HIST 380: Topics in History: Tudor England

Summer 2019

Class time:

Name of Faculty: Dr. Clayton Drees, Virginia Wesleyan University

Contact details:

Course Description

HIST 380: Topics in History: Tudor England (3) Dr Clayton Drees, Virginia Wesleyan University

Explores specialized topics in history in a lecture-discussion format. This topics course introduces students to the political, social, religious, economic, intellectual and literary developments that ushered England from the late Middle Ages into a renaissance of culture under the Tudor rulers.

Topics will include the Lancastrian ascendency, the Wars of the Roses, early Tudor humanism, the Henrician “revolution” in government, the English Reformation, the “Little Tudors” and the reign of “Gloriana” Elizabeth I.

Students will gain an appreciation for the failings and triumphs of human nature through their study of the great events and personalities of the Tudor age. Repeatable course. Content changes each time course is offered. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or permission of instructor.

Credit Hour Policy Statement

This class meets the federal credit hour policy of:

☐ This class meets the federal credit hour policy of 1 hour of class with an expected 2 hours of additional student work outside of class each week for approximately 15 weeks for each hour of credit, or a total of 45-75 total hours for each credit.

General Education Objective

None apply.

Learning Objectives

Students will:

~ investigate and learn about the key events, developments and personalities of early modern England
~ discover how to collect, evaluate and present historical evidence
~ argue original thesis interpretations
~ analyse and understand a wide range of historiographical viewpoints
~ develop and improve writing skills
~ cultivate public speaking prowess and its accompanying self-confidence
Assessment and Grading Criteria

10% of your grade will be based upon your spoken contributions to classroom discussion sessions.

10% of your grade will be based upon a hand-traced, detailed and labelled map of Tudor England showing physical features, geographic regions, important counties, towns and cities.

20% of your grade will be based upon your performance on ten "reading review" questionnaires to be answered in class at the start of each discussion session.

25% of your grade will be based upon a midterm take-home examination. This examination will be a single essay of 6-8 double-spaced, typed pages answering one of a choice of set questions and arguing an original thesis. Your essay is expected to incorporate the lecture material and the assigned class readings (but not outside research), and must employ correct Chicago style citations in foot- or end-notes (format provided on midterm assignment sheet).

35% of your grade will be based upon a final take-home examination. This examination will be an 8-10 page version of the midterm, above.