

The University of Western Ontario  
Department of History  
2015-16

**History 9403A**  
**Eighteenth-Century English Society**

Mondays 11:30-1:30, LH 2270C

**Instructor:** Allyson N. May

**Office Hours:**

Mon. 1:30-2:30 pm; Thurs. 3:30-4:30

Or by appointment

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This course explores English society in the eighteenth century, looking first at the social hierarchy and then turning to gender roles and relations, religion, the eighteenth-century landscape, the birth of a consumer society and the new industrialism which fed it, eighteenth-century constructions of 'home', leisure activities, and the way in which social relations played out in the criminal justice system. We will conclude by focusing on Georgian London. The class will also participate in a shared reading experience over the course of the term, each student reporting on a volume of Samuel Richardson's novel *Clarissa*.

**Required texts:**

Weekly readings are available via Weldon Library.

**Grading Scheme:**

Book review (due 5 Oct.)	15% (1500 words)
Seminar presentation	20%
Participation	25%
Essay (due 30 Nov.)	40% (5000 words)

Attendance is mandatory and will not in itself count towards the participation mark.

**Learning outcomes**

At the conclusion of this course a successful student will be able to:

- Evaluate evidence and assess historical claims.
- Assess historical approaches and methodologies.
- Articulate and defend historical ideas, arguments, and conclusions, both orally and in written prose.

- Engage with faculty and peers in discussion of both source material and the process of writing history.
- Contribute thoughtfully to debates about historical and methodological issues.
- Present historical knowledge effectively and engagingly.

## Background reading

Students are encouraged to read at least one and preferably two of the following as preparation for the course:

Paul Langford, *A Polite and Commercial People: England 1727-1783* (Oxford, 1989)

Roy Porter, *English Society in the Eighteenth Century* (London, 1982 or rev. ed. 1990)

John Rule, *Albion's People: English Society 1714-1815* (London, 1992)

Douglas Hay and Nicholas Rogers, *Eighteenth-Century English Society: Shuttles and Swords* (Oxford, 1997)

1 (14 Sept.)

### Introduction

2 (21 Sept.)

### Property and authority: The aristocracy

G.E. Mingay, *English Landed Society in the Eighteenth Century* (London, 1963)

M.L. Bush, *The English Aristocracy: A Comparative Synthesis* (Manchester, 1984)

John Cannon, *Aristocratic Century: The Peerage of Eighteenth-Century England* (Cambridge, 1984)

Lawrence Stone and Jeanne C. Fawtier Stone, *An Open Elite? England 1540-1880* (Oxford, 1984)

J.V. Beckett, *The Aristocracy in England, 1660-1914* (Oxford, 1986)

Stella Tillyard, *Aristocrats: Caroline, Emily, Louisa and Sarah Lennox, 1740-1832* (New York, 1994)

3 (28 Sept.)

### 'A polite and commercial people': The middling sort

R.B. Westerfield, *Middlemen in English Business, Particularly between 1660 and 1760* (1915; repr. New York, 1968)

T.S. Willan, *An Eighteenth-Century Shopkeeper: Abraham Dent of Kirkeby-Stephen* (Manchester, 1970)

R.G. Wilson, *Gentlemen Merchants: The Merchant Community in Leeds, 1700-1830* (Manchester, 1971)

S.D. Chapman, *The Early Factory Masters* (Newton Abbot, 1967)

F. Crouzet, *The First Industrialists: The Problem of Origins* (Cambridge, 1985)  
 K. Honeyman, *Origins of Enterprise: Business Leadership in the Industrial Revolution* (Manchester, 1982)  
 Geoffrey Holmes, *Augustan England: Professions, State and Society 1680-1730* (London, 1982)  
 Peter Earle, *The Making of the English Middle Class: Business, Society and Family Life in London, 1660-1730* (London, 1989)  
 J. Smail, *The Origins of Middle-Class Culture: Halifax, Yorkshire, 1660-1780* (Ithaca, NY, 1994)  
 Leonore Davidoff and Catherine Hall, *Family Fortunes: Men and Women of the English Middle Class, 1780-1850* (London, ca. 1987)  
 Margaret Hunt, *The Middling Sort: Commerce, Gender, and the Family, 1680-1780* (Berkeley, ca. 1996)

