

History of Britain and the British Empire, 1688-Present

(readings should be completed *before* class on day mentioned below)

week 1. Before Brexit: England → Britain → UK →
Devolution?

22 Aug. Introduction

24 Aug. Kent, NHoB, "Introduction"

week 2. Revolution Settlement, 1688-1715

29 Aug. Kent, NHoB, Ch. 1 "The Glorious
Revolution & the Creation of "Britain, 1688-1707"

31 Aug. Mapping Unreformed Britain

week 3. Making of a Ruling Class, 1714-1760

5 Sept. Kent, NHoB, Ch. 2 "Consolidating the
Kingdom & the Empire, 1707-1763"

7 Sept. Mapping Unreformed Britain II

week 4. Britain and America in the Revolutionary Age,
1760-1780s

12 Sept. Kent, NHoB, Ch. 4 "Politics and
Imperial Turns, 1760-1789"

14 Sept. **Mapping Britain Papers Due;**
Equiano, *Narrative*, vol. I (selected chapters)

week 5. Britain, America, and Europe in the
Revolutionary Age, 1780s-1815

19 Sept. Kent, NHoB, Ch. 5 "Revolution, War, & Reaction, 1789-1820"

21 Sept. MID-TERM EXAM I

week 6. Industrial Britain: The First Modern Society

26 Sept. Kent, NHoB, Ch. 3 "Economic &
Intellectual Revolutions of the Eighteenth
Century"

28 Sept. Equiano, *Narrative*, vol. II (selected
chapters)

week 7. Parliamentary Reform and Reformers, 1815-
1840s

3 Oct. Kent, NHoB, Ch. 6 "The Age of Reform,
1820-1848"

5 Oct. **Equiano Paper Due**

week 8. Victorian Social Consensus

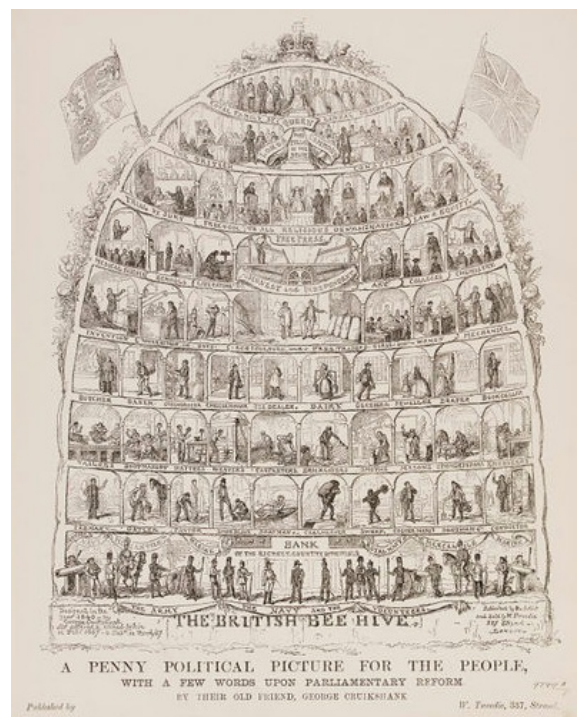
10 Oct. Kent, NHoB, Ch. 7 "'Liberal' Empire,
1823-1873"

12 Oct. Kent, NHoB, Ch. 8 "Nation & Empire,
Citizens and Subjects, 1848-1873"

week 9. Victorian Empire

17 Oct. Kent, NHoB, Ch. 9 "New Politics, New
Imperialism"

19 Oct. Graves, *Good-bye*, prologue & pp. 1-90



week 10. Liberalism *versus* Socialism, 1890s-1914

24 Oct. Kent, NHoB, Ch. 10 "The Crises of the *Fin de Siècle*, 1899-1914"

26 Oct. Graves, *Good-bye*, pp. 91-225; **Times pre-assignment due**

week 11. The Killing Front, 1914-1918

31 Oct. Kent, NHoB, Ch. 11 "The Great War & the 'Peace,' 1914-1922"

2 Nov. MID-TERM EXAM II

week 12. The Long-Weekend and the Slump, 1919-1935

7 Nov. Kent, NHoB, Ch. 12 "Politics & Empire in Interwar Britain, 1919-1935"; Graves, *Good-bye*, pp. 226-347

9 Nov. **Good-bye To All That paper Due**

week 13. Britain's War, 1935-1945

14 Nov. Kent, NHoB, Ch. 13 "Appeasement, World War, & the Establishment of the Welfare State, 1935-1962" (to p. 416)

16 Nov. Mass Observation: Wing, 1939-41; "Fires Were Started" (1943, film)

week 14. The People's Peace and *I'm all Right Jack*, 1945-1960s

28 Nov. Kent, NHoB, Ch. 13 "Appeasement, World War, & the Establishment of the Welfare State, 1935-1962" (pp. 416-423); Ch. 14 "The Shock of the New: Decolonization & the Creation of a New Society, 1947-1996" (to p. 440)

30 Nov. Mass Observation: Wing, 1942-45

week 15. Northern Ireland and Devolution

5 Dec. Kent, NHoB, Ch. 14 "The Shock of the New: Decolonization & the Creation of a New Society, 1947-1996" (pp. 440-455); Ch. 15 "The Make-Up of Britain, 1997-2015" (esp. pp. 462-467)

7 Dec. **Mass Observation presentations due**

11 Dec., Monday, 12:30–2:30 pm, FINAL EXAM



Issued by Textbook Rental:

–Equiano, Olaudah. *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of...* 1789. Ed. Werner Sollors. New York: W.W. Norton, 2001. [Equiano, *Narrative*.]

