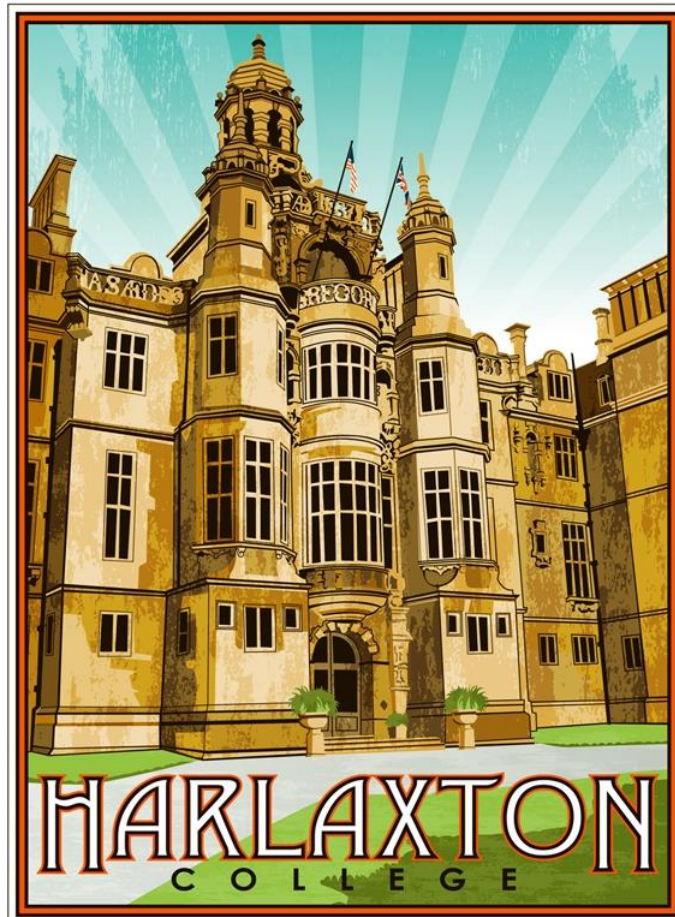


# British Studies

The British Experience from the Celts to the Present Day

ID H282, ID H382, ID H382H

Fall Semester 2011



GRANTHAM, ENGLAND

## Harlaxton College

[www.harlaxton.ac.uk](http://www.harlaxton.ac.uk)

### Teaching Team

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## BRITISH STUDIES AT HARLAXTON COLLEGE

British Studies is available at Harlaxton College at **three** different levels (200, 300, and Honors)

- The H282 programme provides the basic model for British Studies. It is a 200 level, *six* credit course consisting of 28 lectures and seminars and three field trips. Assessment consists of the following elements: five quizzes, general seminar contributions, an individual presentation, three examinations, and one term paper. For the weighting of each element see the Table below.
- H382 offers 300 level credit. In addition to the H282 programme of lectures and seminars students take four additional seminars throughout the semester and write a brief research paper on each of these. The other assessment elements are the same as for H282. For the weighting of each element see the Table below.
- Honors (H382H) offers Honors credit.<sup>1</sup> In addition to the H282 programme of lectures and seminars students take an additional one-hour Honors seminar each week. Honors students complete three research papers instead of the term paper. The other assessment elements are the same as for H282. For the weighting of each element see the Table below.

### Class Hours

IDH282: four hours per week (two lectures and two seminars)

IDH382: four hours per week (two lectures and two seminars) + four additional 382 seminars

IDH382H: five per week (two lectures, two seminars + one Honors seminar)

### TABLE: British Studies Assessment

**N.B. All elements MUST be fulfilled in order to complete the course**

Course	Quizzes (5)	Individual Presentation	Seminar Contributions	Exams (3)	Research Papers
IDH282	10%	10%	10%	45%	25% (term paper)
IDH382	10%	10%	10%	30%	40% (term paper = 15% + 4 short research papers = 25%)
IDH382H	10%	10%	10%	30%	40% (3 research papers of 1,500-2,000 words each)

