

NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

HIST 388 - BRITAIN IN THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

SPRING SEMESTER 2025

COURSE SYLLABUS



INSTRUCTOR: DR. SCOTT L. KENT

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OFFICE: ROOM #331 CULLIMORE HALL

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9:30 AM TO 3:45 PM BY APPOINTMENT (WEDNESDAY TO 5:30 PM)

HIST 388-102 MEETS WEDNESDAYS FROM 6:00 PM TO 8:50 PM IN CULLIMORE HALL IN LECTURE HALL#2

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

HIST-388 IS A SURVEY OF BRITISH HISTORY FROM THE DEATH OF QUEEN VICTORIA (1901) TO THE DEATH OF DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES (1997) WITH EMPHASIS ON THE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL TRANSFORMATION RESULTING FROM BRITAIN'S DECLINING ECONOMY AND WORLD POSITION. TOPICS INCLUDE: THE CAUSES AND IMPACT OF THE TWO WORLD WARS, THE TRANSITION FROM LIBERAL DEMOCRACY TO WELFARE STATE, THE TURN FROM EMPIRE TO EUROPE, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC TRENDS AS WELL AS FOREIGN RELATIONS. PREREQUISITES TO THIS CLASS

ARE HUM 101, HUM 102, AND ONE FROM AMONG HUM 211, HUM 211, AND HIST 213 OR THEIR EQUIVALENTS.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

KNOWLEDGE OF HISTORY IS OF THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE WORLD WE LIVE IN TODAY IS THE DIRECT RESULT OF VARIOUS HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENTS. THE STUDENTS OF THE COURSE WILL ANALYZE HISTORICAL EVENTS AND MOVEMENTS OF 20TH CENTURY BRITAIN AND ASSESS THEIR SUBSEQUENT SIGNIFICANCE. STUDENTS WILL USE CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS TO ANALYZE INFORMATION AND DEVELOP THEIR WRITING SKILLS BY PRODUCING A HISTORICALLY THEMED RESEARCH PAPER. ADDITIONALLY, STUDENTS WILL LEARN HOW TO SYNTHESIZE HISTORICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ACQUIRED THROUGH THE UNDERSTANDING OF **MAPS** AND **PRIMARY SOURCE** INFORMATION.

COURSE GOALS:

UPON COMPLETION OF THIS COURSE, STUDENTS SHOULD SPECIFICALLY BE ABLE TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE OF THE FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS AND HISTORICAL EVENTS AND IDEAS RELATED TO 20TH CENTURY BRITAIN.
2. EVALUATE GLOBAL EXCHANGES AND PERSPECTIVES IN CONTEXT OF SOCIAL, POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS, AND INTELLECTUAL TRADITIONS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.
3. READ, ANALYZE, ORGANIZE AND SYNTHESIZE EVIDENCE, HISTORICAL PROBLEMS, AND INTERPRETATIONS CONNECTED TO THE HISTORY OF 20TH CENTURY BRITAIN.

MEASURABLE COURSE PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES (MPOs):

UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THIS COURSE, STUDENTS SHOULD SPECIFICALLY BE ABLE TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE OF SOME OF THE FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS AND THEORIES OF HISTORICAL EVENTS AND IDEAS RELATED TO 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BRITAIN.
  - 1.1 *IDENTIFY AND DESCRIBE KEY TERMS, NAMES AND PLACES OF MAJOR EVENTS OF THE HISTORY OF 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BRITAIN.*
  - 1.2 *EVALUATE THE VALIDITY OF VARIOUS INTERPRETATIONS OF HISTORICAL EVENTS AND INSTITUTIONS.*
  - 1.3 *CLARIFY AND SUMMARIZE INFORMATION PERTAINING TO HISTORICAL EVENTS AND IDEAS IN A **RESEARCH PAPER**.*
2. EVALUATE GLOBAL EXCHANGES AND PERSPECTIVES IN CONTEXT OF SOCIAL, POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS, AND INTELLECTUAL TRADITIONS.
  - 2.1 *IDENTIFY HISTORICALLY IMPORTANT PLACES AND NATION STATES ON HISTORICAL MAPS.*

2.2 *DISCUSS SOCIAL STRUCTURES, RELIGIOUS IDEAS AND INSTITUTIONS, AND INTELLECTUAL TRADITIONS.*

3. READ, ANALYZE, ORGANIZE, AND SYNTHESIZE EVIDENCE, HISTORICAL PROBLEMS, AND INTERPRETATIONS CONNECTED TO THE HISTORY OF 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BRITAIN.

