Crime and State in History
Lecture 1 – September 5/13
chrismcnaught@gmail.com

The historical reform of law in England – many influences, including Voltaire, Dickens, age of enlightenment and romanticist movement in art. These all led to legal reform, not to mention the first 10 years of the 1800s: over 200 offences in Britain for which you could be hanged.

Battle of the Plains of Abraham* site of many clashes for supremacy between the French and English Empires (occurred during the 7-Years' War) – September of **1759:** General James Wolfe (the General who commanded the British troops)
- Montcalm was the leader of the French troops
- both Wolfe and Montcalme wounded mortally in the battle
- British forces defeated the French and conquered New France
- **Result:** gave the British control of New France (later Quebec), and ended French power in what is now part of Canada
- The Plains of Abraham, began to see imposition of English criminal law on Aboriginals, etc.
- Moved west in the 19th C, threat of US, killed off the Indians and John A. MacDonald said we need to do something about this and created the RCMP.
- within 4 years, the Treaty of Paris was created – most of France's possessions in Eastern North America ceded to Great Britain

Treaty of Paris – ended the American Revolutionary War between GB and the US

Drones – extension of 'boys and toys' – if you have something, you want to play w/it. For politicians, attractive because not that expensive, getting more and more accurate, not as much collateral damage, no sovereignty – an international law problem. Ex: Obama dropping drones along the Pakistani and Afghan order (a war crime). Neither are belligerent towards the US, so US not in imminent danger from them (although they use this concept to defend use of drones.)

Niall Ferguson – Civilization
The West and the Rest
- about how England became such an important political power – how was it that England became to be so preeminent before the first world war

A Concise History of England
From Stonehenge to the Microchip
E.M. Holloway
- magna carta: first piece of legislation which says you have the right to speedy trial, etc

Eighteenth-Century Britain
1688-1783
Jeremy Black
- about poverty in UK, etc

Hitch 22
A Memoir
Christopher Hitchens
- also wrote a book called Mortality – recollections and comments of what it's like to be slowly dying

- waterboarded himself, wrote an article in Vanity Fair
- Hitch 22: his memoir of moving around the world; educated; argumentative; great experience in Iraq amongst other places
- Supported the incursion into Iraq; thought it was correct to go into Iraq

The Looming Tower
Al Qaeda and the Road to 9/11
By Lawrence Wright
- documentary, historical, but reads like a novel
Talking to Terrorists
Peter Taylor
A Personal Journey from IRA to Al Qaeda
- we all take the position that the world has changed since 9/11 w/terrorism, but decades before the 9/11 we had terrorism, ex: FLQ, October Crisis, Air India in the mid-80s, in England they suffered through the troubles in Northern Ireland
- Taylor takes the view that if you get to know these people's motivation then you can better deal with them
- Unrest in Belfast this summer – Irish troubles were dealt with.

The Citizen or the Globe – read these every day
- Barry Wright text book from book store
- treat book as an outline; all relevant, but not all from it
Called 'Crime and State in History'