



Absence Approval Form with the required doctor's note as soon as possible). **Please note: Submitting an Authorised Absence Approval Form does not guarantee an authorised absence**

Students may apply for an authorised absence only under the following circumstances:

- Illness, supported by a local London doctor's note (submitted with Authorised Absence Approval Form).
- Important placement event that clashes with a class (verified by internship supervisor)
- Special circumstances which have been approved by the Directors (see note below).

**The Directors will only in the most extreme cases (for example, death in close family) allow students to leave the programme early or for a significant break.**

*Unauthorised Absence:*

Any student to miss a class due to an unauthorised absence will receive a **4% grade penalty** to their final grade for the course whose class was missed. This grade penalty will be applied by the Academic Affairs office to the final grade at the end of the course. As stated above, any student that has missed two classes will need to meet with the Directors to discuss their participation on the programme as excessive absences may result in a 'Fail' in the class and therefore expulsion from the programme.

*Lateness*

Students arriving more than 15 minutes after the posted class start time will be marked as late. Any student with irregular class attendance (more than two late arrivals to class) will require a meeting with the Assistant Director of Academic Affairs and if the lateness continues, may have his/her final grade penalised.

## **Reading**

**Set text:** Stephen Inwood, *A History of London*, Macmillan, London, 1998 (available at BU London Library).

**Required reading** is noted below in the Course Chronology. It is essential that all students read and reflect upon the relevant Preparatory Reading *before* each class. Follow-up Reading should be completed before the next class.

Additional required readings will be posted on the course webpage: <https://lms.bu.edu> (you must be logged in to view materials).

## **Supplementary and Secondary Reading:**

The following texts are useful for expanding upon the required reading, for researching seminar papers and for preparing for the final examination.

All books are available in the BU London Library at 43 Harrington Gardens.

## **Section 1**

### **On Popular Culture generally:**

Iain Chambers, *Popular Culture: The Metropolitan Experience*, Routledge, London, 1986

John Docker, *Postmodernism and Popular Culture: A Cultural History*, Cambridge University Press, 1994

John Fiske, *Understanding Popular Culture*, Routledge, London and New York, 1990

Herbert Gans, *Popular Culture and High Culture: An Analysis and Evaluation of Taste*, Basic Books, New York, 1999

JM Golby and AW Purdue, *The Civilisation of the Crowd: Popular Culture in England 1750-1900*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Sutton, Stroud, 1999

Joanne Hollows, *Feminism, Femininity and Popular Culture*, Manchester University Press, 2000  
 Angela McRobbie, *Postmodernism and Popular Culture*, Routledge, London, 1994  
 Angela McRobbie, *In the Culture Society: Art Fashion and Popular Music*, Routledge, London 1999  
 John Storey, *Cultural Studies and the Study of Popular Culture*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Edinburgh University Press, 2003  
 John Storey, *Cultural Theory and Popular Culture: An Introduction*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, Pearson, Harlow, 2006  
 Dominic Strinati, *An Introduction to Theories of Popular Culture*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Routledge, Abingdon and New York, 2004

## Section 2

### On London:

Peter Ackroyd, *London: The Biography*, Vintage, London, 2001  
 John Horrell, *Popular Culture in London c. 1890-1918*, Manchester University Press, Manchester, 2001  
 Stephen Inwood, *City of Cities*, Macmillan, London, 2005  
 Joe Kerr & Andrew Gibson (eds), *London: From Punk to Blair*, Reaktion Books, London, 2003  
 Jon E. Lewis, *London: The Autobiography – 2,000 Years of the Capital's History by Those Who Saw it Happen*, Constable & Robinson, London, 2008  
 Roy Porter, *London: A Social History*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge MA, 1994  
 Jerry White, *London in the Nineteenth Century*, Vintage, London, 2008  
 Jerry White, *London in the Twentieth Century*, Vintage, London, 2008

