

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History
Semester I, 1973-74

History 363

MODERN BRITAIN, 1780-1870

Mr. Carr

CONSPECTUS OF LECTURES

I. BRITAIN IN 1780

Week I

August 27 The Central Themes of British History
August 29 The Land and the People
August 31 Films: "United Kingdom: Crowded Islands:
"United Kingdom of Great Britain

Week II

September 3 Labor Day, A Holiday
September 5 The Social Chain of Being
September 7 The Economic Framework

Week III

September 10 The Allocation of Power: The National Scene
September 12 The Smoke-Filled Pubs
September 13-14 Discussion Sessions
Topic: Capitalism and Eighteenth
Century Politics

Week IV

September 17 Jarndyce vs. Blackstone
September 19 Law and Disorder
September 21 Wordly Piety and Saving Grace

II. BRITAIN FROM 1780 TO 1815: REVOLUTIONS AND WAR

Week V

September 24 The Industrial Revolution
September 26 Doing Good and Finding Truth
September 28 The Achievement of William Pitt, 1784-1793

Week VI

October 1 England at War
October 3 Napoleon and his Consequences
October 4-5 Discussion Sessions
Topic: Late Eighteenth Century England:
The Anatomy of a Civilization and the
Craft of History

III. CURRENTS OF REFORM, 1815-1832

Week VII

October 8 The Crisis of the Old Order
October 10 Toryism and the New Age
October 12 WRITTEN WORK DUE
Option: Hour Examination, Take-Home Examination,
 or Paper

Week VIII

October 15 Catholic Emancipation and its Consequences
October 17 The Reform Bill of 1832
October 18-19 Discussion Sessions
Topic: The Origins of the English Working Class:
 When and Why

IV. "LIBERALISM" AND ITS OPPONENTS, 1832-1846

Week IX

October 22 The Economy, the Iron Horse, and the State
October 24 The Workhouse and the Factory
October 26 Clerics in Revolt: Church Reform and the Oxford
 Movement

Week X

October 29 Tories and the Workers in Revolt
October 31 The Condition of England
November 1-2 Discussion Sessions
Topic: Did the Disadvantages of Industrialism
 Outweigh the Benefits?

Week XI

November 5 Robert Peel and Liberal Toryism, 1841-1845
November 7 The Triumph of Free Trade
November 9 HOUR EXAMINATION

V. MID-VICTORIAN YEARS, 1846-1867

Week XII

November 12 The Travails of the Late '40's
November 14 Society and Economy at Mid-Century
November 15-16 Discussion Sessions
Topic: Why Victorianism?

Week XIII

November 19 Science and Faith
November 21 Darwin's Bombshell
November 23 Thanksgiving Holiday

Week XIV

November 26 Coalitions and Crimea
November 28 The Palmy Days of Palmerston
November 29-30 Discussion Sessions
Topic: Liberalism and Victorianism: Did Victorian
Repressiveness Result from the Triumph of the
Bourgeoisie?

Week XV

December 3 1867: An End and a Beginning
December 5 A Summing Up: The Intellectual Pilgrimage of John S. Mill
December 6-7 Discussion Sessions
Topic: Great Britain 1780-1870: A Path to the
Modern World

READING

The reading listed under Option I is basic reading and constitutes the minimum required reading for undergraduates. Graduate students are required, in addition, to read at least four of the books listed under Option II, spaced evenly throughout the course. This is the minimum reading required of students in the course. Any student is of course welcome to do as much additional reading in the books listed under Option II as he cares to.

All students are asked to do the reading under Option I for discussion sessions so that there will be a common basis for discussion. But except for these works, a student may if he wishes to do any or all of his reading from Option II. According to their needs, students should feel perfectly free to do the reading under Option I for one week and under Option II for another. ALL STUDENTS ARE ASKED TO TURN IN TO THE INSTRUCTOR THE TITLES AND PAGES OF THE BOOKS AS THEY READ UNDER OPTION II IF THEY ARE COUNTING THESE WORKS AS PART OF THE BASIC REQUIRED READING IN THE COURSE.

ALL STUDENTS ARE URGED TO KEEP WITH THE READING WEEK BY WEEK

Week I

OPTION I:

W. G. Hoskins, The Making of the English Landscape, chs. 5 and 6.
David Cecil, The Young Melbourne, prologue and chs. 1 and 2.
(Xerox copies on reserve.) Also published under the
title Melbourne
R. K. Webb, Modern England, Introduction: Early Eighteenth Century
England

OPTION II:

Hoskins, portions not assigned under Option I
Any of the volumes in the series entitled Visual History of Modern Britain
John Summerson, Architecture: Britain 1530-1830
E.W. Boville, English Country Life
T.W. Freeman, Pre-Famine Ireland: A Study in Historical Geography
George S. Pryde, Scotland from 1603 to the Present Day
Victor Bonkon-Carter, The English Village
H.C. Dotky, An Historical Geography of England before 1800