3.1 *USE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SOURCES TO SHOW HOW HISTORICAL PROBLEMS ARE CONFRONTED.*

3.2 *CONDUCT RESEARCH AND EXPLORE RELIABLE RESOURCES ON THE HISTORY OF 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BRITAIN.*

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

INSTRUCTION WILL CONSIST OF LECTURES, VISUAL AIDS, CLASS DISCUSSION, IN-CLASS STUDENT PRESENTATIONS, AND THE VIEWING OF TELEVISION SHOWS, FILMS, AND DOCUMENTARIES.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

MORGAN, KENNETH O. *TWENTIETH CENTURY BRITAIN, A VERY SHORT INTRODUCTION* UNIVERSITY OF WALES PRESS, ABERYSTWYTH U.K. 2005

LESSON D.M. *THE BLACK AND TANS, BRITISH POLICE AUXILIARIES IN THE IRISH WAR OF INDEPENDENCE 1920-1* OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, OXFORD U.K. 2011

VELDMAN, MEREDITH *MARGARET THATCHER, SHAPING THE NEW CONSERVATISM* OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, OXFORD U.K. 2016

SUGGESTED READING:

CHURCHILL, WINSTON (AUTHOR) SIR MARTIN GILBERT (EDITOR) *THE POWER OF WORDS* DA CAPO PRESS BOSTON, 2013.

HINTON, JAMES *NINE WARTIME LIVES, MASS OBSERVATION AND THE MAKING OF THE MODERN SELF* OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, OXFORD U.K. 2011

McKIBBIN, ROSS *PARTIES AND PEOPLE, ENGLAND 1914-1951* ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE OXFORD U.K. 2011

TURNER, STEVE *THE BEATLES A HARD DAY'S WRITE: THE STORIES BEHIND EVERY SONG* MJF BOOKS, NY, NY, 1994

PRIMARY SOURCE LITERATURE:

SELECTED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SOURCE READINGS: READINGS FROM THE FIRST INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION, APPEASEMENT OF THE DICTATORS, 3 SPEECHES BY WINSTON CHURCHILL. (PROVIDED BY THE INSTRUCTOR ON CANVAS).

#### COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

ONE RESEARCH PAPER- 8 TO 10 PAGES IN LENGTH VALUED AT	30%
ONE 10-MINUTE PRESENTATION OF YOUR FINAL PAPER	10%
EXAMINATIONS- A MID-TERM EXAM VALUED AT 25%	25%
POP-QUIZZES – <b><u>AT LEAST TWO</u></b> VALUED AT 5% EACH	10%
MAP TESTS- TWO VALUED AT 5% EACH	10%
ATTENDANCE/ CLASS PARTICIPATION VALUED AT 7.5% EACH	<u>15%</u>
	100%

#### EXAM POLICY:

MID-TERM AND FINAL EXAM (IF SCHEDULED) WILL BE GIVEN ONLY DURING SCHEDULED TIMES. THE ONE EXCEPTION BEING THAT THE FINAL MAY BE RESCHEDULED IF THE STUDENT HAS **THREE** EXAMS SCHEDULED ON THE SAME DAY. SEE ME BEFORE THE DAY OF YOUR FINAL EXAM.

#### GRADING:

- A- 90-100% SUPERIOR WORK: DEMONSTRATES EXCELLENT WRITING, ANALYTICAL, AND INTERPRETIVE SKILLS.
- B- 80-84% ABOVE AVERAGE WORK: DEMONSTRATES GOOD WRITING, ANALYTICAL, AND INTERPRETIVE SKILLS
- B+ (SAME AS ABOVE BUT WITH A SCORE OF 85-89%)
- C- 70-74% AVERAGE WORK: DEMONSTRATES WRITING, ANALYTICAL, AND INTERPRETIVE SKILLS THAT ARE AT A COLLEGE ENTRY LEVEL.
- C+ (SAME AS ABOVE BUT WITH A SCORE OF 75-79%)
- D- 60-69% BELOW AVERAGE WORK: DEMONSTRATES WRITING, ANALYTICAL, AND INTERPRETIVE SKILLS THAT ARE BELOW A COLLEGE ENTRY LEVEL.
- F- BELOW 60% FAILURE: WORK THAT SHOWS LITTLE EFFORT OR THAT IS INCOMPLETE.

