



**SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

HISTORY PROGRAMME

**HIST327: SPECIAL TOPIC IN EUROPEAN HISTORY: MAGIC, WITCHCRAFT
AND POLITICS IN EARLY MODERN EUROPE, 1500-1650**

CRN: 1956

TRIMESTER 1 2010

1 March to 4 July 2010

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 1 March 2010 to 4 June 2010

Mid-trimester break: 5 April to 18 April 2010

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

LECTURER: Dr Glyn Parry
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LECTURE TIMES: **Tuesday, 1.10 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.**

VENUE **Hugh Mackenzie Lecture Theatre 001 (HMLT001)**

PRESENTATIONS: Will be given by students in the lecture periods in HMLT001 after the Easter break

Course delivery

Eight overview lectures, practical demonstrations of research databases and other sources to be used by students, and student 'work-in-progress' presentations of their research findings.

Additional information will be communicated in class and through Blackboard and email.

COURSE CONTENT

- Tuesday 2 March
- a) **Early Modern Europe: the environment of magic**
 - b) Demonstrations of Print Databases: *Early English Books Online (EEBO)*; *Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO)*
 - c) **The structure of the early modern cosmos**
- Tuesday 9 March
- a) **Politics in Early Modern Europe: Hierarchy, power, threats to power and laws against magic**
 - b) Demonstrations of Manuscript on-line databases: *State Papers Online*; *MEMSO*; *ARCHON*, UK County Record Offices (e.g. Essex Record Office), The British Library, The Institute of Historical Research
 - c) **Religion in early Modern Europe: the Protestant and Catholic churches and magic**
- Tuesday 12 March
- a) **Magic and magistrates: witchcraft, magic and local politics**
 - b) Microfilms of manuscripts in VUW library: State Papers 1547 - 1625, Harley MSS, Lansdowne MSS, Rawlinson MSS, , Tanner MSS, John Dee MSS and books. *Bibliography of British and Irish History* (trial)
 - c) **Astrology and politics**
- Tuesday 23 March
- a) **Alchemy and politics**
 - b) Defining your research project; how to annotate a bibliography
 - c) **The disappearance of witchcraft and magic from politics?**
- Tuesday 30 March
- a) Building your bibliography; planning your essay; designing a presentation
 - b) Mid-term test (15% of assessment)
- EASTER BREAK
- Tuesday 20 April Student presentations on topics TBA
- Tuesday 27 April Student presentations on topics TBA
- Tuesday 4 May Student presentations on topics TBA
- Tuesday 11 May Student presentations on topics TBA
- Tuesday 18 May Student presentations on topics TBA
- Tuesday 25 May Student presentations on topics TBA
- Tuesday 1 June Student presentations on topics TBA

Learning objectives

Students passing the paper should be able to:

1. Understand the political history of early modern Europe to c. 1650 and comprehend the changing political role of magic and witchcraft in that period.
2. Appreciate the different historiographical approaches to those issues.
3. Carry out self-directed, primary - source based historical research with an awareness of the issues it raises and the techniques for solving those issues.
4. Write according to scholarly conventions, including proper citation and bibliographical identification of primary manuscript as well as printed materials, and of secondary printed materials.
5. Use full-text databases, microfilms, calendars and other research aids intelligently and accurately.
6. Apply the above skills to produce extensive written work to acceptable standards.

Marking criteria:

Test: have you comprehended information, concepts and interpretation delivered in lectures?

Bibliography: have you identified sufficient primary and secondary sources and do you understand their origin, nature and importance?

Research essay: have you read, understood, interpreted and analysed the primary and secondary sources, and have you presented your analysis in clear and comprehensive English, with proper scholarly apparatus?