WEEK II

OPTION I

Davis S. Landes, The Rise of Capitalism
Webb, Appendix 2, "Titles, Honors, and the Peerage"

OPTION II:

G.D.H. Cole and Raymond Postgate, The Common People, 1746-1946
E.J. Hobsbawm, Industry and Empire
Dorothy Marshall, English People in the Eighteenth Century
M. Dorothy George, London Life in the Eighteenth Century
Peter Mathias, The Brewing Industry in England, 1700-1830
J.D. Chambers, Nottingham in the Eighteenth Century
David Cecil, Melbourne
W.H.B. Court, A Concise Economic History of Britain
F.M.L. Thompson, English Landed Society in the Nineteenth Century
Harold Perkin, The Origins of Modern English Society, 1780-1880

WEEK III: DISCUSSION SESSIONS. (The Discussion Sessions will be based on the reading from Week II as well as on that from Week III.)

OPTION I:

Sir Lewis Namier, The Structure of Politics at the Accession of George III
Preface to 1st edition; Part I and Part III
_____, "Monarchy and the Party System," xeroxed in reserve
library from Personalities and Powers

OPTION II:

R. Pares, King George III and the Politicians
Herbert Butterfield, George II, Lord North, and the People
E.N. Williams, The Eighteenth Century Constitution (Documents and Commentary)
C.C. Weston, English Constitutional Theory and the House of Lords
Ian Christie, The End of North's Ministry, 1780-1782
_____, Wilkes, Wyvill, and Reform
A.S. Foord, His Majesty's Opposition, 1714-1832
J.H. Plumb, Walpole
Peter Brown, The Chatamites

John Norris, Shelburne and Reform
John Cannon, Lord North
W. B. Pemberton, Lord North
K. G. Feiling, The Second Tory Party, 1714-1832
Bernard Bailyn, The Origins of American Politics
_____, The Ideological Origins of the American Revolution

WEEK IV:

OPTION I:

George Rudé, Paris and London in the 18th Century, Part I and the Last Three Essays of Part III
Webb, Chapter I and Appendices 3 and 4.

OPTION II:

George Rudé, Wilkes and Liberty
E. Halévy, England in 1815
Gwyn A. Williams, Artisans and Sans-Culottes
W.S. Holdsworth, A History of English Law (Relevant Volumes)
R. Robson, The Attorney in 18th Century England
C.J. Abbey and J.H. Overton, The English Church in the 18th Century
Norman Sykes, Church and State...in the 18th Century
V.H.H. Green, John Wesley
R.A. Soloway, Prelates and People: Ecclesiastical Social Thought in England, 1783-1832
Ursula Henriques, Religious Toleration in England, 1787-1833

WEEK V:

OPTION I:

David S. Landes, The Unbound Prometheus, pp. 1-123
Webb, Chapter 2

OPTION II:

P. Mantoux, The Industrial Revolution in the Eighteenth Century
T.S. Ashton, The Industrial Revolution, 1760-1830
Phyllis Deane, The First Industrial Revolution
A.E. Musson and E.H. Robinson, Science and Technology in the Industrial Revolution
S. Pollard, The Genesis of Modern Management
J.E.D. Binney, British Public Finance and Administration
John Ehrman, The British Government and Commercial Negotiations with Europe, 1783-1793
R.W. Seton-Watson, Britain in Europe, 1789-1814
C.R. Ritcheson, Aftermath of Revolution: British Policy Towards the United States
Mary Mack, Jeremy Bentham: An Odyssey of Ideas, 1748-1792
L. Radzinowicz, English Criminal Law

Patrick Medd, Romilly
F.K. Brown, Fathers of the Victorians
Standish Meacham, Henry Thornton of Clapham
John Clive, Macaulay, The Making of the Historian

WEEK VI: DISCUSSION SESSIONS

OPTION I:

Webb, Chapter 3

OPTION II:

A. Bryant, The Years of Endurance, 1793-1802; Years of Victory, 1802-1812
C. Northcote Parkinson, War in the Eastern Seas, 1793-1815
Godfrey Davies, Wellington and his Army
G.D.H. Cole, Life of William Cobbett
Graham Wallas, Francis Place
Michael Roberts, The Whig Party, 1807-1812
Denis Gray, Spencer Perceval
Philip Ziegler, Addington
Halévy, England in 1815

WEEK VII:

OPTION I:

Webb, Chapter 4, parts 1 and 2

OPTION II:

R.J. White, Waterloo to Peterloo
E. Halévy, The Liberal Awakening
Cobbett, Rural Rides
Barnes, The Corn Laws
Chester New, Life of Brougham
Relevant Works listed under previous Weeks
Relevant Works on Education, Religion, and History of Working Classes
listed in Christie's Bibliography

