

**University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point  
Department of History**

Dr. Nancy LoPatin-Lummis  
**Spring 2016**  
455 CCC  
OH: M-R, 8-9:15  
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**History 359**  
**Modern Britain**  
346-3027

**Course Description:** This is an introductory course on British political, social and cultural history from 1714 to the present. It examines the contributions of Great Britain in developing the modern industrial world and the intellectual and cultural changes linked to it. As an Interdisciplinary Studies course in the General Education Program, it brings together Historical Perspectives, Humanities and the Arts, to give a fuller picture of those contributions (and their effects) on the British and the world.

**Learning Outcomes:** Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- Describe and analyze major events and historical trends in the history of Great Britain from 1714-and the present.
- Synthesize literature with historical background.
- Identify and explain the historical context of popular culture and the arts in Modern Britain.
- Develop and apply critical analytical thinking and reading skills.

**Required Readings:**

At Text Rental, UWSP Bookstore: Ellis Wasson, *A History of Modern Britain, 1714 to the Present*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2010, ISBN 978-1-4051-3935-9.

For purchase: Dickens, *Hard Times*, introduction by Robert Donald Spector, Bantam Classics

Jonathan Gould, *Can't Buy Me Love. The Beatles, Britain, and America*, Three Rivers Press, 2007

**Course Requirements:**

- Attendance: 10%
- Midterm Exam: 20%
- Dickens paper (2-3 pages) on selected topic: 20%
- Beatles paper (3-5 pages) on selected cultural history topic: (25%)
- Final Exam: 25%

Paper topics will be explained in greater detail as the semester progresses.

### **Grading:**

The following percentages will be recording in D2L for the corresponding letter grades on the rubric.

F 0

D 60

D+ 66

C- 70

C 73

C+ 77

B- 80

B 83

B+ 87

A- 90

A 93

**Academic Integrity:** This course follows university practice concerning academic misconduct and plagiarism. This means that all work you submit is your work and your work alone. Please review the **UWSP Community Bill of Rights and Responsibilities for further details.** UWSP values a safe, honest, respectful, and inviting learning environment. In order to ensure that each student has the opportunity to succeed, a set of expectations have been developed for all students and instructors. This set of expectations is known as the Rights and Responsibilities document, and it is intended to help establish a positive living and learning environment at UWSP. For more information go to:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Pages/rightsandresponsibilites.aspx>.

The **Rights and Responsibilities** document also includes the policies regarding academic misconduct, which can be found in Chapter 14. A direct link can be found here:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/SRR-2010/rightsChap14.pdf>.

**Email Etiquette.** When you compose an email, you should view it as a formal communication. Unless your teachers or other staff members expressly tell you to call them by their first name, you should use their last name with a title (Mr./Mrs./Ms., Professor, or Doctor). I welcome student questions, especially in class, but please remember that faculty members get lots of email: before you push the send button, ask yourself if your question can be answered by looking at the syllabus or at the class policies statement.

**Electronics policy:**

Turn off your cell phones during class. There are NO exceptions to this policy. If I see you text messaging during the class, I will first ask you to put your phone away and then, if I need to speak with you again, ask you to leave class. You will not receive credit for attendance on that day. If I see you using a cell phone during the examination, I will terminate the examination. I do permit the use of lap-tops in class but if you are discovered using your computer for something other than note-taking, you will be asked to leave the class. You will not receive credit for attendance on that day. I do not permit recording of lectures unless you discuss this with me in advance. I do not put Power Points on D2L. If you want to look at presentations you missed, you should make an appointment to view them in my office.

**Copyright and File Sharing:**

Posting instructor-created course material onto course-sharing websites directly violates the instructor's copyright on his/her academic materials. These materials are provided for your convenience as an aid to learning. Permission to post instructor-created material on any such site is unequivocally denied. Therefore, photos of handouts, PowerPoint slides, etc., are prohibited.

