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Fall 2008  
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## THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO

### **HIS 382 – Crime and Punishment in 18<sup>th</sup> Century England**

This survey course seeks to introduce students to the history of crime and punishment in 18<sup>th</sup> Century England. Using both primary and secondary sources, students will examine the transformation of English society based on the changing views of crime, punishment and attitudes of offense and individual rights.

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Discuss different approaches that historians take in interpreting crime in a historical context.
2. Examine the relevance of class and gender to the factors of crime and punishment.
3. Compare and contrast historical works, both primary and secondary, in order to formulate a more critical understanding of the complex relationship between lawmakers and society.
4. Assess the validity of historiographical debate as to whether or not crime patterns can be fully understood based solely on trade cycles, industrialization and democratization.

#### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Required Text/Readings/References:

Gatrell, V.A.C. *The Hanging Tree, Execution and the English People, 1770-1868*.  
Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994.

I will place additional readings on electronic reserve that will be made available to you through your Blackboard account. I apologize for the additional cost of printing, however, it is much cheaper than requiring additional text. I will make every effort to inform you of the documents that will be required for in-class discussion as a means to assist you in reducing printing costs.

2. Attendance Policy:

Attendance is mandatory because the class is designed to be highly interactive and depends on your participation. If attendance is not possible then you must inform me *prior* to class or within 24 hours after an emergency. Personal and family illness, as

well as serious emergencies, represents absences that I *may* excuse. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to contact me in order to arrange plans for missed assignments. I reserve the right either to drop students for more than three unexcused absences, or to fail students based on inadequate attendance.

### 3. UNCG Academic Integrity Policy:

All students are expected to abide by the UNCG Academic Integrity Policy. “By enrolling in the University, each student agrees to abide by the *Academic Integrity Policy*.” You should familiarize yourself with the policy. You should also be aware that I feel strongly about this policy and will enforce it.

For more information about the University’s academic integrity policy, please visit these links:

Academic Integrity -- <http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu/complete/>

Student Code of Conduct -- <http://studentconduct.uncg.edu/policy/code/index.html>

### **COURSE ORGANIZATION:**

The course will consist of lecture, class discussion, student presentations and structured debate. Electronic resources will be utilized to augment the class so all students will need to be familiar with Blackboard. The use of Blackboard may include online discussion as well as reading quizzes.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Attendance and Participation: I expect you to attend class and to actively participate. In order to actively participate students must be prepared prior to coming to class and this includes the completion of the assigned reading material. I reserve the right to assign quizzes to determine if students comprehend the reading material. In the event a Blackboard discussion is assigned, then students are expected to post at least five threads with a minimum of 100 words per post. These posts will be graded according to the following measures: quality of input, ability to generate a reasoned response among your peers, and an ability to integrate and synthesize what others in the class have contributed.

Each student is responsible for signing their initials on the attendance roster and will be allowed three unexcused absences without penalty. Any additional unexcused absence, defined as an absence without prior notice and supporting written documentation, will lead to the students dismissal from the course. The roster will be available only during the designated class time.

#### 2. Etiquette:

a. Email – If I need to contact the class, I will use the Blackboard account. If I need to contact a student individually then I will utilize your UNCG e-Spartan account. Students

are welcome to correspond with me via email or chat. I will make my best effort to respond to queries as soon as possible. My policy is to respond within 48 hours of the query. If it takes longer than this, I will try to alert you ahead of time. If you do not receive a response then you should assume that I did not receive the message. If you are going to email me, please identify yourself in the message and include the course number in the subject line.

b. Cell phones – Cell phones must be turned off at all times during the class

## **COURSE ASSIGNMENTS & GRADES:**

### 1. Assignments:

Mid-Term:	25%
Annotated Bibliography:	15%
Reading Response Paper:	10%
Final Exam:	25%
Attendance & Participation:	25%

(Note: Reading quizzes & online discussions will be included in the participation grade)

### 2. Grading Scale:

A+	=	99-100
A	=	93-98
A-	=	90-92
B+	=	88-89
B	=	83-87
B-	=	80-82
C+	=	78-79
C	=	73-77
C-	=	70-72
D+	=	68-69
D	=	63-67
D-	=	60-62
F	=	59 and below

### 3. Course Organization:

The course is divided into three units: Intellectual, Social and Cultural. The first unit provides an introduction of the study of history and a theoretical argument on punishment. Unit two turns specifically toward the study of Crime. Finally, the third unit will focus on punishment.

4. Assignments: Assignments are due in accordance to the dates listed on the Course Calendar. I will not accept late work. I am aware that there may be times when you may not be able to be in-class because of other priorities. This said, since it is my

expectation that you will attend class and participate in course assignments you must obtain permission from me, prior to an absence, in order to schedule an alternate due date for assignments or to reschedule a quiz.

