COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

NOTE: ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

Academic School/Department: CASS

Programme: History

FEHQ Level: 5

Course Title: Comparative Monarchies: Games of Thrones

Course Code: HST 5420

Course Leader: Professor Alex Seago

Student Engagement Hours: 120

Lectures: 22.5 Seminar / Tutorials: 22.5 Independent / Guided Learning: 75

Semester: FALL/ SPRING/SUMMER

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits

6 ECTS credits
3 US credits

Course Description:

This course uses the theme of Monarchy to look at various issues in world history from the 9th century to end of the 18th century. Monarchical systems will be examined and compared from economic, political and cultural standpoints. The role of women within monarchies will be looked at across time and region. The importance of religion in the establishment of monarchical systems will be examined as well as the legitimization of kings and queens by religious beliefs. Challenges to monarchies worldwide have often arisen based on notions of democratization and these ideologies will be compared.

Prerequisites: None

Aims and Objectives:

The class aims to foster the acquisition, development and consolidation of a variety of historical and transferable skills through the study of monarchies from c800-1800; which particularly encourages the development of critical thinking. The particular skills focused on include research skills, close reading skills, formulating and presenting a coherent argument in seminars and in writing based upon a critical understanding of a variety of primary and secondary sources.

Programme Outcomes:

5A(ii); 5A(iii); 5B(i); 5B(iii); 5C(i); 5C(ii); 5C(iii); 5D(i); 5D(ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at: http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-schools/academic-registry/program-and-course-specifications.aspx

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of problems of constructing a comparative history of monarchies, and exercises a degree of critical judgements regarding historical context and evidence in this regard
- Demonstrate ability for analysing a wide range of primary and secondary sources about the history of monarchies.
- Have a fundamental grasp of methods for reading and interpreting printed primary source material.
- Demonstrate the accumulation of a detailed body of comparative historical knowledge regarding monarchies, as well as an understanding of the main themes raised by this knowledge
- Complete assigned work with a degree of clarity, technical competence and critical thinking, and a degree of independence and capacity for self-evaluation, appropriate for a 5000-level course

Indicative Content:

- Comparing monarchies across an international spectrum
- Religion in the establishment and the legitimization of monarchical systems
- Military and political conflict in the shaping of monarchies
- Monarchies and state building
- Women in monarchical systems
- Monarchies and the production of art and material culture
- Challenges to monarchies by democratization or social conflict
- Using primary sources to understand monarchical systems

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Council on June 28, 2012.

Teaching Methodology:

The course will be taught through a combination of lectures and seminar classes. Lectures are primarily designed to give an overview of the issues and problems on a particular topic, and thereby provide guidance for seminar discussion. Seminars will be used for debates and

group/sub-group discussion, and are intended to provide an interactive and participatory learning environment. Students are expected to do the set readings for each week, and to be prepared to contribute to class discussion and discussion sub-groups. The general approach to classes is informal, and discussion is viewed as an essential part of learning.

Bibliography:

See syllabus for complete reading list

IndicativeText(s):

• Opfell, O Queens, empresses, grand duchesses, and regents: women

rulers of Europe, A.D. 1328-1989

• Piggott, J The Emergence of Japanese Kingship

• Robinson, F The Mughal emperors: and the Islamic dynasties of India, Iran,

Central Asia, 1206-1925

• Spellman, W Monarchies 1000 - 2000

Journals

Web Sites

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD

Major or	Nature of Change	Date Approved &	Change
Minor		Approval Body	Actioned by
Change		(School or LTPC)	Academic
			Registry
Major	Dates of course, Course Title, some changes to indicative content, reading and outcomes.		