HISTORY U25302
The Wooden Walls - The Royal Navy Under Sail: 1500-1815

2018-2019

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Office Hours: TBA
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Course Description:

The navy changed immensely from that of Henry VIII, and his Mary Rose, to that of Nelson and Victory. Britain went from being a second rate European power to the sole world superpower by 1815. This module explores the changes which both navy and nation experienced in the early modern period. To do so, it looks at key events, including battles such as the Armada and Trafalgar, but also assesses how the navy was supplied and manned, and how the experience of the sailor changed in this period. Using the collections of the museums on the University’s doorstep, as well as the historic ships in Portsmouth, the course will look to understand what it was like to serve aboard a wooden sailing ship, and how the navy, and its heroes and ordinary sailors, were portrayed to the nation at large.

Course Format:

Course seminar sessions will involve discussion of assigned readings, presentations by students on weekly topics, discussion papers, and a take home final exam. Attendance is mandatory and subject reading must be completed prior to each week’s sessions. Students, through engagement with the historiographical material and scholarly debate, will develop a fundamental understanding of the key personages, subject watersheds, significant campaigns and operations, and the cultural history of the Royal Navy within the context of the period.

Course Texts:

Required:

The Safeguard of the Sea, N. A. M. Rodger (1998)
The Admiralty, N. A. M. Rodger, (1979)
Drake and the Tudor Navy, 2 vols, Julian Corbett (1917 reprint)
The Successors of Drake, Julian Corbett (1900)
From Howard to Nelson, ed., John Knox Laughton (1907 reprint)
Statesmen and Sea Power, Herbert Richmond (1946)
The Napoleonic Wars, Gunther Rothenberg (2001)

Suggested:

Hakluyt’s Promise, Peter Mancall (2007)
The Rise and Fall of British Naval Mastery, Paul Kennedy (1998 reprint)
Admirals, Andrew Lambert (2009 reprint)
The Influence of Sea Power Upon History, 1660 – 1783 (1987 reprint)
Britain Against Napoleon, The Organization of Victory, 1793 – 1815 , Roger Knight (2013)
Fighting Instructions, 1530 – 1816, Julian Corbett, Navy Records Society Vol. 29

Additional reading assignments will be based on materials available in the Library, and through online databases. Students should print all digital material for their files.

Course Assignments:

Utilizing the weekly reading guide, students will present twice on aspects of the assigned reading subjects, and answer questions from the instructor as well as the class, followed by general discussion. Students will submit discussion papers presenting their analysis and research on their presentation topics.

Examination

Students will have 48 hours to complete a two part take home final exam. Students will write responses to two questions selected from a predetermined list. Responses should typically range from 8 to 12 pages per question.

Components of the Final Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Presentations</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Discussion Papers</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Final exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
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# Course Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Block One, 1450 – 1700</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week One</strong></td>
<td><strong>Introduction, (1422 – 1509)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Rodger, Admiralty</strong>, chapter 1</td>
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<td><strong>Parker, Revolution</strong>, chapter 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td><strong>J. A. Sharpe in Collinson, chapter 1</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Steven Ellis in Collinson, chapter 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Simon Adams in Collinson, chapter 6</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Week Two</strong></td>
<td><strong>Henry VIII &amp; The Tudor Navy (1509 – 1547)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Rodger, Safeguard</strong>, chapter 14, 15, 16, 17</td>
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<td>Sept. 14-18</td>
<td><strong>The Early Modern Navy Administrative reforms and technical developments. Revolution in early modern warfare, mercantilism &amp; piracy. Mary Rose.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Corbett, Fighting Instructions</strong>, chapter 1, 2</td>
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<td><strong>Kennedy, Mastery</strong>, chapter 1</td>
<td><strong>Corbett, Drake</strong>, chapters 6, 7, &amp; 11 (vol. 1), &amp; chapter 1 &amp; 2 (vol. 2)</td>
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<td><strong>Parker, Revolution</strong>, chapter 3</td>
<td><strong>Diarmuid MacCullock in Collinson, chapter 3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week Three</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Elizabethan Navy, (1547 – 1603)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Rodger, Safeguard</strong>, chapter 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23</td>
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<td><strong>Waters, “Elizabethan Navy...” (1949).</strong></td>
<td><strong>David Loades in J. R. Hill, chapter 2</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Richmond, Statesmen</strong>, chapter 1</td>
<td><strong>Richmond, Statesmen</strong>, chapter 1 (Howard)</td>
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<td><strong>Lambert, Admirals</strong>, chapter 1 (Howard)</td>
<td><strong>John Guy in Collinson, chapter 4</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Corbett, Drake</strong>, chapters 8, 9, 10 (vol. 1) &amp; 1, 4, 5, 6 (vol. 2 – Armada campaign)</td>
<td><strong>Corbett, Successors</strong>, chapters 1, 2, 3, 12, 13 &amp; 17</td>
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<td><strong>Corbett, Successors</strong>, chapters 1, 2, 3, 12, 13 &amp; 17</td>
<td><strong>Fuller, History</strong>, chapter 1 (vol. 2)</td>
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### Week Four
**Sept. 28 - Oct. 2**

**The Stuart Navy, 1603 - 1649**

**Rodger, Safeguard**, chpt. 24, 25, 26, 27, 28
Kennedy, Mastery, chapter 2
Richmond, Statesmen, chapter 2
Mancall, Hakluyt, chapter, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11
Fuller, History, chapter 3 (vol. 2)
Parker, Revolution, chapter 4, 5, 6
Greg Walker in Collinson, chapter 5
Corbett, *Fighting Instructions*, chapter 3

