

J.P.SOMMERVILLE

367 Course Requirements

NOTE THAT THIS IS A THREE CREDIT COURSE; UNDERGRADUATES CAN TAKE IT WITH OR WITHOUT HONORS .

Instructor: Johann Sommerville

Email: jsommerv@wisc.edu

Office: 4127 Mosse Humanities

Mailbox: 4001

Office Hours: Tuesdays at 1:15 to 2:15, and by appointment.

LECTURE SLIDES ARE HERE

Undergraduates:

This is a 3 credit course; you can take it with or without Honors

Requirements:

- attend lectures (1641 Mosse Humanities, 4-5:15 Tuesdays and Thursdays)
- do the reading (for details see the [course schedule](#)) and explore this web site.
- two midterms (in class; 10/6 and 11/17.)
- a final exam (12:25PM, Saturday, 12/19; place to be announced.)
- **Honors students** do a term paper of 5-6 pages, double-spaced, 10-12 point font; include a list of books and articles you use (due 12/10)
- If you cannot complete the Honors paper by December 15, make sure to drop the Honors credit in good time! To do this please visit your [MyUW site](#) and follow the links to update your current course information.
- **Reading:** the [course schedule](#) lists readings for each week. In addition, your term paper will need to cite at least two books and/ or articles (but not web sites) in addition to these readings. Here are three books that you might find useful, both in doing your term paper and more generally; all are available on reserve in College Library: (1) Keith Wrightson, *English Society 1580-1680*; (2) Keith Thomas, *Religion and the Decline of Magic*; (3) J. P. Sommerville, *Royalists and Patriots. Politics and Ideology in England 1603-1640*.

Visit [here](#) for information on how to get a good grade.

Honors Term paper: write on one of these topics

(1) How and why did English society change in the century between 1580 and 1680?

(2) What arguments did people in the seventeenth century use in favor of and against the Divine Right of Kings? How convincing were the arguments, and why did people find them persuasive?

(3) Why did religious and political radicalism spread in England in the mid-seventeenth century, what did the radicals want, and why did they fail to attain their objectives

(4) another topic, by arrangement.

A note on term papers and the Internet:

The term paper should cite at least two sources in addition to the course reading. You can find many sources in the footnotes and endnotes of the course reading, and in the three books listed above under "Reading." There is an excellent search engine at [this link](#). A good link for buying books is [here](#).

Be careful about using sources from the Internet, as they are not always reliable. As a general rule, use printed, published sources (though it's fine to use them in pdf versions available on the Internet.)

An extensive reading list on various aspects of early modern Britain, arranged by topic, is [here](#).

Some useful web sites are: The *Dictionary of National Biography* (known as DNB): DA 28 D48 2 (Reference Room; 2S). This is a comprehensive, multi-volume work. It has recently been updated and is available electronically to UW students by clicking the link above;

[British History Online.](#)

[British and US constitutional history](#)

Centred on [English dissenters](#) but with web links to many other English history topics.

[History online.](#)

A good guide on questions of style, grammar etc. is available at [The UW Writer's Handbook](#).

Finally, be aware that you should be careful to give proper citations for things you take

from the Internet or from printed books and articles; take a look at [this information on academic misconduct](#).

How much are the exams (etc.) worth?

Non-honors students: each mid-term 25%; final 50%

Honors students: term paper term paper 25%; each mid-term 18.75%; final 37.5%.

Graduates:

- attend lectures
- 2 term papers (12-15 pp. including notes and bibliography; due 10/22; 12/15.)

Topics by arrangement. (Total grade consists of 50% for each paper.)



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Schedule of Topics:



Readings for each week are listed below; either read them online or print them out. Your term paper will need to cite at least two printed books and/ or articles (plus as many web sites as you like) in addition to these readings. Here are three books that you might find useful, both in doing your term paper and more generally; all are available on reserve in College Library: (1) Keith Wrightson, *English Society 1580-1680*; (2) Keith Thomas, *Religion and the Decline of Magic*; (3) J. P. Sommerville, *Royalists and Patriots. Politics and Ideology in England 1603-1640*.

