

Department of Humanities  
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Hours of Availability:  
M-T, 1p-4p  
W-H, 1p-3p



## Modern Britain since 1760: Empire to Welfare State

Tuesdays and Thursdays – 11:00am to 12:15pm  
Teleconference

### Course Description

This course explores the history of modern Britain. We will be discussing that history chronologically overall, but each class period will have a specific topical emphasis.

### Course Style

Activities will focus on readings, lectures, class discussion, and some writing.

### Importance of Communication

It is vital that students stay in communication with me as the course progresses. Most struggles students have in college courses can be resolved with simple conversations between student and teacher. If there are difficulties with concepts or assignments, it is not a cause for embarrassment or panic but an opportunity to improve skills and expand knowledge. Just get in touch. We will work through the issue.

I try to make communication as easy as possible and keep regular hours when I am available to talk. We can meet in person, talk on the phone, or video chat.

If you cannot meet during my hours of availability you can request another time when you are available. Please just email me to set up a time.

### Texts

#### **Books:**

For this course will be reading selections from *The Oxford History of Britain* by Kenneth O. Morgan. The ISBN for the correct edition of this text is 978-0-19-957925-9. These selections will be provided through Blackboard. The selections provided are for your use in this class only. Please do not distribute them.

#### **Supplemental:**

For each class I may provide supplemental texts and videos to watch. The material from these supplements will be included in the exams, so it is equally important. All supplemental materials will be uploaded to the class page on Blackboard as PDFs and internet links.

### Syllabus

Please keep your syllabus accessible for the entire semester. It will serve as a guide to not only class assignments but also to understand class expectations. If any major revisions have to be made to the class schedule during the semester, I will let you know when to obtain an updated syllabus from Blackboard.

### Absences

You are expected to attend class, and I will check attendance. Just reading the book will not be enough to allow you to succeed on the tests. If you have to miss a class, be sure to work with another student to obtain good notes for that day.

### Grading

Reading Quizzes	100 points (10 each)
Writing Assignment 1	100 points
Writing Assignment 2	100 points
Exam 1	100 points
Exam 2	100 points

Exam 3

100 points

Your semester grade will be the number of points you receive on the items listed above divided by the total number of points possible. For example, if you receive 540 points among the assignments that is 540 divided by 600 equals 0.9 or 90%. That is the minimum needed for an A in the class.

Note: There are no extra point opportunities in this course. It is best to keep up with your scores on assignments to know how you are doing.

### Participation

This class will be interactive. I will give talks on certain subjects, but we will also discuss topics quite a lot. This is especially important in a class that only meets once a week. To stay engaged and enjoy the experience we all need to work together.

### Reading Quizzes

Beginning the second week of class, there will usually be a quiz associated with the assigned readings. There will be 10 quizzes total throughout the semester. The purpose of the quiz is to encourage accountability in reading. It will not be difficult, but students will need to read the material to be able to answer the questions. Think of it as an opportunity to help your overall semester grade if you just do the reading for each class. But also remember that quizzes can hurt your grade if you do not take them seriously.

### Writing Assignments

This class will have two writing assignments—each five pages long. We will spend time in class to workshop ideas and structure. This will be in the weeks leading up to the assignment due date. You will be expected to turn in a rough draft so I can help you craft the last version. For the final product your work is your own, but I encourage you to take advantage of the resources the college has available to help you with writing.

### Exams

The exams in this course will each cover approximately 1/3 of the material. Each test will be available on Blackboard one week before the due date/time. These are at-home tests that will focus on understanding rather than memorization. Please see the tests for instructions.

## Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)

- 1) Develop the ability to understand history rather than simply memorize.
- 2) Communicate causes and effects clearly.
- 3) Have the ability to explain the “why” of history instead of just the “who, what, when, and where.”
- 4) Improve short-form writing skills in content, organization, style, and grammar.
- 5) Develop skills in assessing non-textbook material for how it connects to the course content.

## ADA Statement

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartze, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8691. E-mail: mschwartze@sulross.edu.

# Class Meetings and Assignments

## Week 1

Tuesday – August 23

- **Introduction to British History**

Thursday – August 25

- **The formation of Britain and the Beginnings of Empire**

## Week 2

Tuesday – August 30

- **British View of Britain**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

Thursday – September 1

- **British View of the World**

- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

### Week 3

Tuesday – September 6

- **Industrial Revolution I**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

Thursday – September 8

- **Industrial Revolution II**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

### Week 4

Tuesday – September 13

- **Victorian Britain I**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

Thursday – September 15

- **Victorian Britain II**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

### Week 5

Tuesday – September 20

- **Victorian Britain III**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

Thursday – September 22

- **Victorian Britain IV**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

- Exam 1 on material for weeks 1-5 available after class – Due September 29<sup>th</sup> before class

## Week 6

Tuesday – September 27

- **World War I**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

Thursday – September 29

- **World War I**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date
  - Exam 1 due before class

## Week 7

Tuesday – October 4

- **Challenges of Empire I**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

Thursday – October 6

- **Challenges of Empire II**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

## Week 8

Tuesday – October 11

- **World War II**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

Thursday – October 13

- **World War II**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

## Week 9

Tuesday – October 18

- **Welfare State I**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

Thursday – October 20

- **Welfare State II**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

## Week 10

Tuesday – October 25

- **Complex World of British Politics I**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

Thursday – October 27

- **Complex World of British Politics II**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date
  - Exam 2 on material for weeks 6-10 available after class – Due November 3 before class

## Week 11

Tuesday – November 1

- **The Royal Family I**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

Thursday – November 3

- **The Royal Family II**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date
  - Exam 2 due before class

## Week 12

Tuesday – November 8

- **TBA**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

Thursday – November 10

- **TBA**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

## Week 13

Tuesday – November 15

- **British Cultural Exports I**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

Thursday – November 17

- **British Cultural Exports II**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

## Week 14

Tuesday – November 22

- **Recent Britain I**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date

Thursday – November 24

- **Thanksgiving holiday – no class**

## Week 15

Tuesday – November 29 (last day of class)

- **Wrap Up Day**
- To Do:
  - Readings:
    - See Blackboard for this date



- Exam 3 on material for weeks 11-15 available after class – Due December 6

## Week 16

Tuesday – December 6

- To Do:
  - Exam 3 on material from weeks 11-15 due on December 6th at 12:15pm