WEEK VIII: DISCUSSION SESSIONS

OPTION I:

Webb, Chapter 4, part 3
E.P. Thompson, The Making of the English Working Class, Chapters 1,2,3,11
and sections 1 and 5 of Chapter 16
SUPPLEMENTARY READING IF TIME: E. Halévy, The Birth of Methodism in England

OPTION II:

J.R.M. Butler, The Passing of the Great Reform Bill
Hobsbawm and Rude, Captain Swing
Norman Gash, Reaction and Reconstruction in English Politics
_____, Politics in the Age of Peel

- J. Hamburger, Intellectuals in Politics: John Stuart Mill and the Philosophic Radicals
The Carr-Thomas controversy on James Mill and the Suffrage, Historical Journal, 1969, 1971, and 1972
H. Senior, Orangeism in Ireland and Britain, 1795-1836
J.A. Reynolds, The Catholic Emancipation Crisis in Ireland
Relevant Books listed under Previous Weeks

WEEK IX:

OPTION I:

- Webb, Chapter 5.
Philip A.M. Taylor, The Industrial Revolution in Britain

OPTION II:

- Olive Brose, Church and Parliament
E. Chadwick, The Victorian Church
J.S. Mill, Bentham and Coleridge
Charles Dickens Sketches by Boz
E.L. Bulwer, England and the English
Michael Rose, Poverty
J.R. Poynter, English Ideas on Poor Relief, 1795-1834
E. Halévy, The Triumph of Reform
F.D. Roberts, Victorian Origins of the Welfare State
W.M. Frazer, A History of English Public Health
E. Eldon Barry, Nationalization in British Politics: The Historical Background
O. Macdonagh, A Pattern of Government Growth

WEEK X: DISCUSSION SESSIONS

OPTION I:

- Thomas Carlyle, Past and Present, Books 1 and 4

OPTION II:

- Asa Briggs, Victorian Cities
Chartist Studies
Mark Hovell, The Chartist Movement
Donald Read and Eric Glasgow, Feargus O'Connor
A.R. Schoyen, The Chartist Challenge
C. Driver, Richard Oastler, Tory Radical

WEEK XI:

OPTION I:

- Webb, Chapter 6

OPTION II:

- G. Kitson-Clark, Peel and the Conservative Party

R.B. McDowell, British Conservatism, 1832-1914
J.R. Vincent, Pollbooks: How Victorians Voted
Donald Read, Cobden and Bright

WEEK XII: DISCUSSION SESSIONS

OPTION I:

G. Kitson-Clark, The Making of Victorian England

OPTION II:

E. Hughes, Tom Brown's Schooldays
Brian Harrison, Drink and the Victorians
A. Humphrey House, The Dickens World
S.G. Checkland, The Rise of Industrial Society in England
S. Pollard, Labour in Sheffield
J.S. Mill, The Subjection of Women, ed. W.R. Carr
J.D. Chambers, Workshop of the World
Clapham, Economic History of Modern Britain
Richard Altick, The English Common Reader
John Pimlott, The Englishman's Holiday
E.P. Thompson on H. Mayhew in Victorian Studies, XI, 1967, 41-62.
Mark Girouard, The Victorian Country House

WEEK XIII

OPTION I:

Webb, Chapter 7
W.L. Burn, Age of Equipoise, chs. 1,5,6

OPTION II:

Basil Willey, Nineteenth Century Studies and More Nineteenth Century Studies
Loren Eiseley, Darwin's Century
G. Himmelfarb, Darwin and the Darwin Revolution
Sir Gavin de Beer, Darwin
Noel Annan, Leslie Stephen

WEEK XIV: DISCUSSION SESSIONS

OPTION I:

John R. Vincent, The Formation of the British Liberal Party

OPTION II:

W.E. Williams, The Rise of Gladstone to the Leadership of the Liberal Party
Donald Southgate, The Passing of the Whigs
A.J.P Taylor, The Struggle for Mastery in Europe
D.C.M. Platt, Finance, Trade, and Politics in British Foreign Policy, 1815-1914
Donald Southgate, The Most English Minister

WEEK XV: DISCUSSION SESSIONS

OPTIONAL READING FOR SECTIONS: G.M. Young, Victorian England: Portrait of an Age

OPTION II:

Any relevant books listed for previous weeks
Royden J. Harrison, Before the Socialists
F.B. Smith, The Making of the Second Reform Bill
M. Cowling, 1867: Disraeli, Gladstone and Revolution
Robert Blake, Disraeli
P. Magnus, Gladstone

ORGANIZATION OF THE COURSE

MEETINGS

N. B. : STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND ALL MEETINGS OF THE COURSE UNLESS PREVENTED BY ILLNESS

The meetings of the course will consist of fifty minute lecture sessions at 11:00 MWF and two-hour discussion sessions at times to be arranged. There will be two lectures only in weeks that discussion sessions are held.

