SCHOOL OF DIVINITY, HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY
ACADEMIC SESSION 2017-2018

HI4023 – SPECIAL SUBJECT
European Constitutional Monarchies in the Long 19th Century

30 credits – 11 weeks

PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY:
The full set of school regulations and procedures is contained in the Undergraduate Student Handbook which is available online at your MyAberdeen Organisation page. Students are expected to familiarise themselves not only with the contents of this leaflet but also with the contents of the Handbook. Therefore, ignorance of the contents of the Handbook will not excuse the breach of any School regulation or procedure.

You must familiarise yourself with this important information at the earliest opportunity.

COURSE CO-ORDINATOR/COURSE TEAM
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TIMETABLE

For time and place of classes, please see MyAberdeen

Students can view their university timetable
at http://www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/study/timetables-550.php

COURSE DESCRIPTION

On the eve of the First World War Europe was a continent of monarchies. A long 19th century of revolutions, wars, growing literacy, an expanding public sphere, changes in political, social, economic, intellectual and technological life and imperial expansion lay behind them, but the continent’s monarchical systems had survived in surprisingly rude health. That monarchies had flourished throughout these profound transformations points to their suppleness and ingenuity. This course offers new perspectives on the political cultures of the states and societies of 19th-century Europe. It is based on recent research that engages with constitutional monarchy in the fields of media history, cultural history and transnational history.

INTENDED AIMS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

The intended aim of this course is to study carefully the concept of constitutional monarchy within a wide international framework, and examine developments around European constitutional monarchies in the period 1815-1918. It is hoped that the exploration of selected key themes (the internal and external workings of a 19th-century dynasty / monarchy and nation / monarchy and its audiences) will lead students to a rich appreciation of the period and an ability to offer analytical insights on it, based on close scrutiny of a range of primary sources.

Learning Outcomes

Intellectual skills

By the end of the course, students should be able
To outline key events in the period of 19th-century constitutional monarchical history
To adopt a broad, international framework in seeking to understand the course of monarchical constitutionalism
To understand the interplay between political, social, cultural, religious and other factors
To consider critically the views of historians who offer perspectives on key themes relating to the subject

Personal and transferable skills
The course is intended to sharpen skills in

• Analysing both contemporary primary sources and secondary sources
• Written communication (through course work and examinations) and verbal communication (in seminar presentations and discussion)
• Reaching informed judgment and coherent conclusions with the assistance of tutors’ feedback on written work and oral presentations
• IT, including word processing and internet retrieval, through preparation for seminars and essays
• Independent learning, through preparation for course work and seminars

Attitudinal skills
This course is intended to enhance appreciation and awareness of

• The problems and challenges faced by individuals, institutions and groups in a time of fundamental social, political and technical change
• Historiographical debates relating to the subject
• The skills characteristic of the professional historian and the particular problems and challenges faced by students of late modern European history
SEMINAR PROGRAMME

The seminar schedule covers three main themes (weeks 3-11) which create a framework for addressing structures, developments, successes and challenges of constitutional monarchical systems in 19th-century Europe. Detailed discussion will be based on a broad range of primary and secondary sources to be read by all class members on a weekly basis. These will be distributed in advance of the respective seminar sessions. Attendance at seminars is mandatory. Students are expected to make full verbal contributions at these sessions and to make presentations on selected topics.

Week 1        Intro: Monarchies in the constitutional age
11 September   Introduction: organisation, aims, material
14 September   What is a constitutional monarchy?

Week 2
18 September   The British monarchy in the 19th century
21 September   The French monarchy in the 19th century

Week 3        Theme: How does a dynasty work?
25 September   Kings, Queens, Princes – their place in the dynasty
28 September   How to educate a 19th-century prince

Week 4        Gobbet exercise due Wednesday, 4 October, 3pm
2 October      Happily ever after? Love & Marriage I
5 October      Happily ever after? Love & Marriage II

Week 5
9 October      The laws of succession I
12 October     The laws of succession II
Week 6  Theme: Serving the nation
16 October  ‘Invented’ royal traditions?
19 October  Pageants and Rituals

Week 7
23 October  Death and the monarchy
26 October  The ‘royal international’ of 19th-century Europe

Week 8  Reading Week, no classes

Week 9  Short essay due Wednesday, 8 November, 3pm
6 November  Monarchy and the military
9 November  How to ‘adopt a nation’

Week 10  Theme: Selling the monarchy
13 November  The power of soft power I
16 November  The power of soft power II

Week 11
20 November  Images of royalty
23 November  Trinkets and the ‘royal shop window’

Week 12  Revision Week
30 November  Exam Preparation
BIBLIOGRAPHY

The select bibliography below provides points of departure for further reading on the topics covered in the course. A more comprehensive list of titles, including primary source material, will be provided on MyAberdeen.

