



ICP
INSTITUT
CATHOLIQUE
DE PARIS

L'esprit grand ouvert sur le monde

BRITISH HISTORY: TWENTIETH CENTURY

Bachelor in English and American Language, Literature and History
Faculty of Liberal Arts

Course information

Bachelor year 2 24 HOURS
Fall Semester 5 ECTS
Lectures (CM)
Professor: Robert IVERMEE
Course Code: FDL_AN_L2_S3_CM_CIVI_GB

Course description

This course is a deep dive into the history of twentieth century Britain: its politics, economy, society and culture. A selection of themes will be considered in detail, including the changing role and rights of women; immigration and xenophobia; developments in popular culture; and the rise and fall of British social democracy. By the end of the semester, you will have a good understanding of the different political ideas and economic approaches that have shaped modern Britain, and of its most influential people, parties and social movements. Cherished national myths will be exposed and a critical eye will be cast on some of the darker moments in the country's recent past.

Indicative topics:

1. Edwardian Britain
2. The Great War
3. Irish independence
4. Interwar politics and culture
5. Myths and realities of WWII
6. The postwar consensus
7. Immigration and diversity
8. Social change in the Sixties and Seventies
9. International decline and internal crises
10. Thatcher and neoliberalism
11. Cool Britannia?
12. Exam preparation

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand key events and processes in twentieth century Britain
- Recognise key institutions in the UK and explain their development
- Reflect critically on some of the less positive moments in the country's past
- Write short written responses in English on the topics studied in class

Course Prerequisites

Minimum level of English B1

Methods of Instruction

A 2-hour weekly lecture. 12 weeks of teaching in total, with the final week dedicated to exam preparation. Interaction and discussion are encouraged.

Assessment and Final grade

A 2-hour written exam during the exam period at the end of the semester. Students write short responses to 2 questions, from a choice of about 11.

Course Requirements

Material to help prepare each lecture is made available on the learning platform. Students are expected to spend 1-2 hours per week preparing for the lecture.