#### 4 (5 Oct.)

##### **The labouring poor**

W. Hasbach, *A History of the English Agricultural Labourer* (London, 1908)  
 J.L. and B. Hammond, *The Town Labourer, 1760-1832* (London, 1917)  
 J.L. and B. Hammond, *The Village Labourer, 1760-1832* (London, 1920)  
 J. Jean Hecht, *The Domestic Servant Class in Eighteenth-Century England* (London, 1956)  
 Robert W. Malcolmson, *Life and Labour in England, 1700-1780* (London, 1981)  
 John Rule, *The Experience of Labour in Eighteenth-Century Industry* (London, 1981)  
 E.P. Thompson, 'The Moral Economy of the English Crowd in the Eighteenth Century,' *Past & Present* 50 (1971): 76-136  
 Dorothy Marshall, *The English Poor in the Eighteenth Century: A Study of Social and Administrative History* (London, 1926)  
 W.J. Shelton, *English Hunger and Industrial Disorder: A Study of Social Conflict during the First Decade of George III's Reign* (Toronto, 1973)  
 E.P. Thompson, 'Patrician Society, Plebeian Culture,' *Journal of Social History* (Summer 1974): 382-405

##### ***Thanksgiving 12 October: no class***

#### 5 (19 Oct.)

##### **Gender**

Anthony Fletcher, *Gender, Sex, and Subordination in England, 1500-1800* (New Haven and London, 1995)  
 Hannah Barker and Elaine Chalus, eds., *Gender in Eighteenth-Century England: Roles, Representations and Responsibilities* (London, 1997)  
 E.B. Brophy, *Women's Lives and the Eighteenth-Century Novel* (Tampa, FL, 1991)

Lindsey Charles and Lorna Duffin, eds., *Women and Work in Pre-Industrial England* (London, ca. 1985)  
 Ivy Pinchbeck, *Women Workers and the Industrial Revolution, 1750-1850* (London, 1930)  
 Amanda Vickery, *The Gentleman's Daughter: Women's Lives in Georgian England* (New Haven and London, 1998)  
 Katharine M. Rogers, *Feminism in Eighteenth-Century England* (Urbana, IL, 1982)  
 Anna Clark, *The Struggle for the Breeches* (Berkeley, 1995)  
 Mary Ann Clawson, *Constructing Brotherhood: Class, Gender, and Fraternalism* (Princeton, 1989)  
 Michèle Cohen, *Fashioning Masculinity: National Identity and Language in the Eighteenth Century*, chaps. 2, 5, 6 & 7 (London, 1996)

**6 (26 Oct.)**

**Landscape**

W.G. Hoskins, *The Making of the English Landscape* (London, ca. 1960)  
 M. Turner, *English Parliamentary Enclosure: Its Historical Geography and Economic History* (Folkestone, 1980)  
 John Barrell, *The Dark Side of the Landscape: The Rural Poor in English Painting, 1730-1840* (Cambridge, 1980)  
 John Dixon Hunt and Peter Willis, eds., *The Genius of the Place: The English Landscape Garden, 1620-1820* (Cambridge, MA, 1988)  
 M. Wilson, *William Kent: Architect, Designer, Painter, Gardener, 1685-1748* (London, 1984)  
 John Dixon Hunt, *William Kent, Landscape Garden Designer: An Assessment and Catalogue of his Designs* (London, 1987)  
 David Watkin, *The English Vision: The Picturesque in Architecture, Landscape, and Garden Design* (New York, 1982)  
 Roger Turner, *Capability Brown and the Eighteenth-Century English Landscape* (New York, 1985)  
 Stephen Daniels, *Humphry Repton: Landscape Gardening and the Geography of Georgian England* (New Haven, 1999)  
 C.W. Chalklin, *The Provincial Towns of Georgian England: A Study of the Building Process, 1740-1820* (Montreal, 1974)  
 P.J. Corfield, *The Impact of English Towns, 1700-1800* (Oxford, 1982)  
 Vaughan Hart, *Nicholas Hawksmoor: Rebuilding Ancient Wonders* (New Haven, ca. 2002)

