

HISTORY 4410G
Crime and Society in England, 1800-1900
Fall/Winter 2022-23
Wednesdays 11:30-1:30

Instructor: Professor Allyson N. May

Office Hours: TBD

Department of History, Office: Lawson Hall 1205

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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*, 5th ed. (London, 2018)

Available as an e-book: <https://www.routledge.com/Crime-and-Society-in-England-17501900/Emsley/p/book/9781138941762>

Additional readings will be identified in the seminar schedule and made available online via OWL or Weldon and 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:

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|--------------------------|-----|
| Seminar participation | 25% |
| Article review (due TBD) | 35% |
| Research essay (due TBD) | 40% |

The written assignments consist of a **1,200 word article review** and a **5,000 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. You are expected to adhere to the specified word lengths for both the article review and research essay.

Due dates are not flexible: you are expected to meet deadlines. A late penalty of 2% per day, including weekends, will be levied on work submitted after the deadline without an extension. Late papers will also be graded without comment. Extensions **must** be applied for via Academic Counselling.

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.

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

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