

Presentations

Each student will give an unmarked presentation on a historical or literary ruler from the premodern era. The presentation should take around ten minutes and assess the ruler's actions and legacy using such criteria as aims, strategy, efficacy, and reception. The success of each presentation will be judged by the presenter's

- Proven ability to locate and digest quality scholarly (i.e. secondary) sources;
- Reflection on the reliability and subjective angle of primary sources consulted;
- Own reasoned critique of the ruler's reign or aspects thereof;
- Analysis of how contemporary audiences might have responded to the primary sources.

Students are expected to pick a slot from the list overleaf, but they are welcome to substitute a ruler not on the list, provided they clear their choice with the instructor first. Also consult your instructor if you believe you have a case for submitting in written form instead. Presenters are free to restrict themselves to a particular aspect of a ruler's reign, such as their rise to power, imperial policy, foreign relations, tensions between their personal and political lives, or their relationships with other domestic political offices (the Senate, the Church, the *witena gemot*).

Students will do their own source research, which should involve the consultation of encyclopaedic overviews and scholarly analyses rather than Wikipedia and non-academic websites. Each presentation should include (in spoken form, on a slide or handout, or on the blackboard) mention of the most valuable sources consulted (at least two). These should ideally make clear that you have navigated appropriate library resources, such as subject-specific encyclopaedias, volumes of essays, or scholarly books and articles. If you do not already know how to use the library catalogue(s), JSTOR, the Old English Newsletter Bibliography Database, and Google Scholar to your best advantage, now is the time to learn.

You are welcome to make use of digital slides. Please either upload them to StudIP in PDF format the evening before class or carry them in on your own laptop (VGA/HDMI), but still upload your slides to StudIP by the end of the day so students can consult them when planning their term papers.

Since some sessions will have as many as three presentations, please use every trick in the book to keep your audience engaged: vivid examples, an engaging speaking pace and intonation, visuals, audience interaction, etc.

Date	Presenter	Ruler
27 Apr		Joshua
27 Apr		David
27 Apr		Pontius Pilate
4 May		Julius Caesar
4 May		Augustus
4 May		Hadrian
11 May		Marcus Aurelius
11 May		Constantine I
11 May		Ahab and Jezebel
18 May		Theoderic the Great
18 May		Charlemagne
18 May		Harald Fairhair
1 June		Edward the Elder
1 June		Æthelflæd
1 June		Æthelstan
15 June		Solomon
15 June		Alexander the Great
15 June		Edgar I (the Peaceful)
22 June		Æthelred II ("the Unready")
22 June		Cnut (the Great)
29 June		Edward the Confessor
29 June		Harold Godwinson
29 June		William I (the Conqueror)
6 July		Cnut the Great
6 July		Richard I
6 July		Henry VIII