**7 (2 Nov.)**

**Domesticity**

R. Bayne-Powell, *English Country Life in the Eighteenth Century* (London, 1935)  
 Mark Girouard, *Life in the English Country House* (New Haven, 1978)  
 Christopher Christie, *The British Country House in the Eighteenth Century* (Manchester, 2000)

Lawrence Stone, *The Family, Sex and Marriage in England, 1500-1800* (London, 1977)  
 John R. Gillis, *For Better, For Worse: British Marriages, 1600 to Present* (New York, 1985)  
 P.G. Boucé, ed., *Sexuality in Eighteenth-Century Britain* (Manchester, 1982)  
 C. Davidson, *A Woman's Work is Never Done: A History of Housework in the British Isles 1650-1950* (London, 1982)  
 R. Bayne-Powell, *Housekeeping in the Eighteenth Century* (London, 1956)  
 J.H. Plumb, 'The New World of Children in Eighteenth-Century Society,' *Past & Present* 67 (1975): 64-95  
 I. Pinchbeck and M. Hewitt, *Children in English Society* (London, 1969)  
 L.A. Pollock, *Forgotten Children: Parent Child Relations from 1500 to 1900* (Cambridge, 1983)

## 8 (9 Nov.)

### Religion

N. Sykes, *Church and State in England in the Eighteenth Century* (Cambridge, 1934)  
 F.C. Mather, 'Georgian Churchmanship Reconsidered: Some Variations in Anglican Public Worship, 1714-1830,' *Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 36 (1985): 255-83  
 E.G. Rupp, *Religion in England, 1688-1791* (Oxford, 1986)  
 John Walsh, Colin Haydon, and Stephen Taylor, eds., *The Church of England, c. 1689-c.1833: From Toleration to Tractarianism* (Cambridge, 1993), chaps. 1-3  
 Alan D. Gilbert, *Religion and Society in Industrial England, 1740-1914* (London, 1976)  
 Michael R. Watts, *The Dissenters* (Oxford, 1978)  
 E.D. Bebb, *Nonconformity and Social and Economic Life, 1660-1800* (London, 1935)  
 Robert F. Wearmouth, *Methodism and the Common People of the Eighteenth Century* (London, 1945)  
 David Hempton, *Methodism and Politics in British Society, 1750-1850* (London, 1984)  
 J. Bossy, *The English Catholic Community, 1570-1850* (London, 1975)  
 Colin Haydon, *Anti-Catholicism in Eighteenth-Century England, c. 1714-80* (Manchester, c. 1993)

## 9 (16 Nov.)

### Consumerism and industrial evolution

T.S. Ashton, *The Industrial Revolution 1760-1830* (1948)  
 Maxine Berg, *The Age of Manufactures, 1700-1820*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (London, 1994)  
 Neil McKendrick, John Brewer, and J.H. Plumb, *The Birth of a Consumer Society: The Commercialization of Eighteenth-Century England* (London, 1982)

Lorna Weatherill, *Consumer Behaviour and Material Culture in Britain, 1660-1770* (London, 1988)  
John Brewer and A. Birmingham, eds., *The Consumption of Culture, 1660-1800: Image, Object, Text* (London, ca. 1995)  
John Brewer and Roy Porter, eds., *Consumption and the World of Goods* (London, 1993), chaps. 3, 4, 9, 10, 14 & 25

