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.


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.

Thursday, October 12: Your political identity due
Jones and Norton, chap. 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)