COURSE DETAIL

FROM OLIGARCHY TO DEMOCRACY: THE POLITICS OF REFORM IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, 1828-1928

Country
United Kingdom - Scotland

Host Institution
University of Edinburgh

Program(s)
University of Edinburgh

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
History

UCEAP Course Number
122

UCEAP Course Suffix

UCEAP Official Title
FROM OLIGARCHY TO DEMOCRACY: THE POLITICS OF REFORM IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, 1828-1928

UCEAP Transcript Title
GR BRITAIN&IRE 1828

UCEAP Quarter Units
8.00

UCEAP Semester Units
5.30

Course Description

This course charts the arc of political and constitutional change between Catholic emancipation and the full enfranchisement of women a century later. Although Britain's route to participatory democracy was comparatively smooth and peaceful (indeed, Britain was unique among its European peers in being untouched by revolution during this century), progressive reform was never inevitable. This course emphasizes the contingent nature of this process. British democracy was never pre-ordained, despite the claims of Victorian liberals who described successive reforms as evidence of inevitable 'progress'. Nor was the Westminster Parliament in the vanguard of democracy during this period. In 1914 Britain was governed by one of the least representative parliaments in the developed world. This course emphasizes the staying power of the ancient regime in the face of reform. During this period, parliamentary and other reforms were very often initiated by the political establishment itself with the intention of shoring up old systems rather than of bringing new ones into existence. This mentality, which has been described as 'reforming to conserve', is a key focus of this course.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
HIST10395

Host Institution Course Title
FROM OLIGARCHY TO DEMOCRACY: THE POLITICS OF REFORM IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, 1828-1928

Host Institution Course Details
http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/19-20/dpt/cxhist10395.htm

Host Institution Campus

University of Edinburgh

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
School of History, Classics and Archaeology

Course Last Reviewed
2022-2023

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