Course Description:

This course will cover a variety of cultural, political, constitutional, and social topics primarily in seventeenth-century England but also touches upon Ireland and Scotland. It is composed of lectures and discussions, including formally assigned ones. The material will be divided into three chronological parts: I. 1603-1621 II. 1621-1660 and III. 1660-1714.

Required Books:

John Wroughton, *Routledge Companion to the Stuart Age*  
(Reference Book – no pages assigned)
Barry Reay, *Popular Cultures in England, 1550-1750*
Giles Milton, *Nathaniel's Nutmeg*
Barry Coward, *Oliver Cromwell*
Daniel Defoe, *A Journal of the Plague Year*

Essay Examinations. Use Small Blue Books

1. February 21 (100 points)  
2. April 9 (100 points)  
3. Wednesday May 9, 10:00 a.m. (125 points)

Papers and Discussions on Required Readings

1. February 12 on Milton (100 points)  
2. March 26 on Coward (100 points)  
3. April 30 on Defoe (100 points)

Topics covered and Reading Assignments:

Section I: 1603-1621  
Complete Milton  
Reay, pp. 1-70

January 15 Martin Luther King Day  
January 17 Introduction  
January 19 Scotland
January 22 English Society
January 24 English Society
January 26 Church of England
January 29 Salisbury
January 31 Parliamentary Conflict
February 2 Local Government
February 5 Sir Edward Coke
February 7 Jacobean Trade
February 9 Insolvency
February 12 Discussion and essay on Milton
February 14 Foreign Relations
February 16 Parliament of 1621
February 19 Buckingham (not on first examination, which is delayed to the 21st because of President’s Day. Class will not be dismissed on that day.)

Section II: 1621-1660
Complete Coward
Reay, pp. 71-131

February 21 Examination on Reay, pp. 1-71 and Lectures
February 23 Parliament
February 26 Finances
February 28 Arminianism
March 2 Colonialism I
March 5 Colonialism II
March 7 Scotland and Ireland
March 9 Library Day
March 12-18 Spring Break
March 19 Civil War
March 21 Interregnum
March 23 Interregnum
March 26 Discussion and Essay Due on Coward
March 28 Impact of Civil War
April 2 Why War?
March 30 Library Day
April 4 Why War?
April 6 Restoration (not on second examination, which is delayed because of Good Friday. Class will not be dismissed on that day)

Section III: 1660-1713
Complete Defoe
Complete Reay

April 9 Examination on Reay, pp. 71-131 and Lectures
April 11 Foreign Affairs
April 13 Foreign Affairs
April 16  Trade
April 18 Constitution
April 20 Constitution
April 23 Foreign Affairs
April 25 Foreign Affairs
April 27 Political Theory
April 30 Discussion and Essay on Defoe
May 9 10:00-11:50 a.m. Final Examination on Reay and Lectures

**Policies:**

**Attendance** will not be taken but you will be tested on lecture material and discussions. Class attendance is, therefore, strongly recommended. Please try not to be late for class. If you must leave early, please notify me and then sit close to the exit. I do not expect any student to ask for this privilege often. If you have a scheduling conflict, then enroll in another class.

**Plagiarism**, the using of ideas or writings of other persons as your own, will not be tolerated and will result in losing all credit for the assignment. It may lead to expulsion from class. If you do use another’s ideas or phraseology, please make the proper citation.

**Examinations and Essays**

Please make every effort to take the examinations on the assigned day. The due dates of examinations are provided in the syllabus and you are responsible for those dates. If you must be excused, please have an explanation in writing as to the funeral you must attend or of the illness that you have suffered. Keep in mind that a make-up examination might well be more difficult than the one given in the classroom. You will have to take any make-up examination at my convenience, usually during my office hours.

All assigned books are required reading. You will be required to write a paper on each of the special topics books. These are required and you will be penalized 5 points for each day that they are late (excluding weekends). They must be typed and double-spaced and the required length. A 12 point font should be used. They should utilize correct grammar. Points will be deducted for poor grammar and style as well as for inadequate content.

**Grading:**

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<td>Papers</td>
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**Letter Grades**

605-625  A+
571-604  A
562-570  A-
550-564  B+
521-549  B
500-520  B-
475-499  C+
434-474  C
375-433  D
0   -309  E

**Incompletes** are not automatic rights. Only in emergency circumstances will an incomplete be given and then only if the student has completed at least two-thirds of the class requirements. You must apply to me directly for that privilege.

The syllabus is subject to change and it is the student’s responsibility to find out about those changes.
Essays on Special Topics Books and Extra Reading

These must be typed and double-spaced. Handwritten or single-spaced papers will be returned for typing.

The three essays on the special topics books should be 1,000 words with a 12 font. Please maintain this length. Points will be deducted for very short or for extremely long papers.

Late penalty. 5 points for each day of the week, excluding the weekends, the papers are late.

Structure:

I. A title page. Give your name and bibliographical information about the book. Please do not use plastic binders. For example:


II. Introduction and statement of purpose, i.e., Tell me about the book you plan to discuss and identify the three topics you have chosen. (Deduction of up to 10 points if not included).

III. Text: discuss the topics in the order in which they are listed in your statement of purpose. (Deduction of up to 10 points if these instructions are not followed).

IV. Summary. Briefly repeat the statement of purpose. For example, Howarth’s book on the conquest in which he explored the conqueror’s motivation, the timing of his invasion, and the impact of his success, was enjoyable to read. (Deduction of up to 5 points if missing.)

V. Conclusion. This is an opinion about the book as well as about other material in it. In the summary above, the phrase “was enjoyable to read” was a conclusion. You might not wish to be so charitable. Be sure you understand the difference between a conclusion and a summary and include both. (Deduction of up to 5 points if conclusion is not done properly).

We cannot spend much time in the classroom discussing paper structure. You should begin to write the paper at least a week before it is due. You need to do at least one complete revision. If you have problems, then come in and talk to me about those problems. If my office hours are scheduled at a time that it is difficult for you, then ask me after class for a special appointment.