HSTR 220A: HISTORY OF ENGLAND TO 1689, Fall 2019

Subject to change

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The Coronation Portrait of Queen Elizabeth ©National Portrait Gallery, London.

Johann Christoph Weigel, Insulae Britannicae (1718)

Course description:

This introductory survey of the political, social and cultural history of England from earliest times to the Glorious Revolution of 1688/9 is open to all students and requires no previous background. This course will provide a narrative of the major events and personalities of the Anglo-Saxon, Norman, Plantagenet, Tudor and Stuart periods, from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance and Reformation, Civil Wars, Restoration and Glorious Revolution (1688/9). Major themes include the monarchy, war, religion and the rise of an English national identity, the development of Parliament, the relationship of England with the "Celtic Fringe", and the beginnings of British maritime and imperial power. HSTR 220A will appeal to students interested in all aspects of medieval/early modern and/or European and Anglo-American History and is strongly recommended for those interested in pursuing upper-level courses in pre-1800 British History.

Proposed assignments:

2 in-class mid-terms: 20% of course grade

1 four to five double-spaced page (1,000-1,250 words) document analysis: 30% course grade

Final examination (3 hours): 50% of course grade

Proposed reading list:

Kenneth O. Morgan, The Oxford Illustrated History of Britain (2009)