

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

SEMESTER I YEAR 1976-77

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
123	English History: England to 1688	Donnelly

COURSE DESCRIPTION

History 123 is the first half of a two-semester sequence surveying the history of England and the British Empire. The course extends from the beginnings of Roman conquest and clonization in the first century A.D. (with some background in Celtic Britain before the arrival of the Romans) through "1066 and all that" to the Glorious Revolution of 1688. The first objective of the course will be to assess the impact made on existing institutions and patterns of life by successive waves of foreign invaders--Romans, Anglo-Saxons, Danes and Normans. A second major goal will be to trace the formation of a distinctly English culture between the eleventh and the seventeenth centuries. Specifically, attention will be focused on (1) the growth of monarchical institutions; (2) the evolution of Parliament; (3) the development of the common law; and (4) the arts, languages and literature. A third objective of the course will be to explore the workings of a "traditional" economy, with its overwhelming emphasis on agriculture, its low output, its local markets, and its relatively stable and immobile population. How much of this traditional economy was transformed by population growth, urbanization, the expansion of overseas trade, and agricultural improvements in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries is a question which will receive careful study. A fourth goal of the course will be to make understandable the central role which Catholicism played not only in the affairs of state but also in the lives of the common people between the seventh and the fifteenth centuries, and to explain why England broke away from its allegiance to the Church of Rome.

LECTURES

Lectures three days per week, supplemented by weekly discussion meetings and/or audio-visual presentations, including films, sound filmstrips, slides, and music.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMS

The students themselves will decide during the first week of class whether to have one 50-minute test plus a final exam, or two 50-minute tests plus a final exam.

GRADING SYSTEM

If the students choose to have one 50-minute test plus a final exam, the final grade will be determined on the following basis: performance in discussion section=15%; 50-minute test=35%; final exam=50%. If, on the other hand, students decide to have two 50-minute tests plus the final exam, a number of grading options will be offered.

REQUIRED READINGS

Hill, C.,	<u>God's Englishman: Oliver Cromwell and the Puritan Revolution</u>
Smith, Lacey B.	<u>Henry VIII: The Mask of Royalty</u>
Bennett, H.S.	<u>Life on the English Manor</u>
Bede	<u>A History of the English Church and People</u>
Stone, Lawrence	<u>The Causes of the English Revolution, 1529-1642</u>
Painter, Sidney	<u>The Reign of King John</u>