

Hacettepe University
Faculty of Letters
Department of English Language and Literature

SYLLABUS

Title of the Course: IKA 603 British History and Politics

Course Credits: 4 (national), 7.5 ECTS

Course Status: Elective

Semester: Spring 2016

Instructor: Dr. Sinan AKILLI

Office Hours: To be announced.

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Class Schedule: Tue. 09:00-12:50– Seminar Room

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION (Aim and Content):

The aim of this course is to provide students with knowledge, skills and competency to conduct scholarly research in the subjects of British history and politics; to look at British history and politics from the point of view of institutional development; to explain the origins, historical evolution and functions of these institutions; to approach British history and politics from a critical point of view and to discuss British history and politics.

Accordingly, topics such as Britain as a multi-national state, the British monarchy, the constitution, Parliament, the cabinet and the government, the political parties and the electoral system, local administrations, the law courts and the judicial system, the law enforcement system and the Church of England will be analyzed in this course with reference to selected historical texts and events.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES: Upon the successful completion of the course work, the students will be able to,

1. explain the crucial developments in British history with their causes and results,
2. explain the historical development of British monarchy,
3. identify the characteristics of the periods which certain dynasties represent,
4. explain the historical development of British parliamentary system,
5. explain the structure and functioning of the present British political institutions, and
6. analyze and compare the relationship between British political institutions and the European Union in the historical context.

III. COURSE OUTLINE

Week I (Feb. 09) Introducing the course — the scope, pragmatics, and contents, the major characteristics and interrelationship of British history, politics and institutions

Week II (Feb. 16) Britain as a multi-national state, Scottish, Welsh and Irish histories

Week III (Feb. 23) The origins, evolution, and powers of the British monarchy, with emphasis on Magna Carta and medieval monarchy, the Tudors

- A historical and political analysis of Magna Carta
- The monarchy in Medieval England: Powers and Rights
- Henry VIII and the Principle of Supremacy

Week IV (Mar. 01) The Stuarts and the Hanoverians, and Victoria to Elizabeth II

- The Stuart Idea and Practice of Monarchy: James I, Charles I, Charles II, James II
- Interregnum and Cromwellian Politics
- Glorious Revolution and the Bill of Rights
- The Monarchy from Victoria to Elizabeth II

Week V (Mar. 08) The Church of England

- The Church and State in Medieval England: The conflict between spiritual and temporal authority
- The Church and State in Tudor England
- The Church of England Today: Organization, Powers, Functions

Week VI (Mar. 15) Midterm Exam, Religion and Politics in English History

Week VII (Mar. 22) The origins, evolution, and powers of Parliament; the structure and functioning of Parliament today

- The Rise and Development of the Medieval English Parliament
- The Tudor and Stuart Parliaments
- The British Parliament Today: Structure, Powers, Functions

Week VIII (Mar. 29) The historical and political evolution of the Constitution; the structure and powers of the Cabinet

- The British Cabinet: Past and Present
- The British Constitution: Origins and Evolution

Week IX (Apr. 05) The British political parties, and the electoral system

- The British Political Parties: Origins, Evolution, Structure and Powers
- The British Electoral System: Origins and Evolution

Week X (Apr. 12) Local administrations: evolution, structure, and powers

- Local Administrations in Britain: Powers, Functions, and Organization

Week XI (Apr. 19) The British legal system, law enforcement, and intelligence services

- The British Legal System
- The History and Practice of British Law Enforcement
- MI5 and MI6

Week XII (Apr. 26) The origins and evolution of the British Army, the British Navy, and the Royal Air Force

Week XIII (May. 03) Industrial relations and the trade unions

- Industrial Relations and Trade Unions in Britain: Past and Present

Week XIV (May. 10) Overall evaluation

Final Exam Date: May 24, 2016

Resit Exam Week: June 13-17, 2016 (Exam date to be announced)

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: Lectures, readings, class discussions, student presentations and in-class work.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND STUDENT CONDUCT: Class attendance is obligatory and failure to attend more than two sessions (8 hours) will result in an F1. As this class will combine lectures, discussion and other in-class work, students are expected both to attend every session and to take an active part in class—joining in discussions and raising questions. Questions, discussion, and disagreement are all encouraged in this class.

Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. This includes all forms of plagiarism, failing to appropriately represent and document sources, fabricating information or citations etc.

VI. ASSESSMENT: Student performance will be assessed based on the following:

Midterm Exam	(10 %)
Major Research Paper 1	(20 %)
Creative Response Papers	(5% + 5%)
Class Participation	(10 %)
Final Exam	(Major Research Paper 2 (20%) + Written Final Exam (30 %))

Major Research Paper 1 (20 %) will be first orally presented in class on the designated week and then submitted to the instructor at the beginning of the next class meeting. The topics for creative response papers (5 % each) will be assigned by the instructor during the semester. Class participation and contribution (excluding oral presentations of papers) are expected and will make up 10 % of the end-of-term grade. Major Research Paper 2 will be due on the written final exam date.

Creative response papers will be short essays based on sufficient research (at least 6 pages long or 1500 words), and all research papers, in addition to descriptive parts, should display critical and interpretive arguments about the assigned topics. All papers must be written in compliance with *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th ed. and submitted in hard copy form on or before the due date.

VI. REQUIRED READING: In addition to the reading list given below, students may be asked to read some other texts and articles for individual class meetings:

Grant, Alexander, and Keith J. Stringer, eds. *Uniting the Kingdom? The Making of British History*. 1995.

Morgan, Kenneth O, ed. *The Oxford Illustrated History of Britain*. 1984.

Oakland, John. *British Civilization: An Introduction*. 4th ed. 1998.

Wright, Anthony. *British Politics: A Very Short Introduction*. 2003.