

ACADEMIC SESSION 2018-2019

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

Dr Heidi Mehrkens

Office hours: Tuesday (4-5pm) and Friday (10-11am)

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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 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 engage with the material and learning activities presented. The weekly themes presented here might be subject to change.

Week 1 Introductions: Monarchies in the constitutional age

10 September How will this course work?

13 September What is a constitutional monarchy?

Week 2

17 September The British monarchy in the 19th century

20 September The French monarchy in the 19th century

Week 3 Theme: How does a dynasty work?

24 September Kings, Queens, Princes – their place in the dynasty

27 September *no seminar session – contact time to be rearranged*

Week 4 Gobbet exercise due Wednesday, 3 October, 3pm

1 October Happily ever after? Love & Marriage I

4 October Happily ever after? Love & Marriage II

Week 5

8 October The laws of succession I

11 October The laws of succession II

Week 6 Theme: Serving the nation

15 October ‘Invented’ royal traditions?

18 October Pageants and Rituals

Week 7

22 October Death and the monarchy

25 October Europe’s ‘royal international’

Week 8

29 October Monarchy and the military

1 November The (national) education of a 19th-century prince

Week 9 Theme: Selling the monarchy

Short essay due Wednesday, 7 November, 3pm

5 November Selling the monarchy, or: The power of soft power I

8 November How to ‘adopt a nation’

Week 10

12 November	Images of royalty
15 November	The challenged monarchy, or: The power of soft power II

Week 11

19 November	Trinkets and the 'royal shop window'
22 November	<i>no seminar session – contact time to be rearranged</i>

Week 12 Revision Week

29 November	Exam Preparation
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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

- Milinda Banerjee and Charlotte Backerra (eds), *Transnational Histories of the 'Royal Nation'* (Cham, 2017).
- Jeroen Deploige and Gita Deneckere (eds), *Mystifying the Monarch: Studies on Discourse, Power, and History* (Amsterdam, 2006).
- Eva Giloi, *Monarchy, Myth and Material Culture in Germany 1750-1950* (CUP, 2011).
- Frank Lorenz Müller and Heidi Mehrkens (eds), *Royal Heirs and the Uses of Soft Power in Nineteenth-Century Europe* (Houndmills, Basingstoke, 2016).
- Frank Lorenz Müller and Heidi Mehrkens (eds), *Sons and Heirs. Succession and Political Culture in Nineteenth-Century Europe* (Houndmills, Basingstoke, 2016).
- Markus J. Prutsch, 'Monarchical sovereignty and the legacy of the revolution: Constitutionalism in post-Napoleonic Germany', *Historia Constitucional* 16 (2015), 177-203.
- Markus J. Prutsch and Kelly Grotke (eds.), *Constitutionalism, Legitimacy, and Power: Nineteenth-Century Experiences* (OUP 2014).

- Simon Schama, 'The Domestication of Majesty: Royal Family Portraiture, 1500-1850', *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 17/1 (1986), 155-183.
- Alexis Schwarzenbach, 'Royal Photographs. Emotions for the People', *Contemporary European History* 13/3 (2004), 255-280.

With a focus on the Victorian monarchy

- Walter L. Arnstein, *Queen Victoria* (Basingstoke, 2003).
- John Ashton, *The Oxford Illustrated History of the British Monarchy* (Oxford, 1988).
- Vernon Bogdanor, *The Monarchy and the Constitution* (OUP, 1995).
- David Cannadine, 'The Context, Performance, and Meaning of Ritual: The British Monarchy and the "Invention of Tradition", c. 1820-1977, in: Eric Hobsbawm and Terence Ranger (eds), *The Invention of Tradition* (Cambridge, 1983), 101-164.
- David Cannadine, 'The Last Hanoverian Sovereign? The Victorian Monarchy in Historical Perspective, 1688-1988', in: A.L. Beyer, David Cannadine and James M. Rosenheim (eds), *The First Modern Society: Essays in English History in Honour of Lawrence Stone* (Cambridge, 1989).
- Matthew Glencross (ed.), *The Windsor Dynasty 1910 to the Present: 'Long to Reign over Us'?* (London, 2016).
- Christopher Hibbert, *Edward VII, a portrait* (London, 1976).
- Margaret Homans, *Royal representations: Queen Victoria and British culture, 1837-1876* (Chicago, 1998).
- Mandy Merck (ed.), *The British Monarchy on Screen* (Manchester, 2016).
- Tom Nairn, *The Enchanted Glass. Britain and its Monarchy* (London, 1990).
- Kenneth John Panton, *Historical Dictionary of the British Monarchy* (Lanham, 2011).
- John Plunkett, *Queen Victoria. First Media Monarch* (OUP, 2003).
- Lytton Strachey, *Queen Victoria* (London, 1928).
- 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, 3 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, 7 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

This course uses online submission. There is no need to provide a hard copy of written work.

When uploading assignments, please do the following:

1. Submit a .doc or .docx and include the word count.
2. Submit by the due date, no hard copy will be required unless directly requested by the Course Coordinator through [My Aberdeen](#).
3. In advance of uploading, please save the assignment with your student ID number listed in the filename, i.e. 59999999 HI4023 Essay 1.
4. When asked to enter a title for the assignment, please enter a title identical to the name of your saved assignment, i.e. 59999999 HI4023 Essay 1.

Please note: Failure to submit by the due date (unless a prior arrangement has been made) will result in a deduction of marks. Where no submission is received, this will result in a mark of zero.

Please note: *Safeassign* text-matching software will be used. However the School of Divinity, History and Philosophy reserves the right also to submit material to *TurnitinUK* when deemed necessary.

EXAMINATION

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

Past exam papers 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.