

Political Science 120G
Professor Kaare W. Strøm
Office: Social Science Bldg (SSB) 384
Office Hours: Tue 12:00–1:00, Wed 3:30–4:30
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Fall Quarter 2019
T Th 9:30 – 10:50
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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 in which you assume the identity of a British member of the House of Commons and discuss how Brexit affects you. 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

Charles McClean will be the Teaching Assistant for this course. His office hours will be Mondays from 10:00-12:00 in SSB 447. His email address is: cmcclean@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, Philip Norton, and Oliver Daddow, eds., *Politics UK*. Ninth edition. London: Routledge, 2018.

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 **midterm** has been scheduled for **October 31**, and the **papers** will be due on **November 21**. The **final examination** will be given on **Thursday, December 12, between 8:00 and 10:59am at a location to be announced**. All dates and class schedules are subject to change.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS

Thursday, September 26: Jones, Norton and Daddow (hereafter: Jones et al.), chap. 3; Hannan, Introduction.	Introduction: What is Britain?
Tuesday, October 1: Hannan, chaps. 1-3.	Political History: The Emergence of the United Kingdom
Thursday, October 3: Jones et al., chap.14; Hannan, chaps. 4-5.	A Liberal and Evolutionary Tradition
Tuesday, October 8: Jones et al., chap. 2; Hannan, chaps. 6-8.	The British Empire and the Commonwealth Your political identity due
Thursday, October 10: Jones et al., chap. 3; Clarke et al., chap. 5.	Immigration
Tuesday, October 15: Jones et al., chap. 28; Clarke et al., chaps. 1-2.	Britain and Europe
Thursday, October 17: Clarke et al., chaps. 7-8.	Brexit
Tuesday, October 22: Jones et al., chaps. 15 and 18.	The Crown and the House of Lords
Thursday, October 24: Jones et al., chaps. 10 and 16.	The House of Commons
Tuesday, October 29: Jones et al., chap. 19.	First Among Equals: The Prime Minister and Cabinet
Thursday, October 31:	Midterm Exam
Tuesday, November 5: Jones et al., chap. 19.	Prime Ministers: Churchill to Johnson
Thursday, November 7: Jones et al., chaps. 20-21.	Ministers, Civil Servants, and Local Government
Tuesday, November 12: Jones et al., chaps. 8 and 12.	Political Parties and Elections
Thursday, November 14: Jones et al., chaps. 9 and 11.	Interest Groups and the Media
Tuesday, November 19: Jones et al., chaps. 23 and 26.	The Policy Process and Political Economy
Thursday, November 21: Jones et al., chap. 25.	The British Welfare State Papers Due
Tuesday, November 26:	Study Day
Tuesday, December 3: Jones et al., chap. 13.	Nationalism and Devolution
Thursday, December 5: Clarke et al., chap. 9.	The Future of the United Kingdom
Thursday, December 12:	Final Examination (8:00 – 10:59 pm, location TBA)