



GEO

Study Abroad

SYLLABUS – Track A

LONDON: BIOGRAPHY OF A CITY

Instructor Name: Dr Charlotte Young
Language of Instruction: English

LONDON, UK

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course proceeds chronologically through the history of London, from its Roman foundations to the impact of the Blitz and the challenges of life in the modern city. Using an array of primary and secondary sources, ranging from diaries to court proceedings, maps, newspaper journalism and paintings, we will trace the physical, social, cultural and political evolution of this historic city and the people who have populated it.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students who successfully complete this course will:

- Know the main social and political aspects and chronology of London's history.
- Have developed an understanding of how London, its people and government have responded to both internal and external pressures.
- Have demonstrated knowledge, analytical skills, and communication through essays, an exam and a short project.
- Have visited the Museum of London outside class time in preparation for the midterm assignment

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY

The course combines class sessions, walking tour classes, and visits to historical sites**. In some instances we will meet at the destination. On those occasions, we will meet just beyond the barrier at the underground station indicated. You will want to bring a small notebook. Be on time as we will depart promptly – check www.tfl.gov.uk for up-to-date travel information (delays and engineering works are common). The walks will take place in all but the most extreme weather conditions so come suitably dressed. All rules applicable in the classroom also apply to the walks: no smoking and no mobile phone use from the moment we set off.

****ALL SESSIONS WILL INCLUDE A BREAK.**

COURSE OUTLINE

WEEK ONE – Roman and Medieval London

Wednesday 27th July, 10am-12.30pm

Introduction to the Course, and Roman London to 1066

Reading: W F Grimes, 'Roman London' (1947).

Class followed by a walking tour to Cripplegate Fort remains and the Guildhall Amphitheatre

Thursday 28th July, 1.30pm-5.30pm

Excursion to the Tower of London

Friday 29th July, 10am-12.30pm

Medieval London, 1066-c1500

Reading: Derek Keene, 'Tall Buildings in Medieval London: Precipitation, Aspiration and Thrills' (2013); Justin Colson, 'Alien Communities and Alien Fraternities in Later Medieval London' (2010).

Class followed by a walking tour of the Charterhouse and the Museum of the Order of St John

WEEK TWO – Early Modern London

Tuesday 2nd August, 1.30pm-5.30pm

Excursion to Hampton Court Palace

Wednesday 3rd August, 10am-12.30pm

Tudor London, 1500-1600

Reading: John Oldland, 'The Wealth of the Trades in Early Tudor London' (2006);

Class followed by a walking tour of Lambeth Palace and Westminster Abbey

Thursday 4th August, 10am-12.30pm

London in the 17th Century: war, plague, and fire

Reading: William Baer, 'Housing for the Lesser Sort in Stuart London: Findings from Certificates, and Returns of Divided Houses' (2008); Christine Stevenson, 'Vantage Points in the Seventeenth-century City' (2008).

Class followed by a walking tour of the Great Fire of London from Pudding Lane to St Paul's, and the London Mithraeum
MIDTERM ASSIGNMENT DUE AT 11.59PM

WEEK THREE – 18th and 19th Century London

Monday 8th August, 10am-12.30pm

The long 18th Century: leisure, luxury, and empire

Reading: Jacob F Field, 'Economic Change in a London Suburb: Southwark, c.1601-1881' (2018); Jonathan Conlin, 'Vauxhall on the boulevard: pleasure gardens in London and Paris, 1764-1784' (2008).

Class followed by a trip to the V&A Museum

Tuesday 9th August, 10am-12.30pm

The spectrum of life in Victorian London

Reading: H J Dyos, 'The Slums of Victorian London' (1967); Oliver Betts, 'Knowing the late Victorian East End' (2017).

Class followed by a walking tour of The Mall and Whitehall

Thursday 11th August, 2pm-6pm

Excursion to Greenwich

WEEK FOUR – Modern London

Tuesday 16th August, 2pm-4.30pm

20th and 21st Century London: from the Blitz to the Barbican

Reading: 'The City of London Rebuilds' (1959); Mark B Pohlad, 'The Appreciation of Ruins in Blitz-Era London' (2005); Brian Stokoe, 'Viewing the Metropolis: The Experience of London by Bus' (2016).

Class followed by the Churchill War Rooms

LONDON REAL AND IMAGINED ASSIGNMENT DUE AT 11.59PM

Wednesday 17th August, 2pm-6pm

Excursion to the Houses of Parliament

Thursday 18th August, 10am-12.30pm

EXAM

GENERAL COURSE READINGS

All of the readings listed in the course outline will be made available to students digitally. Additional reading material may be handed out during class sessions, and will also be made available digitally after the class.