## Section 3

### On particular areas of (Popular) Culture:

Peter Ackroyd, *Dickens' London – An Imaginative Vision*, Headline Books, London, 1987  
 Peter Bailey, *Music Hall – The Business of Pleasure*, Open University Press, Milton Keynes, 1986  
 Andy Bennett, *Cultures of Popular Music*, Open University Press, 2001  
 Barry J. Faulk, *Music Hall and Modernity – The Late Victorian Discovery of Modernity*, Ohio University Press, Athens, Ohio, 2004  
 Susie Gilbert, *Opera for Everybody – The Story of English National Opera*  
 Richard Giulianotti, *Football – A Sociology of the Global Game*, Polity Press, Cambridge, 1999  
 Jeffrey Hill, *Sport, Leisure and Culture in Twentieth Century Britain*, Palgrave, Basingstoke, 2002  
 John Hill, *Sex, Class and Realism: British Cinema 1956-63*, BFI, London, 1986  
 Brian Longhurst, *Popular Music and Society*, Polity press, Cambridge, 2007  
 Jonathan Rose, *The Intellectual Life of the British Working Classes*, Yale University Press, New Haven & London, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2010  
 Roger Sabin (ed), *Punk Rock or What? The Cultural Legacy of Punk*, Routledge, London and New York, 1999  
 Jon Savage, *England's Dreaming – Anarchy, Sex Pistols, Punk Rock and Beyond*, Faber and Faber, London 2001  
 Brian Southall, *Sex Pistols, 90 Days at EMI*, Bobcat Books, London, 2007  
 John Springhall. *Youth, Popular Culture and Moral Panic: Penny Gaffs to Gangsta Rap, 1830-1996*, Macmillan, Basingstoke, 1998  
 Ben Thompson, *Sunshine on Putt: The Golden Age of British Comedy from Vic Reeves to The Office*, Fourth Estate, London, 2004

Students will benefit from reading a general introduction to nineteenth century British history, for example, Michael Lynch, *An Introduction to Nineteenth Century British History 1800-1914*.

## Course Assessment

<b>Mid-term Quiz</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Final Examination</b>	<b>40%</b>

<b>Seminar Presentation</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Attendance and Participation</b>	<b>10%</b>

1. The Mid-term Quiz will test your factual knowledge. It will be a one-hour class exercise with c. 20 questions requiring short answers (e.g. multiple choice; some one-word answers; some short paragraphs).

2. There will be an end-of-course 2-hour final examination worth 40% of your final grade. You will need to answer one required general question on popular culture and one further question (from a selection) on specific popular cultural forms or topics. The grade you receive for the final examination will be based upon:

- The relevance of your answer to the question/topic set
- Clarity of expression and continuity
- Evidence of reading and thought related to the question/topic
- Quality of the arguments presented
- Merit will be given for evidence of reading from the Supplementary and Secondary Reading list.

3. You will also be required, as part of a pair, to make a seminar presentation in which you introduce, comment on and contextualize at least one specific popular cultural text. Presentations will take place in Session 9. Topics for seminar presentations should be agreed with the tutors by Session 6. Presentations should last between 15 and 20 minutes, including time for questions. Both content and presentation skills will be assessed. You should submit slides and notes from your presentation to the tutors at Session 9.

4. Class attendance and participation will form part of the final grade. Evidence of having read and reflected upon the course texts will be rewarded.

### **Grading**

Please refer to the Academic Handbook for detailed grading criteria and information on plagiarism:  
<http://www.bu.edu/london/current-semester>

## Course Chronology

### 25 February Session One: Introduction: London and Popular Culture

Introduction to syllabus and assessment.

**Seminar discussion:** Storey reading (KL)

**Lecture 1:** London - 'First City of Modern Popular Culture'? (MP)

**Seminar discussion:** Bartholomew Fair, description, from *The Gentlemen's Magazine*, 1764 (MP)

**Preparatory Reading:** John Storey, *Cultural Theory and Popular Culture: An Introduction*, Chapter 1

**Follow-up Reading:** JM Golby and AW Purdue, *The Civilisation of the Crowd*, Chapter 1

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### 4 March Session Two: Victorian Popular Culture (1): Music Hall

**Seminar discussion:** Review Golby and Purdue reading (KL)

**Lecture 2:** Introduction to Music Hall (MP)

**Seminar discussion:** *Following In Father's Footsteps*, Music Hall song (MP)

**Screening:** BBC TV *The Story of Music Hall* extract. Followed by discussion (KL)

**\*\*\*Evening Fieldtrip:** Wiltons Music Hall (ends c.7.30pm)

**Follow-up Reading:** Barry J Faulk, *Music Hall and Modernity*, extracts

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### 11 March Three: Victorian Popular Culture (2): Literature

