This class examines the history of Britain since 1688, focusing on the major political events and social changes that shaped the development of the English people and their neighbors. Using a variety of readings, art, and film we will examine topics such as life in the Augustan Age, the Industrial Revolution, Victorian society and culture, the British Empire, Britain at war, and the “People’s Peace.”

Class participation is an integral part of this class. Read the complete assignment and be prepared to discuss it in class.

Grade: Your grade in this course will be based on two exams (48%), three essays on assigned topics (42%), and class participation (10%). Exam and paper due dates are noted below. I do not accept late or electronically submitted papers.

Please note that tape recording of lectures is not permitted.

Required Reading:

Clayton Roberts, David Roberts, Douglas Bisson, A History of England:
Volume II 1688 to the Present

Amanda Foreman, *Georgiana: Duchess of Devonshire*

Charles Dickens, *Oliver Twist*

Simon Garfield, *Our Hidden Lives: The Remarkable Diaries of Post-War Britain*

Primary Documents Online

Class Website/CourseDen: The CourseDen page for this course is accessed via the My Courses link on the My UWG homepage. There you can access the syllabus, download assignments and exam review sheets, and find messages regarding the class. You must visit the online syllabus to download the documents listed below. Print them out and bring them with you to class on the dates listed below. Do not wait until the last minute to print these documents. Computer error is not an acceptable excuse for not having the documents on the assigned date.

Statement on Plagiarism

Please note that anyone committing plagiarism in any written assignment will earn an F for the course and may face further disciplinary action. Plagiarism is defined in the University of West Georgia Handbook as “representing the words or ideas of another as one’s own. Direct quotations must be indicated and ideas of another must be appropriately acknowledged.” Please see the UWG’s History Department statement on plagiarism at [http://www.westga.edu/~history/plagiarismhtm.htm](http://www.westga.edu/~history/plagiarismhtm.htm) and the UWG English Department’s guide for avoiding plagiarism at: [http://www.westga.edu/~engdept/Plagiarism/index.html](http://www.westga.edu/~engdept/Plagiarism/index.html).

Course Schedule and Assignments:

**Week 1 (Jan. 6-8)**
Introduction/ The Revolutionary Settlement, 1688-1715

Reading: Text, 245-264

Document: **Bill of Rights (1689)**
**Week 2** (Jan. 13-15)
The Age of Walpole and Pitt

Reading: Text, 265-279

**Week 3** (Jan. 20-22)
Life in the Augustan Age

Reading, Text, 295-309; Foreman, entire text

**Week 4** (Jan. 27-29)
Movie: *The Madness of King George*

**Week 5** (Feb. 3-5)
Revolution and Radicalism

Reading: Text, 310-339
Document: *Reflections on the Revolution in France*
(on CourseDen)

**Napoleonic Satires**

Paper #1 due Feb. 5

**Week 6** (Feb. 10-12)
Workshop of the World

Reading: Text, 280-293
Document: *The Moral and Physical Condition of the Working Classes . . . in Manchester* (on CourseDen)

**Week 7** (Feb. 17-19)
The Age of Reform, 1815-50

Reading: Text, 340-355; Dickens, entire book
Document: The People’s Charter

Views of the Irish Famine

Midterm Exam Feb. 19

Week 8 (Feb. 26-28)
The Age of Equipoise? 1850-80

Reading: Text, 356-392
Document: Conservative Principles

Victorian Web
Dictionary of Victorian London

Week 9 (Mar. 3-5)
Victorian Empire

Reading: Text, 393-408
Documents: The Maintenance of Empire, England’s Mission
(on CourseDen)

The British Empire

Paper #2 due Mar. 5
**Week 10** (Mar. 10-12)
The Rise of Labour and Social Reform

Reading: Text, 409-427

**Document: The New Liberalism (on CourseDen)**

Mar. 16-20 Spring Break

**Week 11** (Mar. 24-26)
World War One and After

Reading: Text, 428-446

**Documents: War Poems (on CourseDen)**

[BBC: World War One](#)
[Trenches on the Web](#)

**Week 12** (Mar. 31- Apr. 2)
"The Long Weekend" – Interwar Britain

Reading: Text, 447-464

**Week 13** (Apr. 7-9)
World War Two and the “People’s Peace”

Reading: Text, 465-480

**Documents: The Report on Social Insurance, Radio Speech to the British People, Britain Stands Alone (on CourseDen)**

[BBC: World War II: The People's War](#)
**Week 14 (Apr. 14-16)**
Postwar Decline to “Cool Britannia”

Reading: Text, 481-528; Garfield, entire book

**Paper #3 due Apr. 14**

**Final Exam – Tuesday, April 21, 2-4:30pm**