

## Parliament and the Victorians

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**Start date** 27 June 2020 **End date** 28 June 2020

**Venue** Virtual Classroom

**Tutor** Dr Sean Lang **Course code** 1920NRR053

**Director of ISP and LL** Sarah Ormrod

**For further information on this course, please contact** Head of Academic Centre Administration, Zara Kuckelhaus  
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**To book** See: [www.ice.cam.ac.uk](http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk) or telephone 01223 746262

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### Tutor biography

Dr Sean Lang is Senior Lecturer in History at Anglia Ruskin University. He graduated from Oxford University and lectures regularly for the Cambridge University ICE and its International Summer School. He did his PhD on maternity policy in British India and has recently recorded a set of short lecture on British India for BBC Parliament. He broadcasts regularly on history and politics, on local and national radio and on television. He taught in schools and sixth form colleges, and was also Honorary Secretary of the Historical Association. He worked on the place of history in the school curriculum with the Department for Education and with the Council of Europe. As well as his academic work, he has written four volumes in the popular *for Dummies* series, including *British History for Dummies* and *First World War for Dummies*. He is an award-winning playwright and has had his work performed in Cambridge, London and at the Edinburgh Fringe.

## **Course programme**

### **Saturday 27 June 2020**

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|--------------|-----------|---|
| 10:30-11.30  | Lecture 1 | Reformers and Chartists                           |
| 14:00 -15:00 | Lecture 2 | The Prime Ministers: Peel, Disraeli and Gladstone |
| 17:00-18:00  | Lecture 3 | Victorians and Democracy                          |

### **Sunday 28 June 2020**

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|-------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 10:30-11:30 | Lecture 4 | Parliament and Victorian Women |
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## Course syllabus

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### Aims:

1. Knowledge and understanding of the major themes and outline narrative of the British political history in the nineteenth century
2. An opportunity to discuss some of the moral and political themes arising from a study of Victorian politics.
3. An understanding of the impact of developments in Victorian politics to the shaping of modern British society.

### Content:

This course will look at the Victorians' developing relationship with their most cherished and iconic institution, Parliament. The Victorian age was ushered in by a great battle to reform Parliament, whose impact spread through the rest of the century. Political parties developed into the major engine of change within the parliamentary system and party leaders like Peel, Disraeli and Gladstone became titanic political figures. At the same time, the spread of cities and the growth of education produced a much larger electorate who demanded to be represented and to have their views taken into account. By the end of the century women too were campaigning for a place in the political system. This course is about how the Victorian parliament became a vehicle for the creation of a modern state.

### Presentation of the course:

Under the current circumstances, this course will be delivered by illustrated talks presented over Zoom, with time at the end for discussion. A selection of relevant documents and images will be available on the VLE.

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

- Show knowledge of the major personalities, events and themes from the period and an appreciation of their lasting significance.
- Analyse documentary material from the period in its historical context.
- Demonstrate an awareness and understanding of the impact of developments in Victorian politics to the shaping of modern British society.

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## Reading and resources list

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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
Aldous, R.	The Lion and the Unicorn: Gladstone v Disraeli	Pimlico 2007
Bentley, M.	Politics with Democracy 1815-1914	Blackwell 1996
Biagini, E.	Gladstone	Palgrave 2000
Chase, M.	Chartism: a new history	Manchester UP, 2007
Fraser, A.	Perilous Question: the drama of the Great Reform Bill, 1832	Phoenix 2014
Hibbert, C.	Disraeli: a personal history	Harper Perennial 2005
Jenkins, T.	Sir Robert Peel	Macmillan, 1999
Lang, S.	Parliamentary Reform, 1785-1928	Routledge, 1999
Pugh, M.	The March of the Women	Oxford UP 2000
Vernon, J.	Modern Britain 1750 to the Present	Cambridge UP 2017

### Websites

The Victorian Web <http://www.victorianweb.org/history/index.html>

Parliamentary History <https://www.parliament.uk/about/living-heritage/>

Women's Suffrage <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/suffrage-100/>

Chartism

<https://www.bl.uk/learning/histcitizen/21cc/struggle/chartists1/introduction/historyofchartism.html>

<https://www.historyextra.com/period/victorian/chartism-chartist-movement-where-happened-originate-peoples-charter/>

**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:* 22 June 2020