

**HISTORY 4410F**  
**Crime and Society in England, 1800-1900**  
**Fall/Winter 2021-22**  
**Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 am**  
**Course delivery: In person**

**Instructor: Professor Allyson N. May**

Office Hours: TBD  
Department of History, Office: Lawson Hall 1205  
Email: [amay6@uwo.ca](mailto:amay6@uwo.ca)

---

**This is a draft syllabus. Please see your course OWL site for the final syllabus.**

**Course Description:**

This seminar explores nineteenth-century reform of the criminal law: the rise of modern policing and the transformation of both the criminal trial and punishment. It considers the impact of gender and class on definitions of crime and the treatment of offenders as well as the historiography of criminal justice.

***Prerequisite(s):***

2.0 History courses at the 2200 level or above.

Unless you have either the prerequisites for this 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. The 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.

***Antirequisite(s):***

History 4411E

**Course Syllabus:**

This seminar explores nineteenth-century reform of the criminal law: the rise of modern policing and the transformation of both the criminal trial and punishment. It considers the impact of gender and class on definitions of crime and the treatment of offenders as well as the historiography of criminal justice. It will also examine representations of crime, policing, trial, and punishment in the nineteenth-century press.

On completion of the course students will have

Developed an understanding of the ways in which criminal behaviour was conceptualized and categorized in nineteenth-century Britain.

Assessed the ways in which these new understandings influenced the theory and practice of punishment.

Become familiar with the history of British policing, both preventive and detective.

Explored crucial developments in the history of the criminal trial, including the presumption of innocence and the right to counsel.

### **Course Materials:**

**Required text:** Clive Emsley, *Crime and Society in England, 1750–1900*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. (London, 2018)

Additional readings will be assigned on a weekly basis.

### **Methods of Evaluation:**

Students must complete all coursework. Failure to complete all assigned coursework will result in a failing grade.

#### **Grading Scheme:**

Seminar participation	40%
Article review (due 14 Oct.)	20%
Research essay (due 25 Nov.)	40%

The written assignments consist of a **1,000 word article review** and a **3,000 word research essay** that illuminates the history of policing, trial, or punishment. Students are responsible for choosing their own research topic, but that topic must be approved by the professor in advance of submission of the paper. Essays submitted without approval of the topic will not be graded.

Due dates are not flexible. A late penalty of 2% per day, including weekends, will be levied on work submitted after the deadline without an extension. Extensions must be applied for via Academic Counselling.

You are expected to adhere to the specified word lengths for both the article review and research essay.

Attendance in the seminar is mandatory. Reading notes in lieu of participation will not be accepted. Students are expected to be in class and to contribute regularly to discussion of assigned texts.

### **Accommodation for missed assignment deadlines with a Self Reported Absence:**

If a student reports an SRA for an assignment (i.e. an essay) the new due date will be 48 hours after the SRA was submitted.

### **Additional Statements:**

Please review the Department of History Course Must-Knows document,

<https://www.history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/Docs/Department%20of%20History%20Course%20Must-Knows.pdf>,

for additional information regarding:

- Academic Offences
- Accessibility Options
- Medical Issues
- Plagiarism
- Scholastic Offences
- Copyright
- Health and Wellness