**Changing Perceptions of Cromwell in the Classroom**

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**Timeline**

**25 Apr 1599** Born in Huntingdon

**2 Jul 1644** Battle of Marston Moor

**14 Jun 1645** Battle of Naseby

**17-19 Aug 1648** Battle of Preston

**30 Jan 1649** Execution of Charles I

**26 Jun 1650** Cromwell replaced Fairfax as General of the New Model

**3 Sep 1650** Battle of Dunbar

**3 Sep 1651** Battle of Worcester

**20 Apr 1653** Cromwell dissolves the Rump Parliament by force

**Dec 1653** Cromwell appointed Lord Protector

**3 Sep 1658** Death of Oliver Cromwell

**25 May 1659** Resignation of Richard Cromwell

**29 May 1660** ‘Oak Apple Day’:Charles II’s entry to London

**Abstract**

This talk will examine recent developments in the historiography of Oliver Cromwell. It will discuss his changing roles as farmer, soldier and statesman before, during and after the civil wars, as well as his interaction with his contemporaries and their impressions of him. The talk will touch on his involvement in the trial and execution of Charles I, and assess the significance of his role in the interregnum regimes that followed. It will conclude by investigating how he has been remembered and the legacy of his impact in Britain and Ireland since.

**Questions**

1. How important was Cromwell’s contribution to victory in the three civil wars?

2. How effective was Cromwell as a head of state?

3. How have views of Cromwell changed over time and why does he still provoke so much controversy as a historical figure?

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