

**History 3036**  
**Britain since 1914**  
**Syllabus**

Week 1:

- August 18: Introduction
- August 20: Britain in 1914
- August 22: Origins of World War I  
Read: Arnstein, chapter 12  
First third of Graves

Week 2:

- August 25: Britain during World War I (a)
- August 27: Britain during World War I (b)
- August 29: Class discussion  
Read: Arnstein, chapter 13  
Second third of Graves

Week 3:

- September 1: Class Holiday
- September 3: Revolution in Ireland
- September 5: Class discussion  
Read: Arnstein, chapter 14  
Finish Graves

Week 4:

- September 8: Decline of Liberalism
- September 10: Labor Insurgency
- September 12: Class discussion  
Read: Arnstein, chapters 15-16

Week 5:

- September 15: The General Strike
- September 17: The Slump
- September 19: Class discussion  
Read: Arnstein, chapter 17  
First half of Orwell

Week 6:

- September 22: British Fascism
- September 24: Interwar Culture
- September 26: Class discussion  
Read: Arnstein, chapter 18  
Finish Orwell

Week 7:

September 29: The Appeasers  
October 1: The Coming of War  
October 3: Class discussion

Week 8:

October 6: Midterm Examination  
October 8: Britain during World War II (a)  
October 10: Britain during World War II (b)  
Read: Arnstein, chapter 19

Week 9:

October 13: Holiday  
October 15: Britain during World War II (c)  
October 19: Class discussion

Week 10:

October 20: Rise of the Welfare State (a)  
October 22: Rise of the Welfare State (b)  
October 24: Class discussion  
Read: Arnstein, chapter 20

Week 11:

October 27: The "Affluent Society"  
October 29: "The Angry Young Men"  
October 31: Class discussion  
Read: All of Amis

Week 12:

November 3: Britain and the Cold War  
November 5: "Winds of change"  
November 7: Class discussion  
Read: Arnstein, chapter 21  
Paper due

Week 13:

November 10: Wilson v. Heath  
November 12: Rise of the Labour Left  
November 14: Class discussion  
Read: Begin Kureishi

Week 14:

November 17: Thatcherism  
November 19: The SDP and Liberals  
November 21: Class discussion  
Read: Finish Kureishi

Week 15:

November 24: Tony Blair and the Rise of “New Labour”

November 26 Class discussion

December 28: Holiday

Read: Arnstein, chapter 22

Week 16:

December 1: Britain today

December 3: Class discussion

December 5: Review

**Texts:**

Walter Arnstein *Britain Yesterday and Today*

Robert Graves *Goodbye to all that*

George Orwell *The Road to Wigan Pier*

Kingsley Amis *Lucky Jim*

Hanif Kureishi *The Black Album*

**Grading:**

Midterm = 32%

Final = 32%

Essay = 32%

Class participation = 4%

**Attendance Policy**

Each student may have three unexcused absences. Thereafter each unexcused absence will result in one point deducted from the average of the three grades.

Students who sleep in class will be counted absent.

Area E Approved Learning Outcome:

Students will demonstrate the ability to describe the social, political, and economic forces that influenced social behavior.

This course is about Britain since 1914. Students will learn how social, political, and economic forces influenced social behavior during this period by examining the conflict between British political parties and social classes, the impact of different ideologies, and the personalities of leading figures in British life. Students will demonstrate that they have met the Area E learning outcome by participation in class discussion, writing an essay and taking two exams.

## **Course Learning Outcomes**

Students will demonstrate:

The ability to describe and explain the social, political and economic forces that influenced social behavior in Europe during the twentieth century;

Knowledge of the chronology of the most important events and the most important actors in British history during the twentieth century;

Knowledge of the interplay between people and events on one hand and the vaster social, economic and cultural forces that influence them on the other;

Knowledge of Britain's impact upon Africa, Asia and the Middle East during this period.

***Students in this class will be expected to adhere scrupulously to the Georgia Tech honor code.***

Professor Jonathan Schneer  
School of HTS  
Georgia Tech  
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