This brilliant, but confusing novel, won the Mann Booker Prize in 2009; we think Hilary Mantel may write the best historical fiction we have ever read. You may wish to watch the excellent BBC series called “Wolf Hall” in six hour-long episodes. It will help to keep the characters straight. It is the novel we shall be studying because a dramatization is no substitute for the book.

The two editions of WOLF HALL have different page numbers. Page numbers in *italics and parentheses are for the paperback edition*

Before the first class, read up to “An Occult History of Britain.” Page 53 in the hardback or (59) in paper. And pay attention to the multi-page cast of characters.

Before the second class, read pages 54-130 (60-146).

Before the third class, p 133-222 (149-250).

Before the fourth class, p 223-276 (251-312).

Before the fifth class, p 277-340 (312-385).

Before the sixth class, p 343-395 (389-448).

Before the seventh class, p 396-474 (449-537).

Before the eighth class, complete the novel.