**Seminar discussion:** Faulk reading (KL)

**Seminar discussion:** Dickens chapters and Inwood 'Ragged London' (KL)

**Seminar discussion:** Adaptations of *Oliver Twist* (MP)

**Lecture 3:** Popular Literature in Victorian London (MP)

**Preparatory Reading:** 1) Inwood, Chapter 17, 'Ragged London'

2) Charles Dickens, *Oliver Twist* extracts from *Bentley's Miscellany* Vol 1 (1837) pp. 105-115; 218-230; 326-338; 430-441

**Preparatory work:** Research and be prepared to answer questions on an adaptation of *Oliver Twist*

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### 18 March Session Four: Popular Culture and Mass Society (1): Cinema

**In groups of two or three, please view a London-based feature film before this class and prepare a 7-10 minute review to be delivered in class.**

**If you intend using film clips you must practice these with Academic Affairs staff before the start of class.**

**Seminar:** Inwood Chapter 21 (KL)

**Lecture 4:** Introduction to London and Cinema (MP)

**Preparatory Reading:** 1. Inwood, Chapter 21

**Follow-up Reading:** Ross McKibbin, *Classes and Cultures: England 1918-51*, Chapter XI

## **25 March Session Five: Popular Culture and Mass Society (2): Organised Sport**

**Lecture 5:** The Development of Organized Sports in Britain (MP)

**Seminar Discussion:** McKibbin Chapter IX (KL)

**Field trip:** Visit to a Premier League football club (KL)

**Preparatory Reading:** 1) Ross McKibbin, *Classes and Culture: England 1918-51*, Chapter IX and 2) Inwood, Chapter 22

**Follow-up Reading:** Andrew Horrell, *Popular Culture in London*, Chapter 11

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**\*\*\* 1 April – No Class - Easter Break \*\*\***

## **8 April Session Six: Popular Culture in and after the World Wars**

**MID-TERM QUIZ (1 hour in class)**

**Seminar Discussion:** Inwood Chapters 23 & 24 (KL)

**Lecture 7:** London on Television (MP)

**Preparation:** Watch and be prepared to comment on at least one London-based TV programme (MP)

**Preparatory Reading:** Stephen Inwood, Chapter 23 (esp. pp 708-721 and 762-773) & Chapter 24

**Follow-up Reading:** Jerry White, *London in the Twentieth Century*, extracts on Blackboard

*Seminar Presentation subjects should be agreed by today.*

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## **15 April Session Seven: 1960s and ‘Swinging London’**

**Screening:** Extracts from *Look At Life: Swingin’ London* (MP)

**Lecture 8:** ‘Swinging London’ and Popular Culture (MP)

**Field trip:** Walking tour of Soho including Carnaby Street (RW and KL)

**Preparatory Reading:** Inwood, Chapter 25

**Follow-up Reading:** Richard Weight, *Patriots*, Part 5 ‘Swingers’, pp 357-399

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## **16 April Session Eight: Post-‘Swinging-London’: Towards Postmodern Popular Culture?**

**Seminar discussion:** Richard Weight reading and Inwood Chapter 26 (KL)

**Lecture 9:** From Punk to Britpop (MP)

**Preparatory Reading:** Inwood. Chapter 26

**Follow-up Reading:** Jon Savage, ‘Introduction’, *England’s Dreaming*, Faber and Faber, 2001

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## **22 April Session Nine: Student Presentations plus Course Review**

**Lecture 10:** Contemporary Popular Culture (MP)

**Seminar discussion:** Re-reading John Storey, *Cultural Theory and Popular Culture*, Chapter 1 (KL)  
Course Review and Exam Preparation

**Preparatory Reading:** Please re-read John Story, *Cultural Theory and Popular Culture: An Introduction*, Chapter 1

**Student Presentations** (Max 8 presentations)

You must confirm any audio-visual needs with Academic Affairs staff by Friday 19 April and must practice using the relevant audio-visual aids with Academic Affairs staff by the morning of 22 April.

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\* **Contingency Class Date: Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April.** Students are obligated to keep this date free to attend class should any class dates need to be rescheduled.

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**Final Exam** **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April** Exam times and locations will be posted on the BU London website and in the Student Newsletter two weeks before exam dates.

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### **Terms and Conditions**

If you have problems with the availability of reading materials (all of which should be in the library) please contact me either through the Academic Affairs Office or via e-mail.