The Victorian City

A handy man with his head at football.

go.warwick.ac.uk/hi371
Seminar 8: Crime and Punishment

Key Texts

- Heather Shore, 'Crime, policing and punishment' in Chris Williams (ed.), *Companion to Nineteenth-century Britain*
  - A. Davies and G. Pearson, 'Introduction'
  - H. Shore, 'Cross coves, buzzers and general sorts of prigs: juvenile crime and the criminal 'underworld' in the early nineteenth century'
  - J. E. Archer, 'Poaching gangs and violence: the urban-rural divide in nineteenth-century Lancashire'
  - S. D'Cruze, 'Sex, violence and local courts: working-class respectability in a mid-nineteenth-century Lancashire town'
  - B. Godfrey, 'Law, factory discipline and 'theft': the impact of the factory on workplace appropriation in mid to late nineteenth-century Yorkshire'
  - A. Davies, '"These viragoes are no less cruel than the lads": young women, gangs and violence in late Victorian Manchester and Salford'
  - J. K. Walton, M. Blinkhorn, C. Pooley, D. Tidswell, and M. J. Winstanley, 'Crime, migration and social change in north-west England and the Basque country'
- M Ignatieff, *A just measure of pain, the penitentiary in the industrial revolution*

Seminar Questions

- What were the characteristics of the 'criminal classes' (gender, class, race, age etc) in the minds of middle-class Victorians?
- Search the Old Bailey Online or nineteenth-century newspapers? Are there typical victims/perpetrators?
- Do perceptions of crime match crime rates in Victorian England?
- What were the changes in policing and what effect did these have?
- Should prisons be viewed as instruments of 'social discipline, the products of class conflict and the stresses of a market economy'?
- How effective were Victorian instruments of punishment?

Sources

- Old Bailey Online, 1674-1913
The Times
British nineteenth-century newspapers
Oxford Dictionary of National Biography [biographies of criminals and law enforcers]
Modern Records Centre resources

Further Reading
V Bailey (ed.), Policing and punishment in 19th century Britain

K Chesney, The Victorian Underworld


Clive Emsley, Policing and its context, 1750-1870

Clive Emsley, Crime and Society in England, 1750-1900


Michel Foucault, Discipline and Punish: the birth of the prisons

V. A. C. Gatrell (ed.), Crime and Law

V. A. C. Gattrell, The Hanging Tree: execution and the English people, 1770-1868

J Gillis, 'The evolution of juvenile delinquency', Past and Present, 1975


Andrew Mangham, Violent women and sensation fiction : crime, medicine and Victorian popular culture


David Philips, Crime and authority in Victorian England

David Philips and Robert Storch, Policing provincial England, 1829-56

P. Priestley, Victorian prison lives: English prison biography

George Rudé, Crime and victim: crime and society in early 19th century England

R Sindall, Street violence in the 19th century


Roger Swift, 'Urban policing and social control', History, 1988

Roger Swift, Behaving badly? : Irish migrants and crime in the Victorian city

David Taylor, Crime, Policing and Punishment in England, 1750-1914
J J Tobias, *Crime and police in England, 1700-1900*

Martin Wiener, *Deconstructing the criminal*


Lucia Zedner, *Women, Crime and Custody*
Seminar 9: Disease and Health

Key Texts

- Keir Waddington, 'Health and medicine', in Chris Williams (ed.), *Companion to Nineteenth-century Britain*
- Bill Luckin, 'Pollution in the City' and Marguerite Dupree, 'The provision of social services', in M. Daunton (ed.) *Cambridge Urban History of Britain*, vol 3
- Virginia Berridge, 'Health and medicine', in F. M. L. Thompson (ed.), *Cambridge Social History of Britain*, vol 3
- John Snow, *On the Mode of Communication of Cholera* (1855)
- John Snow's maps
- John Snow's testimony for the amended Cholera Act (1855)
- Christopher Hamlin, 'Predisposing causes and public health in early nineteenth-century medical thought', *Social History of Medicine*, 5 (1992)

Seminar Questions

- In what ways did industrialisation affect the health of city dwellers?
- How effective were public health reforms in the Victorian City?
- How important was Chadwick's report/Snow's research and what do they reveal about Victorian attitudes?
- How did understandings of disease causation alter during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries?

