1. **KentVision Code and title of the module**

MEMS8000: Religion and Society in Seventeenth-Century England

1. **Division and School/Department or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

Arts and Humanities (Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies)

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 7

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

30 Credits (15 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn or Spring

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The course(s) of study to which the module contributes**

Optional for:

MA Medieval and Early Modern Studies

MA Modern History

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

8.1 Demonstrate a systematic and comprehensive understanding of the religious, social and political forces operating in seventeenth-century society and the relationship between them.

8.2 Appreciate the theological and social dynamics of various groups within English Protestantism and Roman Catholicism.

8.3 Navigate through a rich and complex historiography, and current controversies, on the character and impact of religion in seventeenth-century society.

8.4 Utilize a wide range of primary materials including treatises, diaries, polemics, images and propaganda.

8.5 Engage with concepts pertinent to the remit of the Masters programme, especially constructions of modernity/primitivism; history and heritage as contested space; modes and methods of media stereotyping.

1. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

9.1 Deploy different types of historical information effectively by utilizing research techniques to interrogate both primary and secondary material.

9.2 Demonstrate the ability to manage their own learning, the ability to critically evaluate current research, and a systematic understanding of the subject.

9.3 Communicate complex ideas and concepts clearly and effectively.

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

Religion has often been regarded as the motor for change and upheaval in seventeenth-century England: it has been seen as the prime cause of civil war, the inspiration for the godly rule of Oliver Cromwell and ‘the Saints’, and central to the Glorious Revolution of 1688-9. Fears of popery, it has been suggested, helped forge English national identify. This module reflects critically on these claims. It explores tensions within English Protestantism, which led to an intense struggle for supremacy within the English Church in the early seventeenth-century, to be followed in the 1640s and 1650s by the fragmentation of Puritanism into numerous competing sects which generated a remarkable proliferation of radical ideas about religion and society. The Restoration of Church and King in 1660 saw the gradual and contested emergence of a dissenting community and the partial triumph of religious tolerance, with profound implications for English society and culture. Another key theme is the changing fortunes of Anglicanism, with the erosion of its position from a national Church to the established Church over the century. The marginal position of English Catholics in seventeenth-century England, albeit with a genuine possibility of significant recovery of rights and influence under James II, is also crucial. The module will address issues of theology, the close relationship between political power and religious change, and the nature of debates on religion at national and local level, and also track elements of continuity and change over a formative century in English religious experience.

1. **Reading list**

The University is committed to ensuring that core reading materials are in accessible electronic format in line with the Kent Inclusive Practices.

The most up to date reading list for each module can be found on the university's [reading list pages](https://kent.rl.talis.com/index.html).

J. Spurr, *The Post-Reformation: Religion, Politics and Society in Britain 1603-1714* (2006)

C. Hill, *The World Turned Upside Down* (1972)

K. Fincham & N. Tyacke, *Altars Restored: the Changing Face of English Religious Worship 1547-c.1700* (2007)

I. Green, *Print and Protestantism in Early Modern England* (2000)

T. Harris et al. ed., *The Politics of Religion in Restoration England* (1990)

C. Durston & J. Maltby ed., *Religion in Revolutionary England* (2006)

S. Wright ed., *Parish, Church and People* (1988)

1. **Contact hours**

Total contact hours: 20

Total private study hours: 280

Total module study hours: 300

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

Essay 5,000 words 70%

Presentation 30 minutes 15%

Presentation 30 minutes 15%

13.2 Reassessment methods

100% Coursework

1. **Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods and methods of assessment**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |
| Seminar | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essays | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |
| Presentations | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The Division recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies modules encourage students to engage with the international significance of their subject matter, either in a comparative or historiographical fashion, or in the study of European and international themes. Some modules include the option for students to participate in international study visits. Students studying relevant foreign languages will consolidate their understanding of historical problems and themes.

**DIVISIONAL USE ONLY**

**Module record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| 22/1/2019 | Major | September 2019 | 8-10, 12-14, 17 | No |
| 14.12.21 | New (code change from HIST8740) | September 2022 | 1 | No |
|  |  |  |  |  |