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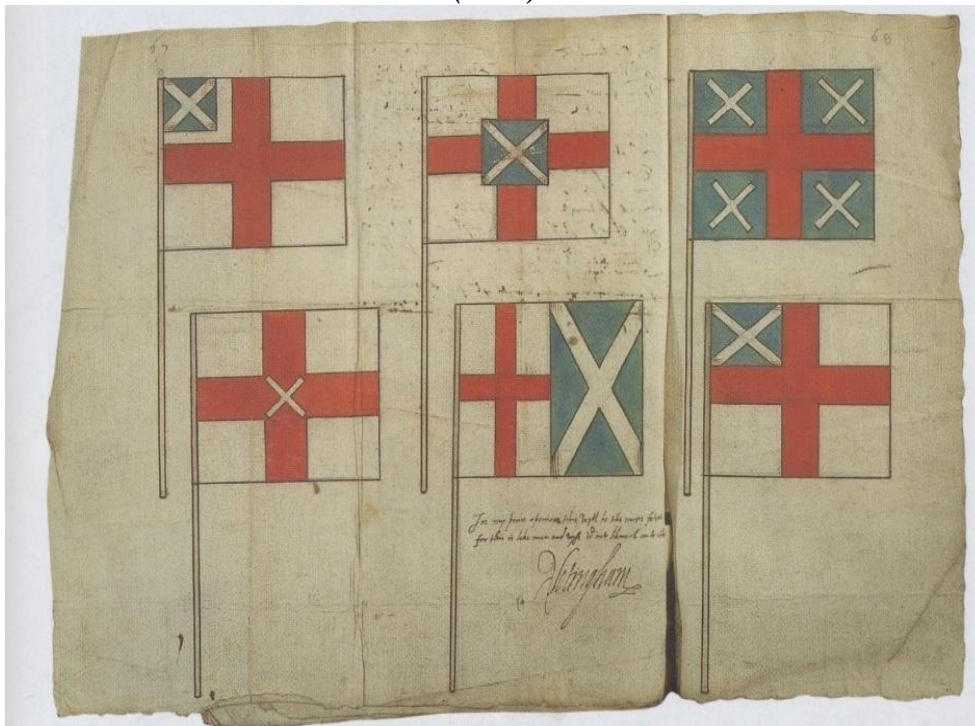
<sup>1</sup> N.B. The University of Evansville and Harlaxton's Partner Colleges apply Honors credit in different ways. Please contact your Honors director if you have queries regarding the Honors credit you will gain for taking this option.

# BRITISH STUDIES - ID H282

## COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

British Studies is a required course for all students at Harlaxton College. Worth six credits it offers an interdisciplinary survey of British history and culture from earliest times to the present day. The course consists of twenty-eight twice-weekly lectures and seminars, and three field trips – one in each section of the course. It explains the political development of the various nations that make up the British Isles, and the changing nature of the often fractious relationship between those countries (England, Scotland Wales, and (Northern) Ireland). Its central theme is national identity – it is concerned with and seeks to explain the nature of Britain historically, politically, culturally, and intellectually. By understanding the protracted and difficult process by which the United Kingdom became unified the course helps students appreciate the nation/s in which they are living, and understand current debates about devolution and the future of that/those nations.

### *Proposals for a new British flag after the union of the crowns of England and Scotland (1603)*



British Studies considers the nature of national identity and the changing character of 'Britishness'. Students leave Harlaxton with a clear understanding of the disparate cultures and often fractious history of the countries that comprise the British Isles which equips them to better appreciate Britain in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

## Course Organisation, Requirements, and Assessment

- 28 lectures and seminars, and 3 field trips.
- The course is divided into three components/periods each of which concludes with an examination. The first component deals chiefly with medieval and early modern Britain; the second with the development of the United Kingdom and the rise of the British Empire; the third section is concerned with the impact of the two World Wars and Britain in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

### Course Components

1. Kingship and the Construction of National Identities (to c.1660)
2. Unification and the Construction of a British Identity (c.1660-c.1900)
3. A United Kingdom? (c.1900-present)