Further Reading

Michelle Allen, 'From cesspool to sewer: sanitary reform and the rhetoric of resistance, 1848-1880', *Victorian Literature and Culture*, 2002

P. Brimblecombe, *The Big Smoke: A History of Air Pollution in London since Medieval Times*

W. F. Bynum and Roy Porter (eds), *Living and Dying in London*

M. Dobson, 'Epidemics and the geography of disease', in I. Loudon (ed.), *Western Medicine*

M. Durey, *The Return of the Plague: British Society and the Cholera, 1831-1832*

R. J. Evans, 'Epidemics and Revolutions: Cholera in Nineteenth Century Europe', *Past and Present*, 120 (1988)

S. E. Finer, *The Life and Times of Sir Edwin Chadwick*


S Halliday, *The Great Stink of London: Sir Joseph Bazalgaette and the cleansing of the Victorian metropolis*

Christopher Hamlin, *Public Health and Social Justice in the Age of Chadwick*


Christopher Hamlin, 'Muddling in Bumbledon: on the enormity of large sanitary improvements in four British towns', *Victorian Studies*, 1988

Anne Hardy, *Health and Medicine in Britain since 1860*

Anne Hardy, *The Epidemic Streets: Infectious Disease and the Rise of Preventive Medicine 1856-1900*

D.R. Hopkins, *The Greatest Killer: Smallpox in History*

Elizabeth Hurren, 'Poor law versus public health: diphtheria, sanitary reform and the crusade against outdoor relief, 1870-1900', *Social History of Medicine*, 2005


Brian Lancaster, 'The Croydon case: Chadwick’s model town under siege’, *Local Historian*, 2004

R A Lewis, *Edwin Chadwick and the Public Health Movement, 1832-1854*


R. J. Morris, *Cholera 1832: The Social Response to an Epidemic*

Margaret Pelling, *Cholera, Fever and English Medicine, 1825-1865*

Dorothy Porter (ed.), *The History of Public health and the Modern State*

Roy Porter, *Disease, Medicine and Society in England, 1550-1860*

G Rosen, *A History of Public Health*

Charles Rosenberg, *Explaining Epidemics*


F. B. Smith, *The People’s Health 1830-1910*

David Sunderland, ‘Disgusting to the imagination and destructive of health: the metropolitan supply of water, 1820-52’, *Urban History*, 2003

S. J. Watts, *Epidemics and History: Disease, Power and Imperialism*

Andrew Wohl, *Endangered Lives: Public Health in Victorian Britain*

R. Woods and J. Woodward (eds), *Urban Disease and Mortality*

Seminar 10: Migrant Communities

Key Texts

- Ian Whyte, 'Migration and settlement' and Chris Williams, 'British identities' in Chris Williams (ed.), *Companion to Nineteenth-century Britain*
- David Feldman, 'Migration' in Martin Daunton (ed.), *Cambridge Urban History of Britain*, vol 3
- Charles Booth archive: [http://booth.lse.ac.uk/](http://booth.lse.ac.uk/)
- Census data (see *Term 1, seminar 2*)
- Modern Records Centre collection on *Immigration and the Jewish Community*
- Special Issue, *Immigrants and Minorities*, 2007:
  - Roger Swift and Sheridan Gilley, 'Irish identities in Victorian Britain'
  - Roger Swift, 'Identifying the Irish in Victorian Britain: recent trends in historiography'
  - Malcolm Smith and Donald MacRaild, 'The origins of the Irish in Northern England'
  - Mervyn Busteed, 'Resistance and respectability: dilemmas of Irish migrant politics'
  - Sheridan Gilley, 'English Catholic attitudes to Irish Catholics'
  - Bronwen Walter, 'Strangers on the inside: Irish women servants in England'
  - Alan O'Day, 'A conundrum of Irish Diasporic identity'

Seminar Questions

- Assess the views of immigrant communities contained within Booth's survey of London
- Using the census, explore the characteristics of a particular immigrant community? Were particular communities treated differently?
- Examine the various motivations for emigration and the relative importance of 'push-pull' factors
- What was the social and economic background of emigrants?
- How integrated were immigrant communities in the Victorian city?

Further Reading

Special Issue, *Immigrants and Minorities*, vol 18, 1999: The Great Famine and Beyond: Irish Migrants in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries (especially articles by Swift, Busteed, and Kanya-Forstner. Also published as a book edited by Donald MacRaild

Carl Chinn, "'We all come from round Sora" : Italians in Birmingham, c.1821-1919', in Owen Ashton, Robert Fyson and Stephen Roberts (eds), *The Duty of discontent*

Joseph Buckman, *Immigrants and the class struggle: the Jewish immigrant community in Leeds, 1880-1914*

Graham Davis, *The Irish in Britain, 1815-1915*

Todd Endelman, *The Jews of Britain, 1656 to 2000*

David Englander (ed.), *A documentary history of Jewish immigrants in Britain, 1840-1920*

Paul DiFelice, 'Italians in Manchester, 1891-1939', Local Historian, 2000

Diane Frost, 'Ethnic identity, transience and settlement: the Kru in Liverpool', Immigrants and Minorities, 1993

Peter Fryer, Staying power: The history of Black people in Britain since 1504

Lloyd Gartner, The Jewish Immigrant in England, 1870-1914


Cora Kaplan, 'White, black and green : racialising Irishness in Victorian England', in Peter Gray, Peter (ed.), Victoria's Ireland?

