

HIS 301
Reading and Writing History: English Revolutions

Satisfies: ESI

M/W 5:00-6:20 pm

Professor Kathleen Wilson

This 301 History course will examine the English, American, French and Haitian Revolutions of the 17th to early 19th centuries through the practices, discourses and ideas (political, social, sexual and economic) of the ordinary people who lived through them. How do historians access the impact of world events on local actors who enacted, contested or struggled with them? Primary and secondary sources will be used to sharpen your skills reading historical documents, assessing larger contexts, empirical and representational, and analyzing contending historical methodologies and interpretations. The writing of three critical essays, two drafts each, will further enlarge your skills in ‘doing history’ as an academic historian, and prepare you for His 401. Required texts include Christopher Hill, *The World Turned Upside Down*; Peter Linebaugh and Marcus Rediker, *The Many-Headed Hydra*; Clare Lyons, *Sex Amongst the Rabble*; Christopher Leslie Brown, *Moral Capital: Foundations of British Abolitionism*; C.L.R. James, *The Black Jacobins*.