**10 (23 Nov.)**

**Leisure**

John Brewer, *The Pleasures of the Imagination* (London, 1997)  
Ian Watt, *The Rise of the Novel* (Berkeley, 1957)  
Isabel Rivers, ed., *Books and their Readers in Eighteenth-Century England* (Leicester, 1982)  
James Raven, Helen Small, and Naomi Tadmor, eds., *The Practice and Representation of Reading in England* (Cambridge, 1996), chaps. 9, 10 & 11  
M. Kay Flavell, 'The Enlightened Reader and the New Industrial Towns: A Study of the Liverpool Library, 1758-1790,' *British Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies* 8 (1985): 17-35  
Robert D. Hume, ed., *The London Theatre World, 1660-1800* (Carbondale, IL, 1980)  
Henry Pedicord, *The Theatrical Public in the Time of Garrick* (New York, 1954)  
Leo Hughes, *The Drama's Patrons: A Study of the Eighteenth-Century London Audience* (Austin, TX, 1971)  
Jeremy Black, *The British and the Grand Tour* (London, ca. 1985)  
John Towner, 'The Grand Tour: A Key Phase in the History of Tourism,' *Annals of Tourism Research* 12(3) (1985): 297-33  
Andrew Wilton and Ilaria Bignamini, eds., *The Grand Tour: The Lure of Italy in the Eighteenth Century* (London, 1996)  
Peter Clark, *The English Alehouse: A Social History 1200-1830* (London, 1983)  
Robert Malcolmson, *Popular Recreations in English Society 1700-1850* (Cambridge, 1973)

**11 (30 Nov.)**

**Crime and punishment**

E.P. Thompson, *Whigs and Hunters: The Origin of the Black Act* (New York, 1975)  
Peter Linebaugh, *The London Hanged: Crime and Civil Society in the Eighteenth Century* (Cambridge, 1992)  
Joanna Innes, 'Prisons for the Poor: English Bridewells, 1555-1800,' in *Labour, Law and Crime: An Historical Perspective*, ed. Frances Snyder and Douglas Hay (London, 1987)  
Peter King, *Crime and Law in England, 1750-1840: Remaking Justice from the Margins* (Cambridge, 2006), Part 4, The Attack on Customary Rights, chaps. 9 & 10

Douglas Hay, 'Property, Authority and the Criminal Law,' in Douglas Hay et al. eds., *Albion's Fatal Tree: Crime and Society in Eighteenth-Century England* (New York, 1975)

12 (7 Dec.)

**London**

M. Dorothy George, *London Life in the Eighteenth Century* (London, 1925)

J. Lindsay, *The Monster City: Defoe's London, 1688-1730* (London, 1978)

John Summerson, *Georgian London* (London, 1962)

G.E. Mingay, *Georgian London* (London, 1975)

George Rudé, *Hanoverian London* (London, 1971)

M. Byrd, *London Transformed: Images of the City in the Eighteenth Century* (New Haven, 1978)

Peter Earle, *A City Full of People: Men and Women of London, 1650-1750* (London, 1994)

Liza Picard, *Dr Johnson's London: Life in London 1740-1770* (London, 2000)

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### **Prerequisites and Antirequisites:**

Unless you have either the requisites for this course, as described in the Academic Calendar description of the course, or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites. The Academic Calendar description of each course also indicates which classes are considered antirequisites, i.e., to cover such similar material that students are not permitted to receive academic credit for both courses.

### **Academic Offences:**

Scholastic Offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitute a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

### **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).

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 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>).

The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and



indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

## **Medical Issues:**

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to [https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical\\_accommodations\\_link\\_for\\_OOR.pdf](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf) to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. This site provides links to the necessary forms. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation should be requested. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once the instructor has made a decision about whether to grant an accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for tests, assignments, and exams.

### **SUPPORT SERVICES:**

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western, <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

*Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.*

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Morgan Sheriff, Undergraduate Program Advisor, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84999 or [msherif5@uwo.ca](mailto:msherif5@uwo.ca)