Lynn Hollen Lees, Exiles of Erin: Irish Immigrants in Victorian London

Colin Holmes: John Bull's Island: Immigration and British Society, 1871-1971

Panikos Panayi, Immigration, Ethnicity and Racism in Britain (see also the documents at the end of the book)

D M McRaild, Írish culture in an English context', Labour History Review, 1993


Bernard Porter, The refugee question in mid-Victorian politics

Lucio Sponza and Arturo Tosi (eds), A century of Italian emigration to Britain, 1880-1980s

Lucio Sponza, Italian immigrants in 19th century Britain: realities and images

R Swift & S Gilley (eds), The Irish in the Victorian City


Rozina Visram, Ayahs, Lascars and Princes: the story of Indians in Britain, 1700-1947

James Walvin, Black and white : the negro and English society, 1555-1945

Seminar 11: Leisure and Recreation

Key Texts

- Andy Croll, ‘Popular Leisure and Sport’ in Chris Williams (ed.), *A Companion to Nineteenth-century Britain*
- Douglas Reid, ‘Playing and Praying’ in M Daunton (ed.), *The Cambridge Urban History of Britain*
- P Bailey, ‘Conspiracies of meaning: music hall and the knowingness of popular culture’, *Past and Present*, 1994
- Mike Huggins and Keith Gregson, ”Northern Songs, Sporting Heroes and Regional Consciousness, c. 1800-c. 1880 : "Wor Stars that Shine"”. *Northern History*, 44 (2007)

Questions (Focus on one or more leisure activities to answer these)

- Was there an attempt to introduce ‘safe, respectable or improving alternative activities’?
- Does working-class leisure and recreation express a class identity and culture under attack from the repressive and manipulative forces of middle class authority?
- Investigate the ‘commercialisation’ of leisure.
- Was there a sexual division of leisure pursuits? Does leisure help to reinforce notions of masculinity/femininity
- What was the balance between large-scale, organised and informal, family based recreations – ie public versus private?
- How does elite leisure activity differ from working class pursuits? Did leisure pursuits help develop class identities?

Further Reading

[If you are interested in a particular sport or leisure pursuit try searching on the RHS Bibliography or in Historical Abstracts - the reading below is an indication of the variety of literature available]

P. Bailey, *Leisure and class in Victorian England: rational recreation and the quest for control*


D Birley, *Land of sport and glory: sport and British society 1887-1910*

P Brailsford, *British sport: a social history*

D F Cheshire, *Music Hall in Britain*

H Cunningham, *Leisure in the industrial revolution, 1780-1880*

E Dunning and K Sheard, *Barbarians, gentlemen and players: a sociological study of the development of rugby football*

A Davis, *Leisure, gender and poverty: working class culture in Salford and Manchester, 1900-1939*


R Holt, *Sport and the British: a modern history*

Dagmar Kift, *The Victorian Music Hall: Culture, Class and Conflict*

J Lowerson and J Myescough, *Time to spare in Victorian England*

R Malcomson, *Popular recreation in English Society, 1700-1850*

J A Mangan, *The cultural bond: sport, empire and society*

A Mason, *Association football and English society, 1863-1915*

K E McCrone, *Sport and the physical emancipation of English women*

H Meller, *Leisure and the Changing City*


K A P Sandiford, *Cricket and the Victorians*

J K Walton, *The English seaside resort: a social history, 1750-1914*

J Walvin, *Leisure and Society 1850-1950*

J Walvin and J D Walton (eds), *Leisure in Britain, 1780-1939*

E Yeo and S Yeo, *Popular culture and class conflict, 1500-1914: an exploration in the history of labour and leisure*
Seminar 12: Family and Childhood

Key Texts

- Shani D'Cruze, ‘The family’, in Chrs Williams (ed.), *Companion to Nineteenth-century Britain*
- Anne Hardy, ‘Rickets and the rest: child-care, diet and the infectious children's diseases, 1850-1814’, *Social History of Medicine*, 1992
- Peter Kirby, 'How many children were 'unemployed' in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century England?', *Past and Present*, 2005 with reply by Hugh Cunningham

Seminar Questions

- Did the Victorians construct the idea of childhood?
- How important was children's fiction in representing Victorian children?
- What were the roles of the Victorian mother and father?
- How big a problem was juvenile crime and what measures were introduced to deal with it?
- How healthy were Victorian children?

