

**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY — DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**  
**HTST 332 (WINTER 2019) — TOPICS IN EARLY MODERN ENGLAND**

**Death in the Sceptred Isle: Early Modern England, 1485-1690**

Instructor: Dr. Ken MacMillan  
Email: [macmillk@ucalgary.ca](mailto:macmillk@ucalgary.ca)  
Office: SS 628; Phone 403-220-5927

Lecture Location: PF 114  
Lecture Hours: MWF 11:00-11:50 am  
Office Hours: MW 12-1 pm or by appointment

### **Introduction**



This course will investigate key themes in the history of Tudor and Stuart England, focusing on the subject of death. Everybody who lived in this period experienced a great deal more exposure to death than most of us do today. Death could come from assassination, execution, accident, plague, disease, childbirth, war, suicide, massacre, riot, and starvation, in addition to a number of other causes. The spectre of death was so prevalent that early modern artwork and literature made it a central theme. In a nation obsessed with order, the threat of death was a common method used by the English state and church to ensure that society did not descend into disorder.

### **Learning Outcomes**

In addition to developing a broad understanding of early modern English history, this course is designed to facilitate the ongoing development of core skills in the study of history, lifelong learning, and active citizenship. These skills include oral and written communication; critical and abstract thinking; methods of historical research, organization, presentation, and argumentation; performing close readings of primary and secondary sources; and working together in small groups and taking part in plenary discussions.

### **Reading List**

Ken MacMillan, *Death in the Sceptred Isle: Early Modern England, 1485–1690* (D2L)  
*The History Student's Handbook: A Short Guide to Writing History Essays* (2012) (D2L)

### **Grade Distribution**

Participation	Throughout term	10%
Critical Reflections (3)	Feb. 11, Mar. 15, Apr. 12	45%
Research Essay	Mar. 29, 2019	45%

Please note that there is no final examination in this course. All assignments will be given percentage or letter grades according to the Department of History's approved table.

## **Participation**

We will consider the weekly topic and reading material both as a class and in small groups, usually on Fridays. The participation grade will be assigned at the end of term based on these discussions. There will be no opportunity to make up for participation grades lost due to absence, unless this is the result of illness, disability, or personal emergency.

## **Critical Reflections (15% each)**

These three assignments involve answering the five “Active Learning” questions in *three chapters* from *each part* of *Death in the Sceptred Isle: Early Modern England, 1485–1690*. Each response should be approximately 100 words, which means that each assignment, in its entirety, will be about 1500 words. Responses should demonstrate knowledge of the chapter, lectures, and critical reflection. No additional research is required for these assignments. Assignments should be submitted to the Dropbox on D2L by midnight of the following dates: February 11 for Part I, March 15 for Part II, and April 12 for Part III. Please note that although these reflections can be less formal in style than essays (for example, the use of “I think” and contractions are fine), they should otherwise be structurally and grammatically correct and free from spelling errors.

## **Research Essay**

The research essay, of about 2500 words (7–8 double-spaced pages), should investigate one of the methods of death discussed in the textbook’s “Tragic Tales” or “Death in the Archives” sections. It can focus on a specific type of death (eg. suicide, execution, assassination, infanticide, torture, disease, etc.) or the death of a single individual (eg. Thomas More) or group (eg. soldiers in battle). You are not required to use primary sources for this assignment, but they may be used if desired. Secondary research should consist of at least six sources, comprising books, chapters in books, or academic monographs written since 1990. Do not use Wikipedia, online lectures or presentations, textbooks, or works of popular history. Please use *The History Student’s Handbook* for guidance on writing History essays and for proper citation format. The word count includes all text and notes but excludes the title page and bibliography. The essay is to be uploaded to D2L by midnight on the due date, about which further instructions will be provided in class. Please do not email assignments. Requests for extensions must be made in advance of the due date and will not normally be more than one week. Late assignments will be penalized 3% per day.

## **Inclusiveness, Accommodation, and Classroom Conduct**

I am committed to creating an inclusive learning environment for all registered students. If you have conditions or circumstances that require accommodations, you are encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services and to contact me by email or during office hours to discuss reasonable measures that will ensure your success in this course. Part of creating an inclusive learning environment involves respecting your fellow classmates. Please refrain from disruptive activities, including opening food packages, chatting with friends, and using the internet, a cell phone, or other electronic devices. Laptops and tablets should only be used for note taking or for using the reading materials during group sessions. Ensure that your phone is set to silent mode or is turned off. The University advocates “scent-free awareness”; please respect the fact that some people are adversely affected by exposure to scented products and consider minimizing their use.

