

# Lloyd George: hero or villain?

Start date 13<sup>th</sup> January 2017 End date 15<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Venue Madingley Hall

Madingley Cambridge

Tutor Dr Jonathan Rodell Course code 1617NRX069

**Director of Programmes**Emma Jennings

For further information on this course, please contact

Public Programme Coordinator, Clare Kerr clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk\_or 01223 746237

**To book** See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262

# **Tutor biography**

Dr Jonathan Rodell studied History at Pembroke College, Cambridge and received his doctorate for a thesis on popular religion in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The focus of his work is on grassroots history and the impact of religious ideas upon the lives of ordinary people. He is the author of *The Rise of Methodism: a study of Bedfordshire 1736-1851* (2014) and is currently working on a research project unpicking the decline of nonconformity in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. He lectures for the Institute of Continuing Education on various aspects of the social and religious history of Britain and America and was a Visiting Fellow of Southern Methodist University, Dallas.

# **Course programme**

# **Friday**

Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the bar which opens at 18:15. Tea and coffee making facilities are available in the study bedrooms.

19:00	Dinner	
20:30 – 22:00	Session 1 Church and Chapel: the social and political background to Lloyd George's career	
22:00	Terrace bar open for informal discussion	
Saturday		
07:30	Breakfast	
09:00 - 10:30	Session 2 The Welsh Nationalist: Lloyd George's childhood and early career	
10:30	Coffee	
11:00 – 12:30	Session 3 The Radical: Lloyd George and the Boer War	
13:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 16:00	Free	
16:00	Tea	
16:30 – 18:00	Session 4 The Reformer: Lloyd George and the New Liberalism	
18:00 – 18:30	Free	
18:30	Dinner	
20:00 – 21:30	Session 5 The Prime Minister: Lloyd George and the Great War	
21:30	Terrace bar open for informal discussion	

# **Sunday**

07:30 Breakfast

09:00 – 10:30 Session 6 The Pariah: Lloyd George and the

collapse of the Liberal Party

10:30 Coffee

11:00 – 12:30 Session 7 Hero or villain?

12:45 Lunch

The course will disperse after lunch

## Course syllabus

#### Aims:

- To build up a clear narrative of a complex political career that spanned almost sixty years.
- To examine and evaluate contemporary and historiographical assessments of Lloyd George.
- To debate his legacy.

### Content:

The course will begin by looking at the social and political background to Lloyd George's political career, and particularly at the phenomenon of nonconformity that was so central to his initial rise to prominence. It will then proceed to build up a narrative of that career, from his early commitment to Welsh nationalism; through his period as a leader of the radical wing of the Liberal party; his achievements as Chancellor in laying the foundations of the welfare state; his contribution to the allied victory in the Great War and the post-war settlement; and his long years in the political wilderness. Throughout the weekend we will be exploring what contemporary commentators made of Lloyd George and how historians have judged him. Armed with that knowledge, we will be debating the character of the man and his legacy. Was he a victim of hubris? An ambitious chancer? Or a self-made Welshman blackballed by the English establishment?

### Presentation of the course:

The course will consist of series of mini-lectures, discussions, and group work analysing sources.

As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

- Discuss critically the main contributions made to British political life by Lloyd George.
- Discuss critically the main historiographical debates about his character and achievements.
- Use this knowledge to draw comparisons with legacies of other British Prime Ministers including Churchill, Thatcher and Blair.

### Reading and resources list

Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

Author	Title	Publisher and date
John Grigg	The Young Lloyd George	Penguin 1973
John Grigg	The People's Champion 1902-11	Penguin 1978
John Grigg	From Peace to War 1912-16	Penguin 1985
John Grigg	War Leader 1916-18	Penguin 2002
Stephen Constantine	Lloyd George	Routledge 1992
Travis Crosby	The Unknown Lloyd George	Tauris 2014
Roy Hattersley	David Lloyd George – the Great Outsider	Little 2010
Kenneth Morgan	David Lloyd George	Univ of Wales 1981
Kenneth Morgan	Consensus and Disunity: the Lloyd George coalition government	OUP 1986
Alan Mumford	David Lloyd George: a biography in cartoons	Matador 2014
Stella Rudman	Lloyd George and the appeasement of Germany	Cambridge Scholars 2011
Richard Toye	Lloyd George and Churchill	Macmillan 2007
David Woodward	Lloyd George and the generals	Routledge 2014

### Website addresses

Youtube The Life and Times of Lloyd George

**Note** Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

Information correct as of: 10 January 2017