Further Reading

Children's novels
Sara Coleridge, *Phantasmion* (1837)

Charles Dickens *Oliver Twist* (1838) and *David Copperfield* (1849-50).

Robert Browning *The Pied Piper of Hamelin* (1842)

Edward Lear, *A Book of Nonsense* (1846)

Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales

Captain (Frederick) Marryat, *The Children of the New Forest* (1847)

Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre* (1847)

Thomas Hughes, *Tom Brown's Schooldays* (1857)

Nathaniel Hawthorne's, *Wonder Book* (1851) and *Tanglewood Tales* (1853)

Louisa May Alcott's, *Little Women* (1868)
Anna Sewell *Black Beauty* (1877)

R.M. Ballantyne: *The Young Fur Traders* (1856) and *The Coral Island* (1858)

Robert Louis Stevenson: *Treasure Island* (1883) and *Kidnapped* (1886)


Charles Kingsley, *The Water-Babies* (1863)

Lewis Carroll, *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland* (1865) and *Through the Looking-Glass* (1871)

Oscar Wilde, *The Happy Prince and Other Tales*

*General*

J. Burnett (ed.), *Destiny Obscure: Autobiographies of Childhood, Education and Family from the 1820s to the 1920s*

Karen Chase and Michael Levenson, *The spectacle of intimacy: a public life for the Victorian family*

H. Cunningham, *Children of the Poor: Representations of Childhood since the Seventeenth Century*


Anna Davin, *Growing up Poor: Home, house and street in London*


C. Dyhouse, *Girls Growing Up in Late-Victorian and Edwardian England*

J. R. Gillis, *Youth and History: Tradition and Change in European Age Relations, 1770-Present*


Eleanor Gordon and Gwyneth Nair, *Public lives: women, family and society in Victorian Britain*


A Higonnet, *Pictures of Innocence: the history and crisis of ideal childhood*

P. Horn, *Children’s Work and Welfare, 1780-1890* Peter Hunt (ed.), *Children’s Literature: An Illustrated History*

S. Humphries, *Hooligans or Rebels? An Oral History of Working-class Childhood and Youth, 1889-1939*

Pat Jalland, *Death in the Victorian family*

G. Pearson, *Hooligan: A History of Respectable Fears*
Royston Pike (ed.) *Human Documents of the Industrial Revolution in Britain* (1966), section on 'Child Labour’

D. Reeder, ‘Predicaments of City Children: Late-Victorian and Edwardian Perspectives on Education and Urban Society’, in D. Reeder (ed.), *Urban Education in the Nineteenth Century*


J. Springhall, *Coming of Age: Adolescence in Britain, 1860-1960*

J. Springhall, *Youth, Empire and Society: British Youth Movements, 1883-1940*

J. Springhall, *Youth, popular culture and moral panics*


John Tosh, *A man's place: masculinity and the middle-class home in Victorian England*


Victor Watson (ed.), *The Cambridge Guide to Children's Books in English*

Anthony S. Wohl (ed.), *The Victorian family: structure and stresses*
Seminar 13: Welfare and Institutions

Key Texts

- Keir Waddington, 'Health and medicine', in Chris Williams (ed.), *Companion to Nineteenth-century Britain*
- Marguerite Dupree, 'The provision of social services', in Martin Daunton (ed.), *Cambridge Urban History of Britain*, vol 3
- A. Scull, 'Museums of Madness Revisited', *Social History of Medicine*, 6 (1993)
- Peter Higginbotham's [Workhouse website](http://www.workhouse.org.uk)

Seminar Questions

- Why did the Victorians turn to institutions to solve their social/medical problems? How successful were these institutions?
- How important was the architecture of the institutions in determining their purpose?
- Were hospitals more successful at killing than curing their patients?
- 'Pauper palaces' or akin to the 'Bastille' - which description of Victorian workhouses is more accurate?
- Were asylums a place to 'dispose' of inconvenient people in the Victorian period?

