

# HIST 9471B

## Crime, Policing and Punishment in London 1800-1968

Dr. Amy Bell

### DRAFT SYLLABUS

Time: Winter Term Friday 9:30-11:30

Place:

Office: V130 at Huron

Contact: 519-438-7224 x293 abell44@uwo.ca

History 9471B is a graduate seminar which examines the histories of crime, policing and punishment in England from the beginning of the nineteenth-century to the abolition of capital punishment in 1968. The course will focus on London, examining the space of the city not just as a passive backdrop against which crimes were committed, investigated and punished, but as a constituent part of the processes of English criminal justice. Topics will include the evolution of the Metropolitan and City of London Police forces, the reliability of criminal statistics, the shift away from physical punishments, the East End, infanticide, urban terrorism, prostitution, the development of forensic science, the serial killings of John Christie and organized crime.

Students entering the course should have a general knowledge of the main outlines of modern British history. General background texts should be used to fill in gaps of knowledge. Students will be expected to be fully prepared for each class meeting, to participate in class discussions, to lead one seminar and to present a brief summary of their research paper. Written work will consist of a document analysis, a research paper proposal and a final research paper. Students must attend 50% of all classes and complete all assignments to pass the course. All readings will be available on reserve at the Weldon Library and on-line.

### Course Evaluation

Participation in class discussion	15%	
Seminar Facilitation	10%	
Document Analysis	15%	Due 10 Feb. 2012
Research Paper Proposal	10%	Due 2 Mar. 2012
Final Research Paper	50%	Due 13 Apr. 2012

### **Seminar Facilitation: 10%**

Students will sign up to lead one seminar discussion. They will be responsible for distributing 3-5 discussion questions the Thursday before class by 4 p.m., and for leading classroom discussion that week. Discussion questions should focus on the sources, historiography, content and context of the readings.

### **Document Analysis 15%**

Students will analyze one document from Chapter Five or Chapter Six of Andrew Barrett and Christopher Harrison, eds., *Crime and Punishment in England: a Sourcebook* (UCL: 1999). (Available on-line through Western Libraries), and write a brief paper critically assessing the value of the document to the historical record. The paper should identify the source and the conditions under which it was created, consider the original and subsequent audiences, provide a critical evaluation of the source's content, veracity and perspective, and consider the context of the source and how it can best be used by historians. The paper should be 1500 words (6-8 pages), with formal format and citations.

### **Research Paper: 10% and 50%**

Students are to write a 5000-6000 word (20-25 page) major research paper, based on primary sources, on a topic to be determined by the student in consultation with the instructor. Students will turn in a draft of their main argument, outline, and bibliography by 3 March, and submit the final research paper on 13 April.

### **University Senate's Statement on Plagiarism**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_grad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf)

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism-detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

## **SEMINAR SCHEDULE**

### **1. Introduction**

Peter Ackroyd, *London: The Biography* (2001), Selected Chapters. (Reserve)

### **2. London 1800: Capital of Violence?**

Leigh Yetter, "Criminal Knowledge: Mapping Murder in (and onto) Early Modern Metropolitan London" *London Journal*, 33;2 (July 2008), 97-118. (Historical Abstracts or HA)

Drew Gray, "The People's Courts?: Summary Justice and Social Relations in the City of London c.1760-1800." *Family & Community History* 11:1 (May 2008) 7-15, (HA)

Clive Emsley, *The Great British Bobby* (Quercus 2009), (Reserve) Chapters 1 and 2.

### **3. Interpreting Criminal Statistics**

Mary Beth Emmerichs, "Getting Away with Murder? Homicide and the Coroners in Nineteenth-Century London" *Social Science History*, 25: 1 (Spring 2001), 93-100. (J-Stor)

Howard Taylor, "Rationing Crime: The Political Economy of Criminal Statistics Since the 1850s" *The Economic History Review*, 51:3 (Aug., 1998), 569-590. (J-Stor)

Robert M. Morris, "Lies, Damned Lies and Criminal Statistics': Reinterpreting the Criminal Statistics in England and Wales" *Crime, Histoire & Societes* 2001 5(1): 111-127. (Reserve)

### **4. Victorian Policing**

R.M. Morris, 'Crime does not pay' : thinking again about detectives in the first century of the metropolitan police, in *Police detectives in history, 1750-1950*, edited by Clive Emsley, Haia Shpayer-Makov. (2006) (Reserve)

F.J. Crawley, "The Technique of Investigation of the English Detective" *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 1929 146: 219-222. (J-Stor)

Clive Emsley, *The Great British Bobby* (Quercus 2009), Chapters 5 and 6. (Reserve)

Jennifer Davis "From 'Rookeries' to 'Communities': Race, Poverty and Policing in London, 1850-1985" *History Workshop Journal* 1989 (27): 66-85. (J-Stor)