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Lecture Topics

Documents & readings

1. Introduction: society and ideas (9/03-08)

Part I

Part II

Shakespeare on England

William Shakespeare by Peter Holland (if the link does not work, go to the Memorial Library web site, then to Databases, then to Oxford Dictionary of National Biography,

and finally search for William Shakespeare; you'll need to sign in with your UW ID and password)
Britain in 1500 by Steven Gunn
Wrong Side of the River by Jessica Browner.
Elizabethan Life

2. English institutions (9/10-15)
Monarchy and government
The Church and Religion - I
The Church and Religion - II

Britain in 1600 by John Miller
From David Hume's History of England Elizabethan and Jacobean England; also sample some of the links on the left.
Bancroft - Survey
Barrow - Discovery

3. English society (9/17-22)
Social structure
Women in society
The Family
The Economy

Description Of Elizabethan England
English population
Cleaver & Dod - Household government
Macfarlane on Stone

4. Divine Right, Patriarchalism, Common Law and Constitutionalism (9/24-29)

The Divine Right of Kings - I
The Divine Right of Kings - II
Filmer's patriarchalism
Common Law

Mocket - God and the King
Filmer - Patriarcha
James - Speech to Parliament
Hedley - Speech to Parliament
Patriarchalism, Politics and Mass Attitudes in Stuart England, Gordon J. Schochet

5. Contract, Resistance, and Parliament (10/01-10/08)

Protestant resistance theory
Catholic resistance theory

Vindiciae contra tyrannos
John Floyd - God and the king
Manetsch - The Saint Bartholomew's Day massacre; and, with much more material, here.

10/06: FIRST MIDTERM, IN CLASS

6. The Onset of Civil War (10/15-20)

Early Stuart England:

Buckingham in verse
Prynne *Histrio-mastix*
Cornwallis - *On alehouses*

Parliamentarian and Royalist theory in the Civil Wars (1642-6) and Interregnum (1649-60)

Smith - *On Noah's drunkenness*
Spelman - *Considerations*
Parker - *Observations*
Ascham - *Discourse & Bounds*
Weston - *English Constitutional Doctrines*
The Theory of Mixed Monarchy under Charles I

7. Political and Religious Radicals (10/22-27)

Levellers and Diggers
Other religious radicals

An Agreement of the people
Denne - *The Levellers design*
Wood - *The Levellers (falsely so called) Levellers and sects in verse*
Dell - *Building of the Church*
Winstanley - *Letter to Fairfax*
Coppe - *A Fiery Flying Roll*
Kishlansky - *The Army and the Levellers: The Roads to Putney*

8. Republicans and Whigs (10/29-11/03)
Harrington, Sidney and Locke

Harrington - *Oceana Excerpts*
Sidney - *Speech on the scaffold*
Wren - *Monarchy asserted*
J. G. A. Pocock - *James Harrington and the Good Old Cause: A Study of the Ideological Context of His Writings*

9. Towards Modernity: Hobbes, Science, Religion and Toleration (11/05-11/12)

Hobbes
Hobbes II
Religious Toleration

Hobbes - *Excerpts*
Coke - *Survey of Hobbes*
Ross - *Leviathan drawn out*
Objections answered

John Goodwin - *Theomachia*
Jeremy Taylor - *Liberty of prophesying*
Tom Sorell - *Hobbes's Persuasive Civil Science*
Perez Zagorin - *Clarendon and Hobbes*

11/17: SECOND MIDTERM, IN CLASS

10. Popular Culture (11/19-12/03)
Providence and Prophecy
Magic and Medicine
Ghosts, fairies and omens
Astrology

Francis Bacon from Essay XXXV: Of Prophecies
Hilliard *Fire from heaven*
Miracle of Miracles
Corbet *Ballad*
Rudstone *Prognostication*
Foulweather *Prognostication*
Camden *Astrology in Shakespeare's Day*
Wright *Astrology and Science in Seventeenth-Century England*

11/26-11/29: THANKSGIVING RECESS

11. Witchcraft (12/08-15)
Prosecution and beliefs
Dynamics and decline

Henry Holland *A Treatise against witchcraft:*
The Most wonderfull and true storie
Witches Apprehended, Examined and Executed
Reginald Scot, *Discovery of witchcraft*

Holmes, *Women: Witnesses and Witches*

HONORS PAPERS DUE 12/15

12/19, SATURDAY; 12:25PM: FINAL; PLACE TO BE ANNOUNCED