Further Reading

- Frank Crompton, *Workhouse Children: Infant and Child Paupers Under the Worcestershire Poor Law 1781 -1871*
- Anne Digby, *Pauper Palaces*
- Simon Fowler, *The Workhouse: the People, the Places, the Life Behind Doors*
- L. Granshaw and R. Porter (eds), *The Hospital in History*
- L. Granshaw, 'The Rise of the Modern Hospital in Britain', in A. Wear (ed.), *Medicine in Society: Historical Essays*
Andrew Hinde and Fiona Turnbull, ‘The Populations of Two Hampshire Workhouses 1851–1861’, 

Steven King, *Poverty and Welfare in England, 1700-1850: a Regional Perspective*

Norman Longmate, *The Workhouse*

L. Marks, ‘Medical Care for Pauper Mothers and Their Infants: Poor Law provision and Local 

J. Melling and B. Forsythe (eds), *Insanity, Institutions and Society, 1800-1914*

J. Melling, B. Forsythe and R. Adair, ’Families, Communities and the Legal Regulation of Lunacy in 
Asylum, 1845-1914’, in P. Bartlett and D. Wright (eds), *Outside the Walls of the Asylum: The 
History of Care in the Community 1750-2000*


Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries*

and its Region 1752-1946*


G. Risse, *Hospital Life in Enlightenment Scotland: Care and Teaching at the Royal Infirmary of 
Edinburgh*

E. M. Sigsworth, ’Gateways to Death? Medicine, Hospitals and Mortality, 1700-1850’, in P. Mathias 
ed.), *Science and Society 1600-1900*

L. Smith, ”To Cure those Afflicted with the Disease of Insanity”: Thomas Bakewell and Spring Vale 

L. Smith, ’Cure, Comfort and Safe Custody’: *Public Lunatic Asylums in Early Nineteenth-Century 
England*

L. Smith, *Lunatic hospitals in Georgian England, 1750-1830*

A. Scull, *The Most Solitary of all Afflictions: Madness and Society in Britain, 1700-1900*

A. Scull, *Museums of Madness: The Social Organization of Insanity in nineteenth century England*

K. Waddington, *Charity and the London Hospitals, 1850-1898*

J. Walton, ’The Treatment of Pauper Lunatics in Victorian England: The Case of Lancaster Asylum, 
1816-70’, in A. Scull (ed.), *Madhouses, Mad-Doctors, and Madmen: The Social History of 
Psychiatry in the Victorian Era*

Peter Wood, *Poverty and the Workhouse in Victorian Britain*

J. Woodward, *To Do the Sick No Harm: A Study of the British Voluntary Hospital System to 1875*

D. Wright, ’The Certification of Insanity in Nineteenth-Century England and Wales’, *History of 
Psychiatry*, 9 (1998)
Seminar 14: Prostitution and Vice

Key Texts

- Timothy Gilfoyle, ‘Prostitutes in history: from parables of pornography to metaphors of modernity’, *American Historical Review*, 1999
- Philippa Levine, ‘A multitude of unchaste women: prostitution in the British empire’, *Journal of Women’s History*, 2004
- William Acton, *Prostitution* [in Defining Gender, electronic resource]
- W. T. Stead, ‘Maiden Tribute of Modern Babylon’, *Pall Mall Gazette*, 1885 [online resource on Stead including full text]

Seminar Questions

- How was the figure of the prostitute constructed by Victorian Society?
- Why did women become prostitutes?
- Did regulation create a geography of prostitution (including in the British empire)?
- What solutions did contemporaries have for the problem of vice in the nineteenth-century city and how successful were they?
- Did the 'Maiden tribute of modern Babylon' episode reveal more about the tabloid press than about child prostitution?

Further Reading

Paula Bartley, *Prostitution*


Lucy Bland, *Banishing the Beast: English Feminism and Sexual Morality*


F Finnegan, *Poverty and Prostitution*

T Fisher, *Prostitution and the Victorians*


G Hodges, ‘Flaneurs, Prostitutes and Historians: Sexual commerce in the nineteenth-century metropolis’, *Journal of Urban History*, 1997 (Review article)

Matt Houlbrook, 'Toward a historical geography of sexuality', *Journal of Urban History*, 2001

Susan Kingsley-Kent, *Sex and Suffrage in Britain*

Philippa Levine, *Prostitution, race, and politics : policing venereal disease in the British Empire*

Maria Luddy, *Prostitution and Irish society, 1800-1940*

Lesley Mahood, *The Magdalenes. Prostitution in the nineteenth century*

Michael Mason, *The Making of Victorian Sexuality*

Keith Neild, *Prostitution in the Victorian age: debates on the issue from nineteenth-century critical journals*


E M Sigsworth and T J Wyke, ‘A study of Victorian prostitution’ in Vicinus (ed.), *Suffer and Be Still*


J Tosh, *A Man’s Place*

Judy Walkowitz, *Prostitution and Victorian Society*


Judy Walkowitz, *City of Dreadful Delight*