

England in the Seventeenth Century
Prof. Alastair Bellany

This course explores what is perhaps the most tumultuous and fascinating century of English history: a century of revolutionary political conflict, of rapid social and economic transformation, of unprecedented state formation and imperial expansion, and of profound cultural change. To capture the complex interconnections between all these phenomena, the course blends political with social, cultural and intellectual history, utilizing a wide range of primary documents and historiographical analyses. Topics will include: the causes, nature and consequences of the English civil wars and the revolution of 1649; the persistence of political instability and the “Glorious Revolution” of 1688; the growth of the “public sphere”; the nature of religious belief, experience and conflict; the persistence of “magic”; the rise of “modern” science; ideologies of gender, sex and family; the response to epidemic disease; crime and urban society; popular culture and popular song; and commercial expansion, slavery and the opening of the English Atlantic World.

Required Books:

Robert Bucholz and Newton Key, *Early Modern England*, 2nd edition (Wiley-Blackwell: ISBN 978-1405162753)

Thomas Middleton, *A Game at Chess* (Revels Plays: Manchester UP: ISBN 978-0719016349)

Cynthia Herrup, *A House in Gross Disorder* (Oxford UP: ISBN 978-0195139259)

Geoffrey Robertson and Phil Baker (eds.), *The Putney Debates* (Verso: ISBN 978-1844671755)

Lagomarsino and Wood (eds.), *The Trial of Charles I* (Dartmouth UP: ISBN 978-0874514995)

Steven C. A. Pincus (ed.), *England's Glorious Revolution 1688-1689: A Brief History with Documents* (Bedford: ISBN 978-0312167141)

Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, (Penguin: ISBN 978-0141439822)

Daniel Defoe, *A Journal of the Plague Year* (OUP Classics: ISBN 978-0199572830)