#### ATTENDANCE:

ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED AND ATTENDANCE WILL BE TAKEN AT THE START OF EVERY CLASS. EACH STUDENT IS PERMITTED **TWO ABSENCES** DURING THE SEMESTER. ADDITIONAL ABSENCES **WILL** AFFECT THE STUDENT'S GRADE. UNEXCUSED LATENESS COUNTS AS 1/2 OF AN ABSENCE. LEAVING CLASS EARLY ALSO COUNTS AS 1/2 OF AN ABSENCE. THE **ATTENDANCE POLICY** WILL BE

EXPLAINED IN DETAIL ON THE FIRST TWO DAYS OF CLASS. ANY STUDENT WITH THREE (3) OR MORE ABSENCES WILL AUTOMATICALLY HAVE THEIR GRADE LOWER BY ONE FULL LETTER GRADE WHICH COULD RESULT IN AN F FOR THE ENTIRE COURSE.

CELL PHONE USAGE:

CELL PHONE USAGE WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. PHONES MUST BE TURNED OFF OR PLACED ON VIBRATE BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF CLASS. TEXTING DURING CLASS IS ALSO STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

CLASSROOM DECORUM:

THERE SHALL BE NO FOOD OR EATING IN THE CLASSROOM. RUDE OR OBNOXIOUS BEHAVIOR WILL NOT BE TOLERATED, THE STUDENT WILL SIMPLY BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE CLASS.

LAP TOP USAGE:

LAPTOPS ARE **NOT** TO BE USED DURING CLASS, UNLESS THEY ARE USED FOR TAKING CLASS NOTES. IF THIS IS THE CASE SIT IN THE **FIRST TWO ROWS** OF THE CLASSROOM AND PLEASE SEE ME FOR PERMISSION PRIOR TO USING YOUR LAPTOP.


ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

**PLAGIARISM** IS PASSING OFF SOMEONE ELSE'S WORK AS YOUR OWN AND WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO WRITE THEIR OWN ORIGINAL WORK AND TO GIVE CREDIT IN THE FORM OF FOOTNOTES (I.E. CITATIONS) FOR ANY MATERIAL THAT IS NOT THEIR OWN.

**PLAGIARIZED PAPERS WILL BE GIVEN AN AUTOMATIC "F" WITH NO POSSIBILITY OF A REWRITE.** THIS MAY RESULT IN A FAILING GRADE FOR THE ENTIRE COURSE. VIOLATIONS WILL BE BROUGHT TO THE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION OF THE DEAN OF STUDENTS AND ADJUDICATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NJIT HONOR CODE. A COPY OF THE HONOR CODE IS AVAILABLE AT [WWW.NJIT.EDU/ACADEMICS/HONORCODE.PHP](http://WWW.NJIT.EDU/ACADEMICS/HONORCODE.PHP).

**THE USE OF CHAT GPT, CPT-3, GRAMMARLY, OR ANY OTHER FORM OF A.I. IS FORBIDDEN IN THIS CLASS, ITS UNCITED USE IS CHEATING PLAIN AND SIMPLE AND YOU WILL BE GIVEN AN "F" FOR PLAGIARISM AND REPORTED TO THE DEAN OF STUDENTS FOR POSSIBLE EXPLUSION FROM THE UNIVERSTIY.**





SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS: \*

WEEK OF:		ASSIGNMENT
JANUARY 15TH		<b>HISTORY OF BRITAIN IN THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY</b> CLASS INTRODUCTIONS REVIEW COURSE SYLLABUS REVIEW "HOW TO WRITE A COLLEGE RESEARCH PAPER" MAP REVIEW- THE BRITISH ISLES. REVIEW RESEARCH PAPER ASSIGNMENT: <i>WATCH: QUEEN VICTORIA</i>