### Week Five
**Oct. 5-9**

**Anglo-Dutch Wars, proto-globalization (1660 – 1702)**
Charles II, James II, Mary II, Glorious revolution, William III Pepys and naval administration. Rooke, The Duke of York, Richelieu,

**Rodger, Command**, chapter 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5
Montagu Burrows in Laughton, chapter 3 (Blake)
J. D. Davies in Hill, chapter 3
Penrose Fitzgerald in Laughton, chapter 4 (Rooke)
Lambert, Admirals, chapter 2 (Blake)
Lambert, Admirals, chapter 3, (James II)
Rodger, Admiralty, chapter 2
Mahan, Influence, chapter 2
Corbett, *Fighting Instructions*, chapter 4, 5, 6

### Week Six
**Oct. 12-16**

**War with France, the 18th century context. (1702 – 1727)**
Anne, George I, the continental powers Imperial context, Anson’s explorations, conflict with Spain, challenge from Louis XIV

**Rodger, Command**, chapters, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Kennedy, Mastery, chapter 3
Richmond, Statesmen, chapter 3
John Hattendorf in Hill, Chapter 4
Albert Markham in Laughton, Chapter 5 (Anson)
Rodger, Admiralty, chapter 3
Fuller, History, chapter 4 (vol. 2)
Mahan, Influence, chapter 3
Corbett, *Fighting Instructions*, chapter 7
### Block Two: The 18th Century, 1688 – 1789,


Week Seven
Oct. 19-23


Week Eight
Oct. 26-30


Week Nine
Nov. 2-6

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Edmund Fremantle in Laughton, chapter 6 (Hawke) & 7 (Boscawen).

Rodger, *Admiralty*, chapter 4

Richmond, *Statesmen*, chapter 4


Lambert, *Admirals*, chapter 4, (Anson)

Corbett, *Fighting Instructions*, chapter 8

Hattendorf in Hill, chapter 4


Edmund Fremantle in Laughton, chapter 6 (Hawke) & 7 (Boscawen).

Rodger, *Admiralty*, chapter 4

Richmond, *Statesmen*, chapter 4


Lambert, *Admirals*, chapter 4, (Anson)

Corbett, *Fighting Instructions*, chapter 8

Hattendorf in Hill, chapter 4


Edmund Fremantle in Laughton, chapter 6 (Hawke) & 7 (Boscawen).

Rodger, *Admiralty*, chapter 4

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Lambert, *Admirals*, chapter 4, (Anson)

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Edmund Fremantle in Laughton, chapter 6 (Hawke) & 7 (Boscawen).

Rodger, *Admiralty*, chapter 4

Richmond, *Statesmen*, chapter 4


Lambert, *Admirals*, chapter 4, (Anson)

Corbett, *Fighting Instructions*, chapter 8

Hattendorf in Hill, chapter 4


Edmund Fremantle in Laughton, chapter 6 (Hawke) & 7 (Boscawen).

Rodger, *Admiralty*, chapter 4

Richmond, *Statesmen*, chapter 4

| Week Ten  
Nov. 9-13 | Band of bothers and Exploration, the officer corps: Cook, Vancouver, Nelson, Collingwood, Hood (1768 – 1794)  
Mapping the world. Maritime conflict, loss of the “first empire.” Recovery and the maritime strategy of the Revolutionary war | Roger Morris in Hill, chapter 8  
Lambert, Admirals, chapter 5, (Hood)  
Corbett, Fighting Instructions, chapter 9  
Rodger, Admiralty, chapter 5  
Stern, “Polar maps...” (2016).xv  
Sahlins, “Captain Cook...” (1989).xvi  
Philip Colomb in Laughton, chapters 11 (St. Vincent) & 12 (Nelson),  
R. V. Hamilton in Laughton, chapter 10 (Hood) |
|---|---|---|
| Block Three | French Revolutionary & Napoleonic Wars, 1789 – 1815 | Rodger, Command, chapters, 28, 29, 30, 31  
Rothenberg, Napoleonic, chapter 1, 2, 3  
Richmond, Statesmen, chapter 6, & 7  
Kennedy, Mastery, chapter 5  
Fuller, History, chapter 11 & 12 (vol. 2)  
| Week Eleven  
Nov. 16-20 | Revolution & Reaction ( 1789 – 1805 )  
Rothenberg, Napoleonic, chapter 1, 2, 3  
Richmond, Statesmen, chapter 6, & 7  
Kennedy, Mastery, chapter 5  
Fuller, History, chapter 11 & 12 (vol. 2)  
| Week 12  
Nov. 23-27 | Defeating Napoleon, War with America, the death of Nelson (1805 – 1812)  
Grenville’s policy. Pitt’s naval strategy.  
Blockade and counter-blockade.  
Trafalgar. Maritime strategy, the Peninsula, 1812 campaign, frigate actions. | Knight, *Against Napoleon*, chapters 3, 4, 5, 6  
Rodger, *Command*, chapters, 32, 33, 34, 35  
Rothenberg, *Napoleonic*, chapter 4, 5, 6, 7  
Fuller, *History*, chapter 13, 14, & 15 (vol. 2)  
Knight, *Against Napoleon*, chapters 8, 9, 12, & 16  
Rodger, *Command*, chapter, 36  
Kennedy, *Mastery*, chapter 6  
Richmond, *Statesmen*, chapter 8  
|---|---|---|
| Week 13  
Nov. 30-Dec.4 | Pax Britannica, 1815  
The Admiralty and Royal Navy in 1816.  
The future: industrialization and beyond. Abolition of the slave trade, Nelson’s Touch. | --- |
Journal Articles & secondary sources


https://cawarstudies.wordpress.com/2016/12/31/captain-charles-middleton-and-the-seven-years-war/


