Political Science 120G **Fall Quarter 2017**
Professor Kaare W. Strøm T Th 11:00 – 12:20
Office: Social Science Bldg (SSB) 384 Peterson Hall 102
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BRITISH POLITICS

Objectives and Approach

This is a survey course on the politics of the United Kingdom (Great Britain). With the possible exception of the United States, no other country has had a greater influence on world politics. This course will examine this influence and its causes by examining the origins of the British tradition. The course will also survey British citizens and voters, political institutions, elections, political parties, media, and prime ministers, as well as various aspects of British policies, including its welfare state, political economy and relations with Europe and the world. The course will be supported by a TritonEd Blackboard account, where the syllabus, announcements, assignments, and lecture slides will be posted. There will be no podcasts or i-clicker assignments.

Course Assignments and Grading

Written assignments include (1) an in-class midterm, **(**2) a paper**,** and (3) an in-class final examination. In-class tests will include objective as well as essay questions. The paper will be based on a project explained and assigned in class. The midterm and the paper will count equally toward your grade. If your final exam grade is better than the average of your midterm and paper, the final will count 50% and each of the other assignments 25% toward your written course grade. In the opposite case, each major assignment will count one-third. Class attendance is required, and participation will count for to 10% of your course grade (with written assignments counting for 90%). You will need to complete all the written assignments to pass the course. Tests will be based on lectures and presentations as well as on readings. In accordance with UCSD policy, special accommodations will be given only on the basis of timely petitions in *pressing* and *properly documented* cases.

Academic Integrity

Fair and effective education requires academic integrity. The General Catalog spells out the relevant UCSD rules. Note especially the strict prohibition against plagiarism, i.e., submitting something done wholly or in part by another person as your own work or without proper attribution. Plagiarism thus includes unauthorized collaboration on course assignments as well as including passages in your work that have been copied more or less verbatim from unattributed sources. Unless otherwise indicated, all assignments in this course are *individual*, and you are not allowed to collaborate with anyone in or outside this class. In-class tests will be *closed-book*, with no aids allowed. Any suspected violation of academic integrity will **without exception** be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity.

Teaching Assistant

The Teaching Assistant for this course will be Nicholas Smith. His office hours will be Tuesday 1:30-2:30 and Friday 12-1 in SSB 332. His email address is: nms001@ucsd.edu.

Books and Materials

The following books have been ordered by the UCSD bookstore. All readings will also be placed on electronic or hard reserve at the Geisel Library. All readings are required.

Bill Jones and Philip Norton, eds., *Politics UK*. Eighth edition. London: Routledge, 2014.
Harold D. Clarke, Matthew Goodwin, and Paul Whiteley, *Brexit: Why Britain Voted to Leave the European Union*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017.
Daniel Hannan, *Inventing Freedom*. New York: HarperCollins, 2013.

Calendar

Tentatively, the **first project** will be due on **October 19**, the **midterm** has been scheduled for **October 26**, and the **papers** will be due on **November 21**. The **final examination** will be given on **Wednesday, December 13, between 11:30 and 2:29 at a location to be announced**. All dates and class schedules are subject to change by announcement in class.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS

Thursday, September 28: **Introduction: British Society and the Anglosphere**
Jones and Norton, chap. 3; Hannan, Introduction.

Tuesday, October 3: **Political History: The Emergence of the United Kingdom**
Hannan, chaps. 1-3.

Thursday, October 5: **A Liberal and Evolutionary Tradition**
Jones and Norton, chaps. 4 and 13; Hannan, chaps. 4-5.

Tuesday, October 10: **The British Empire and the Commonwealth**
Hannan, chaps. 6-8. **Your political identity due**

Thursday, October 12: **The Crown and the House of Lords**
Jones and Norton, chaps. 14 and 17.

Tuesday, October 17: **The House of Commons**
Jones and Norton, chaps. 9 and 15.

Thursday, October 19: **First Among Equals: The Prime Minister and Cabinet**
Jones and Norton, chap. 18. **First project due**

Tuesday, October 24: **Prime Ministers: Churchill to May**
Jones and Norton, chap. 2.

Thursday, October 26: **Midterm Exam**

Tuesday, October 31: **Ministers, Civil Servants, and Local Government**
Jones and Norton, chaps. 19-20.

Thursday, November 2: **Political Parties and Elections**
Jones and Norton, chaps. 7 and 11.

Tuesday, November 7: **Interest Groups and the Media**
Jones and Norton, chaps. 8 and 10.

Thursday, November 9: **The Policy Process**
Jones and Norton, chap. 22.

Tuesday, November 14: **Political Economy**
Jones and Norton, chap. 25.

Thursday, November 16: **The British Welfare State**
Jones and Norton, chap. 24.

Tuesday, November 21: **Nationalism and Devolution**
Jones and Norton, chap. 12. **Papers Due**

Tuesday, November 28: **Immigration**
Jones and Norton, chap. 3; Clarke et al., chap. 5.

November 30 – December 5: **Britain, Europe, and the World**
Jones and Norton, chaps. 2 and 26; Clarke et al., chaps. 1-2 and 7-8.

Thursday, December 7: **The Future of the United Kingdom**
Clarke et al., chap. 9.

Wednesday, December 13: **Final Examination (11:30 – 2:29 pm, location TBA)**