

HIS1(2) C03 SOCIAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY OF BRITAIN: I

Course Category: Complementary Course

No. of Credits: 4

No. of Contact Hours: 6 Hours per week

This course is the first of the two courses designed to be introduced to the students of allied disciplines of History as complementary course. The focus of this course is on the Social and Cultural History of Britain, from the Early Invasions to the developments of Mercantilism. Students will acquire basic understanding regarding the major historical situations which contributed to design the socio- political and economic atmosphere of the Britain.

Module I – Early History British Isles

- Geographical features
- Early invasions and settlements – Cultural relics
- Roman conquest
- Advent of Christianity
- Formation of England: Anglo-Saxon period – Society, culture, literature
- Advent of the Danes
- Norman Conquest – Anglo-Norman government – Church – Norman brand of feudalism
- Oath of Salisbury – Domesday Book – Earldom

Module II- Medieval social formations

- Manorial system – Church mechanism
- Magna Carta
- Crusades
- Hundred Years War
- Decline of Feudalism – Black Death – Peasant's Revolt – Development of trade – its impact

Module III – New Trends in Medieval England

- Intellectual development – role of Universities
- Anti-clerical movements – John Wycliffe
- Middle English language and literature – John Gower – Chaucer – William Langland

Epic and Romance – courtly literature – lyrics – spiritual writings – secular prose

Recardian poetry

Module IV - Transition from Medieval period to Modern Age

Establishment of Tudor monarchy – features

Rise and growth of new middle classes

Elizabethan Era

Overseas trade

Spanish Armada

Mercantilism – Trading Companies

Books for Study

1. G. M. Travelyan, A Social History of England, Vol. I

2. G. M. Travelyan, Illustrated English Social History

3. Carter and Mears, A History of England

4. H. A. L. Fischer, History of Europe

5. Will Durant, Age of Faith