## 5. Victorian Punishment

Greg T. Smith, "Civilized People Don't Want to See that Kind of Thing: The Decline of Physical Punishment in London" in *Qualities of Mercy: Justice, Punishment and Discretion* ed. Carolyn Strange (Vancouver, 1996), 21-50. (Reserve)

Simon Devereaux, "In Place of Death: Transportation, Penal Practices and the English State 1770-1830" in *Qualities of Mercy: Justice, Punishment and Discretion* ed. Carolyn Strange (Vancouver, 1996), 52-76. (Reserve)

Victor Bailey, "English Prisons, Penal Culture, and the Abatement of Imprisonment, 1895-1922" *The Journal of British Studies*, 36:3 (Jul., 1997), 285-324. (J-Stor)

## 6. Bodies in the Streets: Infanticide

Ann Higginbotham, "Sin of the Age: Infanticide and Illegitimacy in Victorian London" *Victorian Studies*, 32:3, (Spring 1989) 319-38. (J-Stor)

Tony Ward, "Legislating for human nature: legal responses to infanticide, 1860-1938" in *Infanticide: Historical Perspective on Child Murder and Concealment, 1550-2000* ed. Mark Jackson (Ashgate, 2002) 249-269, 255-6. (Reserve)

Brookman, Fiona; Nolan, Jane. "The Dark Figure of Infanticide in England and Wales: Complexities of Diagnosis" *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 21:7 (July 2006): 869-89. (Online through Western Libraries)

## 7. Victorian Crime in the East End

Alex Werner, ed. *Jack the Ripper and the East End* (Chatto & Windus, 2008). (Reserve)

Raphael Samuel, *East End Underworld: Chapters in the Life of Arthur Harding*, (London, 1981). Selected Chapters. (Reserve).

Frederick Porter Wensley, *Forty years of Scotland Yard; the record of a lifetime's service in the Criminal Investigation Department*. (Greenwood Press, c 1931). Selected Chapters. (Reserve)

## 8. Anarchists, Jews and Terrorists

Paul Knepper, "The Other Invisible Hand: Jews and Anarchists in London before the First World War" *Jewish History*, Vol. 22, No. 3 (2008), pp. 295-315 (Online through Western Libraries)

David Englander, "Policing the Ghetto Jewish East London, 1880-1920" *Crime, Histoire et Sociétés*. 14 (2010), 29-50, (Reserve)

Pietro Di Paola, "The Spies Who Came in from the Heat: The International Surveillance of the Anarchists in London." *European History Quarterly*, 37:2, (Apr. 2007) 189-215, (Online through Library)

## 9. Between the Wars

Louise Jackson, "Care or Control? The Metropolitan Women Police and Child Welfare, 1919-1969" *The Historical Journal*, 46:3 (Sept., 2003), 623-648. (J-Stor)

Matt Houlbrook, 'The Man with the Powder Puff' in Interwar London' *The Historical Journal*, 50:1 (March 2007), 145-171. (J-Stor)

Clive Emsley, *The Great British Bobby* (Quercus 2009), (Reserve) Chapter 8.

## 10. The Development of Forensics

Andrew Rose, *Lethal Witness: Bernard Spilsbury Honorary Pathologist* (Kent State University Press, 2007. Selected Chapters. (Reserve)

Katherine D. Watson, "Medical and Chemical Expertise in English Trials for Criminal Poisoning, 1750-1914" *Medical History* 2006 50(3): 373-390. (Online through Western Libraries).

Ian Birney and Neil Pemberton, "The Rise and Fall of Celebrity Pathology" *British Medical Journal*, 14 December 2010. (Online through Western Libraries)

## 11. Twentieth-Century Prostitution and Vice

Julia Laite, "Taking Nellie Johnson's Fingerprints: Prostitutes and Legal Identity in Early Twentieth-Century London" *History Workshop Journal*, 65:1, (April 2008), 96—116. (Online through Western Libraries)

Stefan Anthony Slater, "Containment: Managing Street Prostitution in London, 1918-1959" *Journal of British Studies*, 49 (April 2010), 332-357. (J-Stor)

Frank Mort, "Scandalous Events: Metropolitan Culture and Moral Change in Post-Second World War London" *Representations*, 93 (Winter 2006), 106-137. (J-Stor)

## 12. East End Crime in the 1960s: The Krays

Benjamin J. Lammers, "The Birth of the East Ender: Neighborhood and Local Identity in Interwar East London" *Journal of Social History* 39:2 (Winter 2005), 331-344. (J-Stor)

Jenkins, Philip and Guy Potter, "Before the Krays: Organized Crime in London 1920-1960" *Criminal Justice History* 9 (1988): 209-230. (Reserve)

John Pearson, *The Profession of Violence: the Rise and Fall of the Kray Twins*, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. 1995. (Reserve). Selected Chapters.