Books held in the GEO Library – These are more general accounts of London's history which may be of use:

- Wilson, A. N., *London: a short history*
- Hibbert, Christopher. *London: the biography of a city*
- Porter, Roy. *London: a social history*
- Kynaston, David. *The City of London*
- Ackroyd, Peter. *London: a biography*
- Lewis, John. E. *London: The Autobiography.*
- Tames, R. A Travellers. *History of London*

- Merriman, N. (ed). *The Peopling of London*
- Hitchcock, T. & Shore, H. (eds). *The Streets of London, c.1660-1850*
- FitzStephen, William. *Norman London*
- Picard, Liza. *Elizabeth's London*
- *Restoration London*
- John Summerson, *Georgian London*
- George, M. Dorothy. *London life in the eighteenth-century*
- Picard, Liza. *Dr. Johnson's London*
- Mayhew, Henry. *London Labour & the London Poor*
- Horrall, A. *Popular culture in London, 1840-1918*
- Bloom, C. *Violent London*
- Lineburgh, P. *The London Hanged*
- Walkowitz, J. *City of Dreadful Delight*
- Schneer, J. *London 1900*
- White, Jerry. *London in the Eighteenth-century*
- *London in the Nineteenth-century*
- *London in the Twentieth-century*
- Ziegler, P. *London at War*
- Waller, M. *London 1945*
- O'Neil, Gilda. *My East End*
- Davis & Anderson, *Inside Notting Hill.*

METHOD OF EVALUATION (GRADING)

Basis of Course Grade:

Class participation*	15%
Midterm	25%
Real and Imagined	30%
Final exam	30%

It is assumed that a student will be on time for all classes, including walks. Absences and persistent lateness will be noted and the final grade reduced accordingly. Discretion may be exercised in the case of illness/isolation.

ASSESSMENTS

1. Midterm:

In week 1 you will be expected to begin research into the history of an area of London you are interested in, which is covered by Charles Booth's Poverty Map. You will visit that area in person and collect images and details about its character today, and write a 2 page report on that area, analyzing what has changed, what has stayed the same, and why.

DUE DATE: Thursday 4th August, 11.59pm.

2. Project - London Real and Imagined:

London is one of the most represented cities in the world. Images, texts, maps and films document its changing appearance and character. However, as with any subject, the image that we are presented with is often manipulated, corrupted and semi-fictionalized. Focusing on **one** fictional representation of London, each student is to produce a 3 page assignment exploring the way in which the source they have chosen has contributed to the reputation of the real city. Sources chosen might include a short *Sherlock Holmes* story, or extracts from a Charles Dickens novel (book or film versions are allowed), Whistler's views of the Thames etc. We can discuss various options in class but please ensure that the source is of academic quality, i.e. no Disney films, Harry Potter, or overly-satirical popular cartoons etc. They must also be historical, so nothing set/focused upon a post-1990 subject. You should begin this project at the earliest possible date as it requires some thought.

DUE DATE: Tuesday 16th August, 11.59pm

3. **Final Exam:** The final exam is a standard essay-style test paper. You will be given 6 questions to choose from and you will answer 2. The exam is intended to give you the opportunity to focus on the period of London's past that interests you the most.

DATE OF EXAM: Thursday 18th August.

Pre-approved sources for **Real and Imagined**.

If you want to use another source, please do so, but please check with me first.

Literature

O. Wilde, *Picture of Dorian Gray*
F. Maddox Ford, *The Soul of London*
J. Austen, *Pride and Prejudice* or *Sense and Sensibility* (London extracts)
C. Dickens (various extracts, including *Oliver Twist*, *Bleak House*, *Our Mutual Friend*, *David Copperfield*, *Great Expectations*, etc)
W. M. Thackeray, *Vanity Fair*
A. Conan Doyle, *Sherlock Holmes* (any of the stories)
P. L. Travers, *Mary Poppins*
P. G. Woodhouse, *Jeeves and Wooster* (London-based stories)
J. M. Barrie, *Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens*
F. Burney, *Evelina, or the History of a Young Lady's Entrance into the World*
A. Christie, *Hercule Poirot* series (London-based stories)
G. Orwell, *1984*

Art

Whistler's Thames paintings
Canaletto's views of London
Illustrations from Ackermann's *Microcosm of London*
Illustrations from G. Dore's, *London: a Pilgrimage*
Monet's London paintings

Film

The Ladykillers (1955 version)
My Fair Lady (1964)
Adaptations of Austen, Dickens, or Woodhouse texts; if possible, compare the film version with the book version in your assignment.