### Field Trips

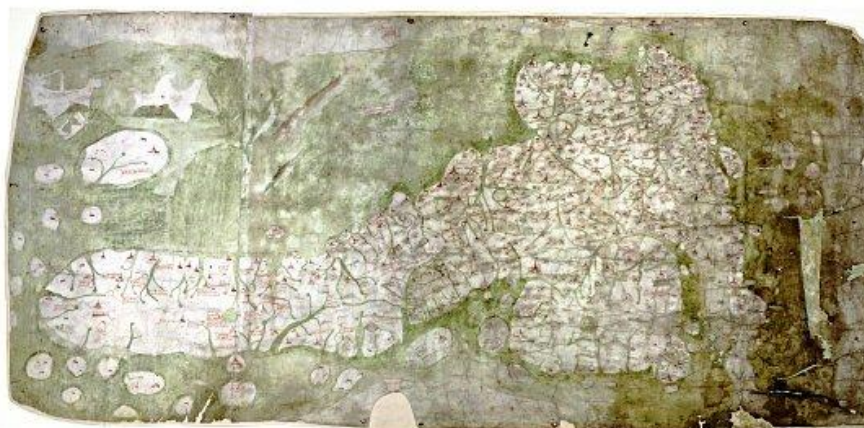
1. Roman and Medieval Lincoln. The city dates from c.50 A.D. and has extensive Roman remains; Lincoln's castle dates from 1068, two years after the Norman victory at the battle of Hastings; and the cathedral at Lincoln (begun 1072) is one of the finest in the country.
2. Southwell Workhouse and Harlaxton Manor. This field trip compares England's earliest Workhouse (built 1824) with the neo-Elizabethan manor at Harlaxton (in which the college is located) in order to explore Victorian attitudes to gender, class and poverty.
3. London: St Paul's Cathedral, the National Gallery and National Portrait Gallery. The final field trip considers the importance of the capital in creating a sense of national identity through the consideration of some iconic architectural and artistic examples.

### **Assessment Scheme for H282 Students**

<b>Three examinations</b>	45%
<b>One research paper (2,000-3,000 words)</b>	20%
<b>Five quizzes</b>	15%
<b>Seminar participation</b>	20% of final grade (10% Individual Presentation)

# **BRITISH STUDIES – ID H382**

## ***MAPPING THE NATIONS: CREATING BRITAIN***



The Gough Map of Great Britain, c.1360. The oldest surviving road map of Britain

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

*Mapping the Nations: Creating Britain* explores the ways in which Britain has been mapped, imagined, constructed and described. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, students will analyse the issue of British national identity by examining themes such as travel, language, ethnicity, the landscape, and communication.

In addition to the core British Studies course, each H382 student will attend four seminars and complete four short written assignments (approximately 1,000 words). Students will be expected to prepare for seminars by examining relevant primary and secondary sources.

Alongside the H282 course, the H382 programme provides both an intellectual challenge and an opportunity for students to pursue a more detailed and analytical study of the key themes of the British Studies course.

### **Learning Outcomes**

Students taking the course will:

- i) Develop and enhance their research and writing skills
- ii) Develop a deeper and more sophisticated understanding of the core themes of the British Studies course
- iii) Be equipped with the skills to enhance their overall performance in the British Studies course

## Course Schedule

All seminars take place in the Culpin Room beginning at 6.30pm. The British Studies professor leading the seminar is indicated below. Each written assignment is to be submitted **one week** following the relevant seminar.

- Seminar One (DG): *Gerald of Wales: An 'Englishman' in Wales and Ireland*
- Seminar Two (EB): *Mapping Borders and Frontiers*
- Seminar Three (HS): *Daniel Defoe: An Englishman in Scotland*
- Seminar Four (PT): *The National Park Movement in Britain*

## Assessment Scheme for H382 Students

The four 382 written assignments count for 25% of the total British Studies grade (6.25% for each assignment). Below is a breakdown of the assessment scheme.

