**Instructor:** Bennaa Youcef **British Civilization**

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**Course Description:**

This course surveys British civilization from early foundational times to the formation of the constitutional monarchy in the late 1600s. It reviews the basic chronology of British civilization while focusing on the major events and problems of British history, including political, social, cultural, and economic developments. The course also emphasizes geography as it relates to British history and some interpretive issues regarding major events and problems in British civilization.

**Course Goals and Objectives:**

Upon completion of the British Civilization course, students will:

* Know key events and dates in British history, from colonial times to the present.
* Know the basic geography of Britain and understand how, when, and why this nation grew as it did.
* Discuss long-standing issues and problems in British history.
* Report on careers and contributions of noteworthy persons in British history.
* Analyze similarities and differences between past and current events in the history of Britain.

**This Course reinforces the Following General Education Skills objectives:**

* **Objective # 1**: Students will **read** analytically and critically in a variety of genres.
* **Objective # 2**: Students will **write** in a variety of forms using valid logic, persuasive rhetoric, and correct grammar, and punctuation.
* **Objective # 3**: Students will be able to **orally deliver a presentation** with a clear central idea that is logically developed, supported by convincing evidence and valid reasoning, and expressed using correct language.

**Course Requirements and Evaluation:**

**1-Readings:** The following books are the required reading material for this course, I will make sure to provide you with the PDF versions of these books.

* Oakland, John. 2002. ***British Civilization: an Introduction.***London: London University Publication Office.
* Mcdowall, David. 2008. ***An Illustrated History of Britain***. New York: The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.
* Oakland, John. ***Contemporary Britain: A Survey with Texts***(Routledge, 2001)
* Oakland, John. ***A Dictionary of British Institutions***(Routledge, 1993)

**2-Participation and Attendance:** Attendance and participation\* are absolutely necessary for the course to be successful. Participation will help you, dear students, to better process and understand the material we cover. You SHOULD come to class ready and prepared to ask questions, generate ideas, and discuss the topic of that particular session.

The policy regarding the absences is to be determined according to the English department guidelines.

**Class and home Assignments:** Of course, you’ll be assigned some in-class and home-bound activities and assignments that will make up a portion of your final grade.

**Paper and Presentation:** This is, of course, the culmination of our experience in this course, along with the final Exam. Some of you will be required to write a research paper (of no more than 10 pages, including a bibliography) on a topic of your choosing (After my confirmation) in the lessons we cover in British Civilization or British Culture in general. The other group will have to present a work to your colleagues and me, using PowerPoint in a 15 minutes presentation.

**Classroom Etiquette:** Disruptions to class negatively affect everyone’s ability to learn. If you must arrive late or leave early, please notify the instructor in advance and sit by the door to

minimize disruptions. It is inappropriate to use cell phones or use laptops for activities outside of taking notes (such as email or Facebook). Disruptions will reduce your participation grade.

**The Syllabus**

**British Civilization**

* **Early Britain**
* The Foundation of a New Nation: (The Romans, The Celts, and the Geography of Britain) (2400B.C- 80 A.D)
* The Saxon Invasion: (The Invaders, The Vikings, the Church and the State) (430A.D- 875 A.D)
* The Celtic Kingdoms: Scotland, Ireland, Wales.(780 A.D- 1100 A.D)
* **The Beginning of the Middle Ages**
* The Norman Conquest and Feudalism (1070 A.D-1100 A.D)
* Magna Carta and the Decline of Feudalism (1100 A.D-1215 A.D)
* The Powers of the King of England (Parliament, dealing with the Celts) (1216 A.D -1275 A.D)
* Towns, Society, and Culture during in the Middle Ages. (1200 A.D- 1300A.D)
* **The Tumultuous Age**
* The Wars and Revolutions (France, Scotland, Wales and the Revolt of the Poor) (1330 A.D- 1400 A.D)
* The Tudors (The New Dynasty, the Reformation and the Catholic-Protestant Struggle) (1485 A.D- 1603 A.D)
* The Scottish Influence (Queen Mary, the Scottish Reformation, and a Scottish king for England) (1513 A.D -1578 A.D)
* **The Stuarts**
* Parliament against the Crown (The Sectarian tension and the Civil War) (1603 A.D- 1714 A.D)
* The Republic (The Crown and the constitutional Monarchy) (1645 A.D-1701 A.D)
* Scotland and Ireland Rebellions (1689 A.D–1690 A.D).
* The Revolution and the Puritan influence (1685 A.D-1700 A.D)