To protect the privacy of others, students may not record in any format any activity that occurs within the classroom. Permission to record lectures will only be given to students registered with Student Accessibility Services. All material in this course, including but not limited to lectures, quizzes, worksheets, and the textbook, are under the protection of copyright and may not be distributed to third parties under any circumstances.

### Course Outline and Schedule of Readings (subject to change)

The textbook for this course, Ken MacMillan, *Death in the Sceptred Isle: Early Modern England, 1485–1690* (*DitSI*), is the draft of book that which will be submitted to the University of Toronto Press for publication in the summer of 2019. We will read one chapter each week. This material will also be used for group work, the critical reflections, and the final examination.

Date	Topic	Readings
Jan. 11	<i>Danse Macabre</i> : Welcome and Introduction	<i>DitSI</i> , Introduction
Jan. 14–18	<i>Regicide</i> : England in 1485; Henry VII	<i>DitSI</i> , chap. 1
Jan. 21–25	<i>Riot</i> : Henry VIII	<i>DitSI</i> , chap. 2
Jan. 28–Feb. 1	<i>Murder</i> : Edward VI and Mary I	<i>DitSI</i> , chap. 3
Feb. 4–8	<i>Plague</i> : Elizabeth I	<i>DitSI</i> , chap. 4
Feb. 11–15	<i>Treason</i> : The Early Stuarts	<i>DitSI</i> , chap. 5
Feb. 18–22	<i>Carpe Diem</i> : Reading Week; <b>no classes</b>	
Feb. 25–Mar. 1	<i>Battle</i> : War and Interregnum	<i>DitSI</i> , chap. 6
Mar. 4–8	<i>Suicide</i> : The Later Stuarts	<i>DitSI</i> , chap. 7
Mar. 11–15	<i>Massacre</i> : The English Empire	<i>DitSI</i> , chap. 8
Mar. 18–22	<i>Torture</i> : Order and Disorder	<i>DitSI</i> , chap. 9
Mar. 25–29	<i>Witchcraft</i> : Society and Culture; <b>research essay due</b>	<i>DitSI</i> , chap. 10
Apr. 1–5	<i>Mortality</i> : The Stages of Life	<i>DitSI</i> , chap. 11
Apr. 8–12	<i>Memento Mori</i> : Conclusions; <b>distribution of exam</b>	<i>DitSI</i> , Conclusion

### Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information

**\*Attention history majors: History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.\***

*Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist*

### Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580, or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). For detailed information on common academic concerns, you can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre (ASC) in SS 102, call 403-220-3580, email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca), or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.

- For registration issues, paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK (7625), visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block (MLB) or their website at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.

### **Writing:**

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

### **Writing Support:**

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL). Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit [www.ucalgary.ca/ssc](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc).

### **Copyright:**

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. What this simply means is that no copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

### **Red Box Policy:**

Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (Social Sciences, Room 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: **1) course name and number, 2) instructor, 3) your name and 4) your student number.** Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be date stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

### **Departmental Grading System:**

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Grade Point Value</b>	<b>Description</b>
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
80-84	A-	3.70	
77-79	B+	3.30	
73-76	B	3.00	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-72	B-	2.70	
67-69	C+	2.30	
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.
60-62	C-	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation.
56-59	D+	1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
50-55	D	1.00	
0-49	F	0	Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

### **Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. As noted in *The History Student's Handbook*

([http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history\\_students\\_handbook\\_2015.pdf](http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history_students_handbook_2015.pdf)),

plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

**Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI):**

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses ([www.ucalgary.ca/usri](http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri)). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI surveys.

**Academic Accommodations (implemented July 1, 2015):**

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy).

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

**Campus Resources for Mental Health:**

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

**Other Useful Information:**

- Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).
- Campus Security & Safewalk: 403-220-5333, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>.
- Freedom of Information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>.
- Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>.
- Student Union Information: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>.
- Graduate Student Association: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>.
- Student Ombudsman Office: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

- Registration Changes and Exemption

Requests: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals>.

*Winter 2019*