<b>Three examinations</b>	30 % of final grade
<b>One research paper (2,000-3,000 words)</b>	15% of final grade
<b>Seminar participation</b>	20% of final grade (10% Individual Presentation)
<b>Five quizzes</b>	10% of final grade
<b>Four 382 assignments</b>	25% of final grade

# **BRITISH STUDIES - ID H382H**

## ***HONORS***

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

The Honors section adds a further element to the H282 program. It takes advantage of Harlaxton's rich local resources – architectural, archaeological, literary, musical, and historical – to offer a unique and sophisticated course to students from a wide variety of academic backgrounds. The course allows Honors students to direct their studies towards their major, and combines experiential learning with research-led teaching to enhance students' skills and their appreciation of Britain's past and present during their time in the U.K.

The Honors class is taught through a series of seminars and tutorials in addition to and running parallel with the six credit H282 program which provides a survey of British history and culture from earliest times to the present day. Honors students will enjoy a further one-hour discussion class each week in addition to various field trips and extra-curricula events including an evening lecture series in which they will have the opportunity to meet and hear visiting academics from throughout the U.K. and Ireland.

Led by members of Harlaxton's British faculty who have dedicated research and teaching interests in the areas of study detailed below, the Honors classes provide an interdisciplinary approach to studying the United Kingdom. The course uses a range of vibrant case-studies and sources from the Harlaxton region, including Harlaxton Manor itself. British Studies Honors draws on the finest British, Irish, and American pedagogical traditions to provide Harlaxton Honors students with a unique educational experience.

#### **British Studies Honors: Summary**

The Honors element builds on the existing British Studies program by providing students with a sophisticated, research-led series of interdisciplinary seminars and tutorials. Through these, students will gain a deeper understanding of three important themes and periods that underpin Britain's past and remain fundamental to its heritage - a subject they will consider in Part Four of the course. Honors students will not only be challenged intellectually but also have the opportunity to hone research and analytical skills transferable to a wide range of disciplines and careers.

#### **Eligibility: Criteria for Participation**

A student is eligible to take British Studies Honors if they are enrolled in their own school's Honors program, or, should their school not have an Honors program, if they meet the criteria for admission to the University of Evansville Honors Program ([www.evansville.edu/accepted/honorsprogram.cfm](http://www.evansville.edu/accepted/honorsprogram.cfm)). In the latter case, they would not be

required to apply to the UE Honors Program but would be admitted to Harlaxton Honors courses on arrival at Harlaxton College.

### **Course Outline**

The regular series of British Studies lectures (two hours / week) and seminars (two hours / week) provides the historical and cultural context for the more detailed research-led seminars and tutorials taken by Honors students (one hour /week). Parts One to Three of the Honors program each consist of four one-hour seminars; Part Four consists of two seminars.

- **Part One (DG): *Medieval Society: The Three Orders***
- **Part Two (PT): *Music and Society in Early Modern Britain***
- **Part Three (EB): *The Development of the English Country House***
- **Part Four (HS): *Reviewing and re-presenting the Past***

### **Class Times**

Group One: Tuesday, 11.40-12.30, Music Room

Group Two: Thursday, 11.40-12.30, Music Room

### **Assessment Scheme for Honors Students**

In addition to some of the ID H282 assessment requirements (five short quizzes, three two-hour examinations, one individual presentation, and class participation), three research essays (approx. 1,500 words each) or extended source analyses will be completed on topics chosen by Honors students following from their studies of Parts One to Three of the program. These will be supplemented by tutorial discussions. Students will choose essay questions or sources to analyse from a wide selection, or choose research subjects in consultation with their seminar tutor. This will permit students to take charge of their learning and, if they wish, relate topics to their major. For example, in Part Three of the course an English major could analyse, if s/he wished, literary representations of country houses.

<b>Five quizzes</b>	10%
<b>Three examinations</b>	30%
<b>Seminar participation</b>	20% of final grade (10% Individual Presentation)
<b>Three Honors research essays</b>	40%

