

[Note to Undergraduates: For Undergraduates who enroll in the course as Econ 496 006 (CRN 78245), the requirements will be less.]

Hume's *History of England*

Fall 2017, (Econ 895 007; CRN 78422)

Professor Daniel Klein, dklein@gmu.edu

Office: Mason Hall D161

Wednesdays 1:30 – 4:15, meeting place: Buchanan Hall D180

This course is organized as a special topics course for students who have taken or are concurrently taking Smithian Political Economy. The purpose of the course will be for students to develop papers for publication related to David Hume and/or Adam Smith. We shall focus on the six volume *History of England* by David Hume. We will focus especially on volumes III, IV, V, and VI, which cover the Tudors through the Glorious Revolution.

Students enrolled are expected to be working on research projects that link at least loosely to Adam Smith. Besides reading and discussing the six volume *History*, we will consider other works by Hume, as well as secondary literature on Hume, notably works by Duncan Forbes (*Hume's Philosophical Politics*, 1975), Andrew Sabl (*Hume's Politics: Coordination and Crisis in the History of England*, 2012), and Russell Hardin (*David Hume: Moral and Philosophical Theorist*, 2007). The course will direct group attention to each student's research project, and the professor (Klein) will advise on the student's project.

Graduate students will be required to make substantial progress on their projects, and to be more thorough and active in reading and discussion. For undergraduates, the expectations/requirements will simply be somewhat lighter.

Getting Help: Four good ways to get help from me: (1) email me; (2) ask questions during class, (3) talk to me right after class; (4) talk by phone – but I call you (email your ph number to me) – **talking by phone usually works really well**. Email me, and we will go from there. I promise to respond quickly.

Accommodations for students with disabilities: If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the [Office of Disability Services](http://ods.gmu.edu) at 703.993.2474 or ods.gmu.edu. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.