

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
Department of History

SEMESTER II YEAR 74-75

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
363	Modern Britain, 1780-1870	Professor Carr

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A comprehensive history of Great Britain from <sup>1780 to</sup> 1870 focussing on the central questions of how Britain responded to the twin challenges of industrialism and modernization to refashion its old institutions into the shape in which they for the most part exist today. Approximately equal attention will be devoted to social, economic, intellectual, and political history. Imperial and diplomatic history will be treated only cursorily; but students interested in these topics will have the opportunity of exploring them through readings and, if they choose, papers. Topics covered will include the great revolutions of the late eighteenth century--industrial, social, and political; the impact of Napoleon; the reforming impulse of the 1820's and 1830's; the growth of government size and power; the development of Darwin's theories and their impact; and Victorian society and the Victorian economy.

Three lectures a week, alternating with two lectures a week and a discussion session led by the instructor.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMS

The minimum required written assignment is two hour examinations and a final examination. Everyone is required to take the final. Students may, in consultation with the instructor, substitute short essays for one or both of the hour examinations.

GRADING SYSTEM Every effort is made to be

~~fair~~ fair. The instructor makes a point of giving each student who needs it individual help; and students are given the opportunity of redoing any written work that shows lack of academic skills, as opposed to lack of effort. The written work counts for about 80 per cent of grade; participation in discussion for about 20 per cent/. Good work is expected; but the instructor makes every effort to help the students learn how to do good work.

REQUIRED READINGS

The text is R. K. Webb, Modern England. Considerable latitude is given in the reading to students who come into the course with more background than others. Apart from the text, minimum required reading consists of selections from the following works:

- R. S. Dishman, Burke and Paine on Revolution and the Rights of Man
- L. Namier, Structure of Politics at the Accession of George III
- E. P. Thompson, The Making of the English Working Class
- David Landes, The Unbound Prometheus
- Thomas Carlyle, Past and Present
- G. Kitson-Clark, The Making of Victorian England
- Harold Perkin, the Origin of Modern English Society
- John Vincent, The Formation of the British Liberal Party