**Constitutional Monarchies in Europe**

- Frank Lorenz Mueller and Heidi Mehrkens (eds), *Sons and Heirs. Succession and Political Culture in Nineteenth-Century Europe* (Houndmills, Basingstoke, 2016).

*With a focus on the Victorian monarchy*
• Margaret Homans, *Royal representations: Queen Victoria and British culture, 1837-1876* (Chicago, 1998).
• Mandy Merck (ed.), *The British Monarchy on Screen* (Manchester, 2016).
• Miles Taylor, ‘Queen Victoria and India, 1837-1861’, *Victorian Studies* 46/2 (2004), 264-274.
• Ernest Percy Evelyn Tisdall, *Unpredictable Queen; The intimate life of Queen Alexandra* (London, 1953).

**ASSESSMENT**

Assessment is based on one three-hour degree examination counting 100% towards the final grade. The degree examination will be held in December. The purpose of the examination is to test your ability to analyse and synthesise material covered in the course. During the examination you will write on two essay questions and two gobbets.

To view the CGS Descriptors please go to [MyAberdeen - Organisations - Divinity, History, & Philosophy Student Information for Undergraduates](#). The link to the CGS Descriptors is on the left hand menu.

**PLEASE NOTE:** In order to pass a course on the first attempt, a student must attain a Common Grading Scale (CGS) mark of at least E3 on each element of course assessment. Failure to do so will result in a grade of no greater than CGS E1 for the course as a whole.

If you submit your work on time, you can expect that feedback will normally be provided within three working weeks (excluding vacation periods) of the submission deadline.

**FORMATIVE COURSEWORK**

You are required to submit a **short essay** (about 1000 words) and a written **gobbet exercise** (about 1000 words), which is a primary source analysis. The essay and gobbet exercise help in the development of analytical and writing skills necessary for the successful completion of the exam.

**Gobbet Exercise (about 1000 words)**
The deadline for submission is **Wednesday, 4 October (week 4), by 3pm.**

Students will be provided with a choice of primary sources and guidelines on working with primary sources (on MyAberdeen) at the beginning of the course. Gobbet exercises will be returned individually with a mark taken from the CGS scale and written comments. The scholarly apparatus used (bibliography and referencing style) should conform to the History Department Referencing Guide available on MyAberdeen.

**Short Essay (about 1000 words)**

The deadline for submission is **Wednesday, 8 November (week 9), by 3pm.**

Students will frame questions of their choice after consultation with the course coordinator. Essays will be returned individually with a mark taken from the CGS scale and written comments. Before starting your essay, consult the section on essay-writing in the Department’s *Student Guidelines*. The scholarly apparatus used (bibliography and referencing style) should conform to the History Department Referencing Guide available on MyAberdeen.

**SUBMISSION ARRANGEMENTS**

Submit **one paper copy** with a completed essay cover sheet to the **drop boxes** in CB008 in 50-52 College Bounds and **one official electronic copy** to TurnitinUK via MyAberdeen. Both copies to be submitted by 3.00pm on the due date.

**Paper Copy:** One paper copy, typed and double spaced, together with an **Assessment cover sheet** – this should have your ID number **clearly** written on the cover sheet, with **NO** name or signature but **EVERYTHING ELSE** completed, including tutor’s name – and should be delivered to the drop boxes in CB008, 50-52 College Bounds.
Electronic Copy: One copy submitted through Turnitin via MyAberdeen. (for instructions please see http://www.abdn.ac.uk/eLearning/turnitinuk/students/)

Students are asked to retain the Turnitin receipt so they are able to provide proof of submission at a later date if required.

In advance of uploading, please save the assignment with your student ID number listed in the filename, i.e. 59999999 HIxxxx Essay 1.

When asked to enter a title for the assignment, please enter a title identical to the name of your saved assignment, i.e. HIxxxx Essay 1.

Both copies to be submitted by 3.00pm on the due date.

Please note: Failure to submit both an electronic copy to TurnitinUK, and an identical paper copy, will result in a deduction of marks. Failure to submit to TurnitinUK will result in a zero mark.

EXAMINATION

The three-hour degree examination consists of twelve questions. You must answer question 1 and two other questions. In question 1 you must critically analyse two primary source extract gobbets from a choice of six. Questions 2-12 are traditional essay-style questions designed to test your knowledge and understanding of the course and your critical and analytical skills. Class teaching will feature detailed preparation for the examination.

Please note that since this is a new course there are no past exam papers available. Past exam papers for other Special Subject courses can be viewed at http://www.abdn.ac.uk/library/learning-and-teaching/for-students/exam-papers/.
PLEASE NOTE: Candidates whose first language is not English may refer to English/native tongue dictionaries, when permitted by their Schools to do so. Electronic dictionaries are not permitted in the examination venue. Invigilators are entitled to request inspection of dictionaries prior to the examination, thumbing through them to check that there is no extra written material present.