

HISTORY 331

TUDOR/STUART ENGLAND

Instructor: E. B. DeWindt, LMS, PhD, FRHistS
Office: B320
Phone: (313) 993-1098
Office Hours: M: 10:00-3:00
 T: 1:00-2:00, 5:6:30
 R: 10:00-3:00

Texts:

S. Brigden, *New Worlds, Lost Worlds*
M. Kishlansky, *A Monarchy Transformed*
J. Sharpe, *The Bewitching of Anne Gunter*
J. Kenyon, *The Popish Plot*
Lisa Jardine, *Ingenious Pursuits*

PURPOSE

THIS COURSE is designed as an introduction to the development of governmental, intellectual, social and religious institutions and ideas in England from the end of the Wars of the Roses, ca. 1485, to the death of Queen Anne, in 1714. Class sessions will consist of lectures by the Instructor on topics that are of interest of him, and discussions of assigned readings, whether or not their contents are specifically addressed in class.

ASSIGNMENTS/GRADING

The basic assignment for the course is to buy the books and read them. Grading will be based on participation/contributions to class discussions, AND on the successful completion and submission of an *extended essay* (i.e. minimum of 10 pages, typed/printed, double-spaced) on the following:

The history of England from the death of weird Richard III to the death of the amazingly obese Queen Anne can be variously seen as a constitutional story, as a religious story, and as a national identity story. From one perspective, the power and authority of the Crown is diminished and replaced by the new power and authority of Parliament. From another, the search for religious unity and definition following the rejection of the Roman Church and the subsequent establishment of the Church of England ultimately results in a religious pluralism none of the creators of the English reformation could have imagined. And from yet another perspective, the shaping of the English State culminates in the creation of a new entity—Great Britain—in which English, Scots, Welsh and Irish find themselves struggling with the task of defining what being “British” is. Indeed, it could be argued that the whole period from 1485 to 1714 is one in which old certainties are being challenged and replaced by a search for newer certainties, OR by the growing suspicion that certainty—in any area—may be illusory. Discuss these questions, drawing upon both the Brigden and Kishlanshky books, AND ALSO by appraising and discussing the extent to which the books by Sharpe, Kenyon and Jardine alter or force modifications to the vision of the past—and the questions posed—assumed by the primary narratives. In short, is there more here than initially meets the eye, and, if so, do we know where all this is going?

In your discussion, be specific. BE VERY SPECIFIC.

NOW, GO BACK AND REREAD THE PREVIOUS PARAGRAPH.

THIS IS YOUR FINAL EXAMINATION, due no later than the start of the class session scheduled for the Final Exam.

NOTE: There is NO OTHER Final Examination for this course. This is it. All of it. Blow this and you blow everything.

Nor will I care.

CALENDAR

Classes of:

- January 6/8:** Introduction. Start reading Brigden, Prologue, Chapter 1.
(NOTE: There is no class January 8th. Keep reading.)
- January 13/15:** The Wars of the Roses and the New Dynasty (whatever)
- January 20/22:** Religious Change (or the Woes of the Marriage Bed).
Reading: Brigden, Chapters 2-4
- January 27/29:** The Governing of England (*aka* Who's in Charge Here?)
Reading: Brigden, Chapter 5
- February 3/5:** Troubles Foreign and Domestic (Oh those people!)
Reading: Brigden, Chapters 6-7
- February 10/12:** England's Expansion (Get out of our way!)
Reading: Brigden, Chapter 9
- February 17/19:** The Elizabethan World (Coming to a PBS station near you soon!)
Reading: Brigden, Chapters 11-12, Epilogue
- February 24:** “ “
- February 26:** NO CLASS (Why are you still here?)
- March 9/11:** England After Elizabeth (Yet another Gay Monarch)
Reading: Kishlansky, Chapters 1-3
- March 16/18:** Charles I (the Dwarf King)
Reading: Kishlansky, Chapters 4-5
- March 23/25:** War and Revolution (Cromwell and those Jolly Puritans)
Reading: Kishlansky, Chapters 6-8
- March 30/
April 1:** Restoring Monarchy (or a reasonable facsimile thereof)
Reading: Kishlansky, Chapters 9-10
- April 6/8:** A Protestant England (yeah,sure)
Reading: Kishlansky, Chapters 11-12

**April 13/14: England into Britain (you wish)
Reading: Kishlansky, Chapter 13, Epilogue**

**Week of
April 19/24: Essay due**

SPECIAL NOTE:

Astute students will have noticed that there are no specific assignments of readings for the books by Sharpe, Kenyon and Jardine. That is because it is assumed you will be reading them—Sharpe for the early 17th century, Kenyon for the Restoration, and Jardine for the entire period 1660-1714. If you are not reading them, you cannot even possibly hope to write the Final Essay.

That means you will flunk the course.

By the time you discover this, I will be out of the country, in London, for the summer, so you will have no one to complain to except your parents and whoever is pretending to be dean of the college at the time.

Good luck.

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