–Graves, Robert. *Good-bye to All That*. 1929, 1957. New York: Anchor Books, 1985. [Graves, *Good-bye*]

–Kent, Susan Kingsley. *A New History of Britain since 1688: Four Nations and an Empire*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016. [Kent, HNoB]

–Wing, Sandra Koa, ed. *Our Longest Days: a People's History of the 2nd World War*. London: Profile Books, 2009. [Mass Observation: Wing]

His 3110 (33507) provides a narrative of British history from the Revolution of 1688-89 through the upheavals of the late 20th century. It stresses the social, economic, and even religious bases of struggles about parliamentary democracy and imperial domination. It also provides a chance to understand the contemporary issues in Britain from the seventeenth to the twenty-first centuries by using primary documents.

Goals:

1. Develop an understanding of the basic narrative of modern British history (esp. 1689-1989)
2. Compare/contrast the British basic narrative to periods and concepts of modern European/World history: industrial revolution, political revolution and stability, partisanship and parliamentary democracy, urbanization, social class, war, decolonialism
3. Relate ideas to action, the intellectual elite to socio-economic realities in the 18th-20th centuries
4. Use and analyze primary sources and secondary works on modern British history
5. Three themes:
 - a. Industrious Britain and Social Class
 - b. The Rise and Fall of Imperial Britain
 - c. The Experience of War (the relation between the home front and the trenches)


An enhanced version of this syllabus is at <http://ux1.eiu.edu/~nekey/syllabi/brit.htm>. The readings should be done before and the book (esp. Equiano, Graves, or Wing) brought to class on the day listed. Dickens is long and should be begun well before days we discuss the novel. Any revisions to the syllabus will be limited, will be for pedagogical reasons (changes in due dates, readings, specific essay questions, review sheets), and will be announced in class in advance and posted on d2l.


Everyone will write three typed, double-spaced essays: (1) one analyzing selected counties and their MPs during the unreformed period (1660-1832) (Presentation & 4 pages, 10%) (2) one analyzing life in the Atlantic Empire using Equiano's *Narrative* (5-6 pages, 15%); (3) an assessment of Graves's value as a source and historian, comparing *Good-bye* with *The Times* on one topic (5-6 pages, 15%). The essays should be typed, double-spaced, and use a clear and consistent form of referencing (see preferred citation guide, <http://ux1.eiu.edu/~nekey/citate.htm>). The essays are brief, but should be focused and thoughtful.

For exams you must purchase (about 29 cents each at the Union bookstore), sign, and turn in all three exam booklets **on or before** 12 Sept, that is, all three before the first exam. There will be two mid-terms (12% each), and a final exam (15%). The mid-terms and final will consist of short-answer, identifications, short-essay comparisons, analysis of excerpts from the assigned primary sources, and related essay questions. Mapping and political narratives may either be included in mid-terms or separately as part of your participation grade (notice and particulars will be given). (Anyone with a documented disability should let me know by the second week of class so that we can make appropriate accommodations.) The history department has graduate students available for tutoring (CH 2726). And I will talk to you about history virtually anytime.

Participation (contribution to discussions in-class and online, occasional in-class writing/quizzes) is required, and includes one presentation on Unreformed Britain early in the course, and another on one aspect of British life during wartime using *The Times*/British Periodicals Online; and Wing's selection from *Mass Observation* at the end (15%). [The Wing/*Mass Observation* will also be the focus of one section of the final exam.] Extra credit (up to 5% of final grade) can be obtained by an optional extra essay on the final. More than three absences will adversely affect your participation grade. Of course, your grade as a whole will be lowered if your absences fall on the date of an assigned debate. (There is no make-up for the final. Other make-ups are discouraged and are at the professor's discretion.) Any revisions to this syllabus will be announced well in advance and posted on my website.

Participation needs focus. Class etiquette: silence phones; refrain from texting; keep internet use focused on our common subject; if you arrive late, simply seat yourself with a minimum of fuss. Basically, try not to distract others or yourself. We all can consult with class-desk neighbors, laptops, and phones: as long as it is related to what we are doing at the time.

	Course Requirements Summary	
	• Mapping Unreformed Britain (4 pages)	10%
	• Life in Equiano's Atlantic (5-6 pages)	15%
	• <i>Good-bye & The Times</i> (6 pages)	17%
	• Mid-Term I	12%
	• Mid-Term II	12%
	• Final Exam	15%
	• Participation	19%
Total	100%	
Extra Credit possible on Final Exam	5%	

	<p>I have two offices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3725 Coleman Hall, where I have scheduled office hours T & Th 2:00–3:00 pm; <i>and</i>• 1116 Booth Library (Faculty Development Office, lower floor, North side), where I have scheduled office hours 9:30-11:30 M-Th• I am in one of these offices virtually every day, and can often meet other times by appointment or drop in.• Email (nekey@eiu.edu),• Or phone (217-581-7051).• Most communication outside class will be through Brightspace (d2l on the university homepage), nekey@online.eiu.edu.
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