All written assignments should be turned in to me no later than the end of class on the assigned date and they should be in a hard copy format. I do not accept electronic submissions so students must print their work. I expect papers to be in a standard 12-point font, one-inch margins, and double-spaced.

a. Annotated Bibliography: An annotated bibliography provides information on a collection of works surrounding a specific topic and whenever possible specific examples from the work, and notes particular strengths and weaknesses of the source. Students will pick a topic from within the scope and period of the course to develop an annotated bibliography. Students must submit a short prospectus on the chosen topic for approval (See schedule for due date). Once approved, students will conduct the necessary research to create a 5-8 page annotated bibliography. This bibliography will need to include a scope, introduction, and a listing of sources. Students should follow Turabian's *Manual of Style* in citing your materials.

b. Reading Response Paper: You will write a 5-10 page reading response paper of V.A.C. Gatrell's *The Hanging Tree*. You will treat this paper as an analytical review. It is essential that you dissect the argument of the book and the major interpretive themes that support the author's thesis. You should incorporate your understanding of how this monograph fits into the broader historiography. **Do not merely summarize the content of the book!**

c. Participation: Little needs to be added about my expectations for class participation. All students must participate in class discussions and during all exercises. Due to the nature of the technological environment, it is imperative that everyone works in a timely manner if a discussion is going to be beneficial using Blackboard. If a Blackboard discussion is assigned all students must participate within the given timeframe. It will not be possible to go back at a later time and recreate the conversation so failure to participate will equate to a zero for the exercise. Bb provides an excellent opportunity for a class discussion to continue outside the confines of our scheduled lecture and I offer students the opportunity to utilize this tool as an expansion of the classroom as well as a means to discuss course material. As a matter of etiquette, I do not expect to see anyone put in an anonymous entry. Since this is an extension of the academic environment, students should be able to conduct a scholarly debate while refraining from rhetoric that impedes the pursuit of knowledge.

**HIS 382 – Crime and Punishment in 18<sup>th</sup> Century England**  
COURSE CALENDAR  
Fall 2008

I. INTELLECTUAL HISTORY

A. Week 1 – Introduction

26 Aug 08: Class Introduction

28 Aug 08: *Art of Reasoning & Why Study History?*

Assigned Reading: Kelley, Wineburg and Gilderhous articles on Bb

B. Week 2: Theoretical

2 Sep 08: Foucault

Assigned Reading: Discipline and Punish (Part 1, Chapter 1)

4 Sep 08: Foucault cont.

Assigned Reading: Discipline and Punish (Part 1, Chapter 2)

C. Week 3: Historiography

9 Sep 08: Albion's Fatal Tree (**Prospectus Due**)

Assigned Reading: Property Authority and the Criminal Law on Bb

11 Sep 08: Albion's Fatal Flaws

Assigned Reading: Langbein article on Bb

II. SOCIAL HISTORY

A. Week 4: Black Acts

16 Sep 08: Whigs and Hunters

Assigned Reading: Thompson Whigs and Hunters on Bb

18 Sep 08: No additional reading

B. Week 5: Crime and the Courts in England

23 Sep 08: The Old Bailey Records

Assigned Reading: Beattie - The Revolution, Crime and Punishment on

Bb

25 Sep 08: Crime and the State

Assigned Reading: Beattie – Crime and the State on Bb

C. Week 6: Crime and the Courts in England cont.

30 Sep 08: Conclusion

No additional reading

02 Oct 08: Review

D. Week 7: Mid-Term

7 Oct 08: Take Home Mid-Term Question Distributed

**(Bibliography Due)**

9 Oct 08: No Class

E. Week 8:

14 Oct 08: Punishment Foundation

Assigned Reading: Foucault, Discipline and Punish (Part Two, Chapter 1)

**(Mid-Term Due)**

16 Oct 08: Mid-Course Review, Housekeeping, and introduction to cultural history

III. CULTURAL HISTORY

A. Week 9: Punishment

21 Oct 08: Fall Break – No class

23 Oct 08: The Hanging Tree

Assigned Reading: *The Hanging Tree Introduction*

B. Week 10: The Scaffold and the Crowd

28-30 Oct 08: Assigned Reading: *The Hanging Tree* (Ch 1-3)

C. Week 11: The Plebian Text

4–6 Nov 08: Assigned Reading: *The Hanging Tree* (Ch 4-6)

D. Week 12: The Limits of Sensibility

11-13 Nov 08: Assigned Reading – *The Hanging Tree* (Ch 7-11)

E. Week 13: Public Opinion

18-20 Nov 08: Assigned Reading – *The Hanging Tree* (Ch 12-16)

F. Week 14: Project Work

25 Nov 08: No class – Work on project

27 Nov 08: No class – Thanksgiving Break

G. Week 15: Conclusion

02 Dec 08: Mercy, Justice and Community, Review

Assigned Reading – *The Hanging Tree* (Ch 17)

04 Dec 08: Last Day of Class. Distribution of Final Exam Question, Critique

**(Reading Response Paper Due)**

**FINAL EXAM DUE BY 3:00 PM ON 11 DEC 08**