<p>JANUARY 22ND</p>		<p><b>THE VICTORIAN ERA AND THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION</b>  <u>READINGS FROM THE FIRST INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION.</u>  <i>WATCH: THE FIRST WINDSOR'S, THE STORY OF KING GEORGE V AND QUEEN MARY AND/OR WHY THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION HAPPENED HERE</i></p>
<p>JANUARY 29TH</p>		<p><b>THE EDWARDIAN ERA</b>  <u>READ: LEESON CHAPTER 1</u>  <u>READ: MCKIBBIN CHAPTER 1-OPTIONAL</u>  <i>WATCH: DOWNTON ABBEY EPISODE ONE SEASON ONE/ PEAKY BLINDERS EPISODE ONE, SEASON ONE</i>    SUBMIT ONE PAGE RESEARCH PAPER OUTLINE</p>
<p>FEBRUARY 5TH</p>		<p><b>BRITAIN AND WORLD WAR ONE</b>  <u>READ: MORGAN CHAPTER 1</u>  <u>READ: LEESON CHAPTER 2</u>  <i>WATCH: OUR WORLD WAR-THE FIRST DAY</i>    MAP TEST #1- THE BRITISH ISLES</p>
<p>FEBRUARY 12TH</p>		<p><b>IRISH INDEPENDENCE</b>  <u>READ: LESSON 3 TO 7</u>  <i>WATCH: MONTY PYTHONS FLYING CIRCUS/BLACK ADDER</i>  RECEIVE MIDTERM REVIEW GUIDE  MAP REVIEW- THE GREATEST EMPIRE THE WORLD HAS KNOWN.</p>
<p>FEBRUARY 19TH</p>		<p><b>INTERWAR ERA: THE GREAT DEPRESSION AND APPEASEMENT</b>  <u>READ: MORGAN CHAPTER 2 AND 3</u>  <u>READ: MCKIBBIN CHAPTER 2 AND 3-OPTIONAL</u>  <u>READ: APPEASEMENT OF THE DICTATORS</u>  <i>WATCH: SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE SECRET WEAPON</i></p>
<p>FEBRUARY 26TH</p>		<p><b>BRITAIN AND WORLD WAR TWO</b>  <u>READ: MORGAN CHAPTER 4</u>  <u>READ: MCKIBBIN CHAPTER 4- OPTIONAL</u>  <u>READ: 3 SPEECHES BY WINSTON CHURCHILL</u>  <u>WATCH: THE DARKEST HOUR (2017) OR WHY WE FIGHT &amp; FIRES WE STARTED</u></p>



<p>MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup></p> 	<p><b>THE ALLIES VICTORIOUS</b>  <i>WATCH DR. WHO: THE BEGINNING</i>  <b>MIDTERM EXAM</b></p>
<p>MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup></p> 	<p><b>THE POST WAR ERA: AUSTERITY AND A RETURN TO PROSPERITY</b>  <u>READ: MORGAN CHAPTER 5</u>  <u>READ: MCKIBBIN CHAPTER 5 -OPTIONAL</u>  <u>READ: VELDMAN CHAPTERS 1 THRU 3</u>  <i>WATCH: THE BEATLES: A HARD DAY'S NIGHT</i></p> <p>MAP REVIEW- THE SUN NEVER SETS ON THE BRITISH EMPIRE.</p>
<p>MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup> TO 23<sup>RD</sup></p> 	<p><b>SPRING BREAK- NO CLASSES</b></p>
<p>MARCH 26<sup>TH</sup></p> 	<p><b>THE END OF EMPIRE AND BIRTH OF THE COMMONWEALTH</b>  <u>READ: MORGAN CHAPTER 6</u>  <u>READ: MCKIBBIN CHAPTER 6 -OPTIONAL</u>  <i>WATCH: ARE YOU BEING SEVERED? &amp; BENNY HILL</i></p> <p>MAP TEST #2 –THE SUN NEVER SETS ON THE BRITISH EMPIRE.</p>
<p>APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup></p> 	<p><b>THE TROUBLES AND AN IRON LADY</b>  <u>READ: VELDMAN CHAPTERS 4 THRU 8</u>  <i>WATCH: KEEPING UP APPEARANCES &amp; EASTENDERS &amp; VICIOUS</i>  <b>GUEST SPEAKER: DR. KYLE RIISMANDEL/ ANARCHY IN THE UK –THE BIRTH OF PUNK ROCK (TENTATIVE)</b></p> <p>LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW 4/7/2025</p>

<p>APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup></p>  	<p><b>THE COMMON MARKET AND THE EUROPEAN UNION</b>  <b>READ: MORGAN CHAPTER 7</b>  <b>WATCH: THE DIAMOND QUEEN</b></p>
<p>APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup></p> 	<p><b>TEA ANYONE?</b>  <b>CLASS PRESENTATIONS</b>  <b>(1-10)</b></p>
<p>APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup></p> 	<p><b>MORE TEA?</b>  <b>CLASS PRESENTATIONS</b>  <b>(11-21)</b></p>
<p>APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup></p>	<p><b>LAST DAY OF CLASS</b>   <b>RESEARCH PAPERS DUE BY 4/30/25</b>  <b>FINAL GRADES DUE BY MAY 18<sup>TH</sup></b></p>

\*SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE