

HIST 4100: SOCIAL HISTORY OF MODERN BRITAIN



Speed (1922); By: Claude Flight; Source: Bridgeman Images

Mondays and Wednesdays: 2-3:20PM (WH215)
Dr. Arunima Datta

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Often when studying the histories of nations we highlight the eventful incidents (like wars, riots, etc.) and consequently overlook the *everyday* hidden within those eventful incidents and beyond. This course will explore how modern Britain as a country and as a society was shaped through both events and everyday histories. Thus, giving equal importance to the major events as well as the everyday in the nation's history. In the process, it will study how Britain's identity (political, social and cultural) was shaped over two hundred years. The course will cover themes like (but not limited to): Industrial revolution, the Great War, immigration, morality, health, welfare, including the recent events of Brexit, a new monarch and more.

Note: This is NOT a course on queens and kings (yes we will NOT be discussing Harry, Megan, William or Kate)- but focuses on the everyday histories of people like you and me!

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Understand the key events, and themes in modern British History- by focusing on the social and cultural aspects.
2. Access a range of sources, of information, primary and secondary, relevant to British history of this period and present the results.
3. Exercise a critical understanding of primary sources, secondary sources and historical methodologies.
4. Think analytically and communicate complex ideas and arguments using a variety of methods, skills, which can be transferred to other areas of study and employment.

MATERIALS FOR CLASS:

- **READINGS:** *No textbooks will be used for this course. All readings will be uploaded on Canvas or available via e-resources from the Library*
- **MOVIES:** *Movies have been placed on library reserves, and some will be screened in class (partly).*

ELEMENTS OF YOUR GRADE:

- **Intro Essay**
- **Concluding Review Essay**
- **Class participation**
- **Mid-term: Public History project**
- **Abstract for final essay**
- **Draft final essay presentation**
- **Final Essay**

All assignments are due at 11:59PM of the due date unless otherwise stated in the assignment.

GRADING:

A = 612-680 (90% and above)

B = 544-611 (80-89%)

C = 476-543 (70-79%)

D = 408-542 (60-69%)

F = 0-407 (0-59%)

RUBRIC FOR ALL WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:

A: Follows instructions, makes a strong, clear central argument. Supports the argument with ample evidence including short quotations and paraphrased references from the sources. Cites appropriately. No writing or grammatical errors. Organization is clear and all evidence supports the larger argument.

B: Includes some good observations and has an argument. Makes good use of evidence from sources. Follows most of the general instructions. Organization of ideas could be strengthened or are not always consistent with the main idea.

C: Has either good ideas or some strong evidence. Organization is not always clear and instructions were not necessarily followed. Has citation errors. Better writing and stronger argument or better use of evidence would elevate this to a good achievement.

D: Does not have clear main ideas. Most likely does not make use of evidence from the sources. Does not cite. Has grammatical errors. Organizational problems throughout and failure to follow general instructions.

F: Fails to follow instructions. Includes neither a strong argument nor includes evidence from the sources. Falls short of required length, makes use of unapproved materials, and/or does not cite sources, and/or including evidence of plagiarism.

REQUIRED SKILLS AND RESOURCES FOR THIS COURSE:

- Computer
- Reliable internet access
- Speakers and microphones
- Plug-ins
- Microsoft office suite
- Canvas (<https://clear.unt.edu/supportedtechnologies/canvas/requirements>)
- Computer skills and digital literacy
- Using emails, with attachments

POLICY ABOUT ONLINE MATERIALS FOR THE CLASS AND RECORDED LECTURES:

All materials and recorded lectures for this class are the intellectual property of the university or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes. Students may not post or otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.

CLASS ATTENDANCE AND TURNING IN THINGS LATE:

I expect people to attend class each week. This should take the form of in-person attendance on campus. However, if you are ill or otherwise unable to attend class in person, please inform me in advance. Please do not come to class if you are sick, or if you are caring for someone who is sick. Except under unforeseen or unusual circumstances, late work will not be accepted unless the student has made prior arrangements with the professor. Please contact me to ask for an extension before a deadline is missed, not after.

ETIQUETTE AND NETIQUETTE:

In this class, we will be engaging with each other in two ways: in person while we are in class, and via online communication using the discussion boards on Canvas. It is important that everyone be aware of in-person etiquette and online etiquette – known as ‘Netiquette’ – and treat each other with mutual respect. A helpful site for understanding appropriate online communication is Albion’s “The Core Rules of Netiquette”: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html> Thank you in advance for using respectful and mature in-person and online communication skills

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STANDARDS AND CONSEQUENCES:

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

In this course, all work must be original to each student and may not be completed in pairs or groups. Doing so may warrant a zero grade for that assignment. Wikipedia, cliffs notes, sparks notes, blogs, and online encyclopedias are not appropriate sources and should not be consulted when completing any assignments. Doing so may warrant a zero grade. Evidence of unoriginal work will result in failing the assignment. All appropriate sources (primary and secondary) should be cited in footnotes. Typical university protocol on plagiarism, as stated on the UNT Academic Integrity website (<http://faculty.success.unt.edu/academic-integrity>), will be enforced.

Course materials may not be distributed or posted online without the express written consent of the instructor. All students who wish to use recording devices must sign a statement agreeing not to post, distribute, or circulate any part of the lectures. A failure to do so constitutes a theft of intellectual property and may warrant dismissal from the course, an “F” grade, and appropriate UNT disciplinary action.

RESPECT AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT:

Students are expected to treat one another, the course, and professor with the respect of a workplace. On time arrival, staying on topic, and avoiding distracting behaviors helps to maintain a stable working environment for your classmates. Bullying or aggressive behavior will not be tolerated. Please silence all electronic devices and avoid non-academic discussions during class time. Students may not use cell phones in class.

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.deanofstudents.unt.edu Tutoring and Study Sessions

For tips about strengthening your study skills, writing ability, and time management, or for coordinating study sessions and meeting tutors, please feel free to contact UNT’s learning center. <https://learningcenter.unt.edu/>

ADA ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT:

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one’s specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website at disability.unt.edu.

If you are receiving accommodations from the ODA please make an appointment to meet with me, preferably within the first two weeks of the semester, so that we can ensure that all accommodations can and will be met appropriately in the course.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION & PROCEDURES:

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

COURSE SCHEDULE*

****the professor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus.***

**WEEK 1 (18 & 20 AUG): MAKING OF THE “MODERN” BRITAIN
INTRODUCTION AND BASIC CONCEPTS**

WEEK 2 (25 & 27 AUG): INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION AND BRITAIN

WEEK 3 (1 & 3 SEPT): NO CLASS on 1 Sept- Labour Day

WEEK 4 (8 & 10 SEPT): CLASS, POVERTY IN BRITAIN

WEEK 5 (15 & 17 SEP): MORALITY IN BRITAIN

17 SEPT: ADAM MATHEWS COLLECTION SPECIALIST’s visit to class

WEEK 6 (22 & 24 SEP): WOMEN AND VOTES IN BRITAIN

WEEK 7 (29 SEPT & 1 OCT): THE HOME IN BRITAIN

WEEK 8 (6 & 8 OCT): HEALTH AND DISABILITIES IN BRITAIN

WEEK 9 (13 & 15 OCTOBER): MULTI-CULTURAL BRITAIN: PART I

**OCT 15: NO CLASS MEETING DAY- USE CLASS TIME TO COMPLETE MIDTERM
PROJECT AND SUBMIT BEFORE MIDNIGHT**

WEEK 10 (20 & 22 OCT): MULTI-CULTURAL BRITAIN: PART 2

WEEK 11: (27 & 29 OCT): CRIME AND BRITAIN

WEEK 12: (3 & 5 NOV): WARS AND BRITAIN

WEEK 13: (10 & 12 NOV): RESEARCH WEEK FOR PREPARATION OF DRAFTS-

WEEK 14 (17 & 19 NOV): THE MAKING AND UNMAKING OF BRITAIN

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY (24-29 NOVEMBER)

**WEEK 15 (1 & 3 DEC):
Student Presentations**

FINALS -ESSAYS DUE 5 DECEMBER