Discussion Sessions

Discussion sessions will usually, though not invariably, be held every two weeks. They will be led by the instructor. They will focus on the readings assigned, but opportunity will also be provided for questions and general discussion about problems raised in the course. The purposes of the discussion sessions are to examine controversial issues in British history from 1780 to 1870; to acquaint students with the various materials and techniques by which historians have investigated British history; and to provide training in the formulation of historical problems and in the drawing of inferences from historical evidence. The readings have been selected with these aims in view.

AS INDICATED BY THE FACT THAT THE INSTRUCTOR WILL CONDUCT THEM THE DISCUSSION SESSIONS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE COURSE. STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THEM WITHOUT FAIL AND ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE READINGS ASSIGNED AND FOR ANY MATERIAL PRESENTED DURING THE SESSION.

The quality of students' participation in discussion will account for approximately 20% of the final course grade. By quality is mean the following: (1) command of the reading; (2) general interest and curiosity; (3) improvement through the semester in ability to analyze material and to use it creatively, with emphasis not on an absolute standard, but on progress.

Obviously, these three criteria presuppose attendance. To make sure they understand the material, students who must unavoidably miss a session are encouraged to turn in a six to eight page interpretive essay on the assigned reading, which the instructor will comment on and if necessary, discuss in person.

WRITTEN WORK:

There will be a final examination and two other pieces of written work. Every student is required to take the final examination. For the two other pieces of written work, students may choose from among the following options: hour examinations, analytical essays, book reviews, short "research" papers involving reading in one or two additional sources, or, in lieu of two pieces of written work, one longer term paper involving a more substantial amount of research in secondary sources and if necessary in primary sources as well. Details will be discussed in class.

THE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF WRITTEN WORK REQUIRED IS TWO HOUR EXAMINATIONS AND A FINAL EXAMINATION. ALL THREE PIECES OF WRITTEN WORK OR THEIR EQUIVALENT MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR A PASSING GRADE IN THE COURSE.

THE FIRST PIECE OF WRITTEN WORK WILL BE DUE ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12. THE SECOND WILL BE DUE ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9.

Any student who wishes to request an extension must see the instructor AT LEAST ONE WEEK BEFORE THE RESPECTIVE PAPER IS DUE. After that date, extensions will be granted only in cases of illness or really dire and unexpected emergencies. It is hoped that this arrangement will encourage students to plan their work so that their production will represent leisurely reflection, not the frantic non-inspiration afforded by the last twelve hours before the deadline.

It is expected that the papers will be written in clear, coherent, and hopefully elegant prose.

Students are strongly urged to complete their written work by the stated deadlines, so that they can avoid the end of the semester crunch and even more important, so that they can apply the criticisms received on one piece of work to the production of the next.

GRADING

The three pieces of written work (or the two, for those who choose to write the longer paper) will be counted equally, with additional weight given to the final examination if it shows an improvement over previous grades. Approximately 80% of the grade will be based on the written work; approximately 20% of the grade will be based on the student's participation in discussion. Participation in discussion will be considered particularly in those cases in which the written work is on the border line between a higher and a lower grade.

ALL WRITTEN WORK MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR A PASSING GRADE IN THE COURSE. ALL STUDENTS WHO WISH TO WRITE ONE LONGER PAPER INSTEAD OF THE TWO SHORTER ASSIGNMENTS MUST CONSULT WITH THE INSTRUCTOR EARLY IN THE TERM. THE LONGER PAPER MUST BE A SUBSTANTIAL PIECE OF WORK OF THE SCOPE DECIDED ON IN CONSULTATION WITH THE INSTRUCTOR

GENERAL SURVEYS AND BIBLIOGRAPHIES

The following works are recommended for those who might want to read additional surveys to that provided by Webb:

Asa Briggs, The Making of Modern England (Harper Torch Book); also published in hardback under the title, The Age of Improvement, 1783-1867

Apart from Webb, the best one volume survey specifically on the period covered by the course; now slightly, but not seriously out of date.

Steven Watson, The Reign of George III, 1760-1815

E.L. Woodward, The Age of Reform, 1815-1870

These are the volumes in the Oxford History of England for the period covered by the course, with all the virtues and faults of that series, detailed narrative with corresponding lack of analysis; emphasis on political and military history to the comparative neglect of social, economic and intellectual history; extensive bibliographies with the same focus as the text.

The most convenient bibliography outside those in Watson and Woodward is Ian R. Christie, British History since 1760. The most accessible and widest ranging collection of primary sources will be found in the appropriate volumes of English Historical Documents.