

British and French History(1689 - Present)

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- **Introduction**

The historical ties between Britain and France are characterized by a series of conflicts and alliances that have shaped their political, economic, and cultural landscapes. The period from 1689 to the present encapsulates a significant era in which both nations navigated their interests in Europe and beyond. This module will delve into various critical topics, including the Nineteenth Century Economy, the Eastern Question, the Entente Cordiale, Napoleon and Britain, the Seven Years War, and Eighteenth Century Trade and Finance.

- **The Glorious Revolution and the Beginning of Hostilities (1689)**

The Glorious Revolution of 1688 marked a pivotal moment in British history, leading to the establishment of a constitutional monarchy. This event had significant implications for British-French relations.

- **Political Context**

William III's ascension to the throne represented a shift in power dynamics in Europe. Unlike his predecessors, who had sought friendly relations with Louis XIV, William III positioned himself as a champion of Protestantism and sought to counter French influence. This change initiated a series of conflicts known as the Second Hundred Years' War, which spanned from 1689 to 1815.