Graduate attributes for History students

As with all HIST courses, learning objectives of this course contribute to the attainment of the following specific attributes for History graduates:

Critical Thinking

- 1: Assess conflicting or different arguments
- 2: Develop understanding of historical events, context and change
- 3: Use appropriate methodologies to evaluate evidence

Creative Thinking

- 1: Synthesise information in a clear, logical and lively way
- 2: Create well-documented interpretations of historical events
- 3: Search for patterns in historical processes over time and space

Communication

- 1: Develop lucid historical arguments through writing and oral discussion
- 2: Use library print and online resources efficiently and constructively
- 3: Strengthen learning through collegial interchange

Leadership

- 1: Pursue and manage independent research
- 2: Develop critical citizenship
- 3: Develop confidence through public speaking
- 4: Strengthen decision-making capabilities

Other

- 1: Understand the development of the historical discipline

WORKLOAD

In accordance with the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours in total to HIST327. This includes two hours of seminars per week, with the remaining time divided between preparation for seminars and primary source based research and writing.

COURSE READING

Initial Recommended Reading:

- 3DL &CR Patrick Collinson, *The Reformation* (2005) – brilliant short intro., multiple copies in VUW Library
- 3DL Geoffrey Scarre, *Witchcraft and magic in sixteenth and seventeenth-century Europe* (1987) - brief
- 3DL &CR Keith Thomas, *Religion and the decline of magic: studies in popular beliefs in sixteenth and seventeenth century England* (1971, 1973)
- 3DL Stuart Clark, *Thinking with demons: the idea of witchcraft in early modern Europe* (1996)
- 3DL Robin Briggs, *Witches & neighbours: the social and cultural context of European witchcraft* (1996, 2002)
- 3DL Brian Levack, *The witch-hunt in early modern Europe* (1987, 1995)
- 3DL Gary Waite, *Heresy, magic and witchcraft in early modern Europe* (2003)

ASSESSMENT

This is an internally-assessed course. To pass the course students are required to:

- (a) Sit the mid-term test, based on lecture material, to be held on **Tuesday 30 March** at **2.10 – 3.00 p.m.** (worth **15%** of assessment)
- AND
- (b) Research and annotate a bibliography of primary (printed and/or manuscript) and secondary materials relevant to their chosen research topic, to be submitted by **5 p.m. Monday 19 April** (worth **25%** of assessment)
- AND
- (c) Submit a research essay of **3,000 to 3,500** words based on primary and secondary sources, on an agreed topic, **on dates agreed with me** depending on the date of your presentation (worth **60%** of assessment)

Relationship between assessment and course objectives:

Mid-term test: assesses comprehension of outline material in lectures

Annotated Bibliography: assesses ability to carry out primary and secondary source research and comment on the origin and nature of the sources

Research essay: assesses ability to produce well-written, coherent interpretation of primary and secondary sources

PENALTIES

Students will be penalised for late submission of essays after the due date for the annotated bibliography and the mutually agreed date for the final research essay — a deduction of **5%** for the first day late, and **2%** per day thereafter, up to a maximum of **eight** days. Work that is more than 8 days late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked. However, penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds, e.g., illness (presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary) or similar other contingencies. In such cases prior information will be necessary.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To gain a pass in this course each student must:

- (a) Submit the written work specified for this course, on or before the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)

AND

- (b) **Be present** for **all** fellow students' presentations 20 April – 1 June, when a register will be taken

PLEASE NOTE that **Friday, 11 June 2010** is the FINAL DATE on which any written work can be accepted by the Programme, since this is the date on which we must determine whether students have met the course requirements. This means that the provision for late submission with a penalty does not apply beyond this date. Permission to submit work after 6 June must be sought in writing from the Head of Programme, and will only be granted for **serious** medical reasons (supported by medical certificate), or in case of **serious** personal crisis.

NB: A student who has obtained an overall mark of 50% or more, but failed to satisfy a mandatory requirement for a course, will receive a K grade for that course, while a course mark less than 50% will result in the appropriate fail grade (D, E or F).

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

Statement on legibility

Apart from the test, which will be handwritten, all work submitted must be typed, double-spaced, 12pt Times New Roman, right margin not justified, at least 2.5cm margins all round.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com> Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcademic/Publications.aspx