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Exceeds Expectations: A</b>	<b>Meets Expectations: B</b>	<b>Developing towards Expectations: C</b>	<b>Does not meet Expectations: D</b>
<b>Introduction and Thesis</b>	Thesis is evident and point to be argued is well stated.	Thesis is mixed among many sentences and hard to piece together.	Thesis is not entirely apparent although the topic is evident.	Thesis is not apparent nor is the topic of the essay.
<b>Accuracy of Information</b>	All facts presented in the essay are accurate and relate back to the thesis.	Almost all facts presented in the essay are accurate and occasionally relate back to the thesis.	Most facts presented in the essay are accurate (at least 70%). Evidence is sputtered about rather than used to prove one's thesis.	There are several factual errors in the essay. There is no real effort to make the piece cohesive.
<b>Content and Organization</b>	The essay is well organized. Four or more paragraphs are evident. One idea follows another in a logical sequence with clear transitions. Claims and ideas are supported and elaborated.	The essay is fairly well organized. Four paragraphs are evident. One idea may seem out of place. Clear transitions are used. Most Claims and ideas are supported and elaborated.	The essay is hard to follow. Paragraphs are unclear. The transitions are sometimes not clear. A few claims and ideas are supported and elaborated.	Ideas appear to be randomly arranged. No effort at paragraph organization. Claims and ideas are not supported and elaborated.
<b>Focus on Assigned Topic</b>	The entire essay is related to the assigned topic.	Most of the essay is related to the assigned topic. The essay wanders off.	Some parts of the essay are related to the assigned topic	No attempt has been made to relate the essay to the assigned topic.
<b>Mechanics</b>	The essay has few, if any, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar, or usage errors.	The essay has two or three mechanical errors.	The essay has four or five mechanical errors.	The essay has more than five mechanical errors.

## Course Calendar:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic/Activity</u>	<u>Reading</u>
Jan. 26	Introduction to Britain in the Eighteenth Century	Wasson, chapter 1
Jan.28	The English Constitution post Hanoverians	Wasson, chapter 2
Feb. 2	Revolutions in Society and Politics	Begin Dickens (at your own pace)
Feb. 4	The Empire Shifts	Wasson, chapter 3
Feb. 9	Great Britain and France	Dickens
Feb. 11	Ireland and War	
Feb. 16	Industrial Change and Liberalism	Wasson, chapter 4
Feb. 18	<i>Hard Times</i> as historical source	Dickens
Feb. 23	Popular Politics and Class Division	Wasson, chapter 5
Feb. 25	<i>Hard Times</i> as literature of the time	Dickens
March 1	Famine and Home Rule	Wasson, chapter 6
March 3	Victorian Values	
March 8	Home Rule vs. Imperial Expansion	Wasson, chapter 7
March 10	Socialism, Democracy and Rise of Labor	
March 15	<b><u>Midterm Exam</u></b>	
March 17	Work day: <b><u>Dickens paper due on D2L by 5:00 pm.</u></b> <b><u>Nothing uploaded after this time will be accepted. NO EXCEPTIONS</u></b>	
March 29	Imperial Wars	Wasson, chapter 8
March 31	World War I: Foreign	Wasson, chapter 9

April 5	World War II: Domestic	Begin Gould (at your own pace)
April 7	Anglo-Irish Conflict	
April 12	Versailles and the Mandates	
April 14	Independent research day	
April 19	Battle of Britain	Wasson, chapter 10
April 21	Creation of the Welfare State	Gould
April 26	Collapse of Empire	Gould
April 28	Social Change Post WWII	Gould
May 3	Beatles and Swinging London	Gould
May 5	Thatcherism	Wasson, chapter 11
May 10	Blair and "New Britain" <b><u>Beatles paper due on D2L by 5:00 pm.</u></b> <b><u>Nothing uploaded after this time will be accepted. NO EXCEPTIONS</u></b>	
May 12	Britain and the World Today	
May 19	<b>Final Exam, 2:45-4:45</b>	