



BRITISH HISTORY SINCE 1901

Spring 2008
 HY 555-01 – CB 343
 MWF 1:00-1:50

Dr. T. Whitlock
 Office: POT 1765
 Hours: MWF
 9:45-10:45

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I. General Course Objective

Twentieth century Britain is a study in contrasts. While losing the power and possessions of a great overseas empire and witnessing the final decline of its aristocracy, Britain successfully stands against greater powers in two world wars. In our exploration of recent British history, we will highlight the working class' leading role in politics; the rise of the monarchy as popular icons; the end of Victorian morality; the impact of Socialism, and the break up of the Empire. We will also examine the troubled economics and cultural confusion of the Swinging Sixties and the 1980s and 90s. Requirements for this course include **class participation**, discussion, two examinations, two book reviews, and a one film review based on primary and secondary texts. Students taking this course for *graduate* credit have added requirements detailed separately.

II. Required Reading Material

Required Books:

- David Cannadine, History in Our Time (Penguin) 2001
- Vera Brittain, Testament of Youth (Penguin) 1994.
- George Robb, British Culture and the First World War (Palgrave) 2002
- Robert Roberts, The Classic Slum (Viking) 1984
- John Lukacs, Churchill: Visionary, Statesman, Historian (Yale) 2002
- Khushwant Singh, Train to Pakistan (Grove Press) 1990

Other Required Readings and Films: Will be provided by the instructor.

Assignments

<p>Week 1: W 9 Jan. F 11 Jan.</p>	<p>BRITAIN IN THE 1800s: Introduction Reading: Cannadine, <u>History in Our Time</u>, Preface</p>
<p>Week 2: M 14 Jan. W 16 Jan. F 18 Jan..</p>	<p>LOSING THEIR VICTORIANISM Royalty, Society and Culture The Roaring 00's: Workers and Women DISCUSSION: Cannadine, <u>Our Time</u>, chs. 1-4, 6, 12</p>
<p>Week 3: M 21 Jan. W 23 Jan. F 25 Jan.</p>	<p>THE EDWARDIANS: RICH AND POOR <i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday-no meeting</i> The Roaring 00's: English Liberalism DISCUSSION: Brittain, <u>Testament of Youth</u> —chs. I-IV</p>
<p>Week 4: M 28 Jan. W 30 Jan. F 1 Feb.</p>	<p>THE EDWARDIANS: MOSTLY POOR The Working Classes: Politics and Society The Working Classes: Politics and Society DISCUSSION: Roberts, <u>The Classic Slum</u>, all - REVIEW DUE</p>