**Week 1: the long eighteenth century: an introduction, as seen through William Hogarth’s eyes**

Key themes of the eighteenth century**:**

1. Class:………………………………………………………………………..

2. Sociability, a ‘polite and commercial people’………………………

3. Enlightenment and empire………………………………………………..

4. Liberty and corruption……………………………………………………..

5. Crime and the underworld…………………………………………………

William Hogarth (1697-1764) and his cultural significance

‘The Rake’s Progress’ (1734) – a moral allegory of social emulation and its dangers

Plate 1: ‘The Rake Taking Possession of his Estate’



plate 6, ‘The Rake at the Gaming House’



plate 8, ‘the Rake in Bedlam’



**Key theme**: According to Hogarth, the façade of a ‘polite and commercial people’ hid the reality of luxury and corruption in eighteenth-century society and politics.

Hogarth’s main objects of satire**:**

……………………………………………..

**Seminar tasks:**

Analyse the differences between the two plates, ‘Gin Lane’ and ‘Beer Street’ (1751).





Historiography:

Older historiography…………………………………………………………………

Newer historians focus on………………………………………………………….

Frank O’Gorman, *The Long Eighteenth Century, 1688-1832*

Why do many historians term this period the ‘long eighteenth century’?

Highlight some of the key dates.

What was politics in the eighteenth century? How have historians understood politics?

**John Brewer, The Pleasures of the Imagination**

What was culture in the long eighteenth century?

