BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT

This course is designed to be a comprehensive introduction to the history and culture of the United Kingdom and Ireland. The first semester will focus on the United Kingdom and Ireland and the second semester on the rise and fall of the British Empire from the early 16th century up to the independence of the Indian subcontinent in 1947.

OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the course is to

- acquaint students with a wide range of aspects that have contributed to the shaping of these nations and their history
- analyse the role and the influence of the most outstanding personalities
- encourage students to consider not just the events themselves but the way they have been narrated and the role of history in the formation of a common culture

SYLLABUS

Semester A. The United Kingdom & Ireland
From Roman Britannia to Anglo-Saxon England. The Norman Conquest.
Celtic Ireland. The Golden Age. 1169 invasion.
The Stuarts. Religion, Politics & the Civil Wars. Oliver Cromwell.
The Act of Union with Britain. The Famine & emigration.
The Industrial Revolution. Scots & Industry.
The suffragette movement. Keir Hardie & the Labour party. World War I.

**Semester B. The British Empire**


**ASSESSMENT**

Class participation: 10%
Essays: 20%
Mid-Term exam: 30%
Final exam: 40%

**TUTORIALS**

None

**BIBLIOGRAPHY / MATERIALS**

**Semester A. Compulsory Reading**
Lang, Sean, *British History for Dummies*, John Wiley & Sons, 2004
Reading pack

**Semester B. Compulsory Reading**
Reading packs

**Secondary Reading:**

**The United Kingdom**

**Ireland**

**The British Empire**