

Pemberton, John E. 

Slanted more towards the user of recent documents than the historian, but does contain useful descriptions of various official and non-official indexes and other publications.
DiRoma, Edward and Joseph A. Rosenthal.  

Enables the user to go directly to the correct volume in the parliamentary-papers set if all he has is the command paper number. The Library's collection of parliamentary papers and debates is virtually complete for the nineteenth century. Those before 1860 are in the Microforms Center (Room 430), together with the appropriate indexes; those after 1860 are on stack level 2M, along with the indexes.


A handy guide to the collection at the Center for Research Libraries which can be borrowed on interlibrary loan.

3. Publications of local historical societies

Mullins, Edward L.C.  

These two works index British source sets, most of which relate to periods before the nineteenth century.

4. Periodicals and newspapers

Houghton, Walter E., ed.  
The Wellesley index to Victorian periodicals, 1824-1900. Toronto, 1966-

"A list of articles in selected monthlies and periodicals with attributions of authorship." Currently two volumes are available.

The Memorial Library has compiled a list of representative British nineteenth-century periodicals available in the Memorial Library. A copy is available in the Social Studies Librarian's Office (Room 320).

Note: The microfilm set of The Times, together with the index, is housed in the microfilm section of the Library of the State Historical Society, which is across the mall from the Memorial Library.
5. Handbooks and dictionaries

Low, Sidney and F.S. Pulling.  
1928  
An old classic which includes biographical information as well as definitions of terms and relevant bibliographical citations.

Steinberg, S.H. and I.H. Evans.  
1970  
Brief definitions of terms; no biographical information.

Powicke, Frederick M. and Edmund B. Fryde (eds.)  
1961  
Lists of officials with dates of appointment and other information.

6. Historical statistics

Mitchell, Brian R.  
1962  

Mitchell, Brian R.  
1971  
These are valuable for both the statistics and the bibliographical references they supply to other sources.

7. Politics and government

Dod, Charles R.P.  
Electoral facts from 1832 to 1853. Edited with an introduction and bibliographical guide to electoral sources, 1832-1885, by H.J. Hanham.  

Wilding, Norman W.  

Pelling, Henry.  
8. Labor history

Great Britain. Department of Employment and Productivity.


Detailed and excellent statistics relating to the laboring classes. Despite its title, a number of statistics are given for earlier years.

Bellamy, Joyce M.

Dictionary of labour biography. London, 1972-

Includes definitions of major terms or ideas as well as biographical data. Many bibliographical references.

9. Guides to archives and collections


A description of files in the P.R.O., together with sometimes extensive descriptions of the individual record groups. For indexes to specific record groups, use the list and index volumes available in the same area.

Bond, Maurice.


"Describes the complete range of records preserved within the Palace of Westminster: the records of both Houses of Parliament; all documents which have been presented to the two Houses or purchased by them; and the papers which have accumulated in the various parliamentary and non-parliamentary offices of the Palace." Provides detailed information about manuscripts and published materials.

Downs, Robert B.


"A bibliographical guide to the resources for advanced study and research in the libraries of the United Kingdom and Eire...[it records] all published library catalogs--general and special; all checklists of specialized collections" and similar materials. With this guide one can determine very quickly whether there is a printed catalog for a body of research materials about an individual or a place which will facilitate research.


"Serves as a guide to the student who wishes to know where the record material available... may be found, and what organisations will help him to approach and to use it." For each entry it includes the address and the hours of the repository, the name of the archivist and a brief list of guides to the archives (if any).
IV. THE BIBLIOGRAPHY ROOM

In addition to works in the Reference Collection, there are very useful bibliographical tools in the Bibliography Room (Room 278). The Catalogue of the British Museum is on the tall shelving (so-called pulpit shelving). It lists works in the British Museum by author and by some other entries. For items other than those which bibliographically are relatively simple, the listings may be very complex and require digging to find. This is particularly the case for pamphlets and anonymous publications. The British Museum Subject Index, which has been issued periodically since 1881, is also in this collection (Z 921 B86 S), as is the Subject Index of the London Library (Z 921 L6 S8).

V. COLLECTIONS ELSEWHERE ON CAMPUS

Medical Library

Has some publications on health conditions in England in the nineteenth century which have broader implications for historical research, e.g., the annual reports of the registrar-general of births, deaths and marriages, 1839-48, and the quarterly returns of marriages, births and deaths in England, 1849-57.

Law Library

Some holdings on English law and some of the larger sets of statutes which may not be fully recorded in the Memorial Library catalog.

Historical Society of Wisconsin Library

During the period when the Historical Society Library and the University Library were in the same building, there were mutual agreements as to which library would collect which subjects, but since it is not always possible to define, particularly in earlier periods, where England leaves off and the U.S. starts, it is still possible to find some early English social and economic materials there.