London since 1666: Imperial Capital to World City
CAS HI 246 *(Core class)*
Fall 2017

**Instructor Information**

A. Name
B. Day and Time
   Wednesdays *(except* first session on Thursday 7th September and final session Tuesday 5th December), 9.30-12.30/1.30pm (three/four hour sessions). Please note: session times are subject to change.

C. Location
D. Telephone
E. Email
F. Office hours
   By appointment

**Course Objectives**

The course aims to give students a sense of how contemporary London came to be the city it is today. It also aims to give students an appreciation of how a city’s relative global position can change over time. It will do this by introducing students to the social, economic and cultural history of London since the Great Fire of 1666. In particular, the course focuses on how London developed from being the modest-sized capital city of England to capital of the British Empire and World’s largest city, before being eclipsed in size and importance by non-European cities, and then emerging as a modern, multi-cultural and multi-ethnic city within the European Union. In this course, students will also gain experience of analysing primary source documents.

The course is organised into three blocks of study:

**Block One: The Making of an Imperial Capital: 1666-1877** looks at the period from the Great Fire to the declaration of Queen Victoria as Empress of India in 1877. The block charts the transition of London from capital of a small European nation to the World’s largest city and capital of a huge empire.

**Block Two: Imperial Capital, Imperial Crisis? 1880-1945** explores some of the tensions within the imperial capital, focusing on issues of class, gender, race and ethnicity before turning to look at external threats to the imperial capital from international competition and conflict.
Block Three: From Imperial Capital to World City: 1945-Present Day looks at the transition of London from capital of a large empire to multi-cultural city within a globalizing world. A concluding session considers continuity and change since 1666.

**Course Set Texts** - All available to borrow in the BU library


**Course Assessment**

15% **Mid-term** Exam (17 Oct). This exam will comprise short answers, ID’s, and a long essay.
30% **Term Paper** (27 Nov) 2,000-2,500 words. Further information on this analytical research paper is posted on Blackboard.
35% **Final Examination** (12 Dec). Similar structure to the Midterm exam.
20% **Attendance, Participation, successful completion and engagement in Classwork.**

**Course Grading & Notes:**

Please refer to the Academic Handbook for detailed grading criteria, attendance requirements and policies on plagiarism: http://www.bu.edu/london/current-semester

*Please note: Changes may be made to the syllabus on short notice. Students are responsible to check their email regularly to ensure they are up to date on any possible amendments.*

*Please note: Contingency Class Date – Friday 29 September & Tuesday 5 December. Should any class dates need to be rescheduled, students are obligated to keep this date free to attend classes.

*Please come to all classes involving a field trip with a sufficiently topped up Oyster Card. We will not have time to accommodate ‘topping up’.

**ATTENDANCE POLICIES**

**Classes**

All Boston University London Programme students are expected to attend each and every class session, seminar, and field trip in order to fulfill the required course contact hours and receive course credit. Any student that has been absent from two class sessions (whether authorised or unauthorised) will need to meet with the Directors to discuss their continued participation on the programme.

*Authorised Absence:*

Students who expect to be absent from any class should notify a member of Academic Affairs and complete an Authorized Absence Approval Form 10 working days in advance of the class date (except in the case of absence due to illness for more than one day. In this situation students should submit the Authorised Absence Approval Form with the required doctor’s note as soon as possible). The Authorised Absence Approval Request Form is available from: http://www.bu.edu/london/current-semester/
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 (first day of sickness):** If a student is too ill to attend class, the student must phone the BU London Student Affairs Office (who will in turn contact the student’s lecturer).
- **Illness (multiple days):** If a student is missing more than one class day due to illness, the student must call into the BU London Student Affairs Office each day the student is ill. Students must also provide the Student Affairs office with a completed Authorised Absence Approval Form and a sick note from a local doctor excusing their absence from class.
- **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 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.

**Religious Holidays**
Boston University’s Office of the University Registrar states:

‘The University, in scheduling classes on religious holidays and observances, intends that students observing those traditions be given ample opportunity to make up work. Faculty members who wish to observe religious holidays will arrange for another faculty member to meet their classes or for cancelled classes to be rescheduled.’

**Special Accommodations**
Each student will need to contact the Office of Disability Services to request accommodations for the semester they are abroad. Students are advised by BU-ODS not to expect the same accommodations as they receive on campus.
BU London can only uphold special accommodations if we have received the appropriate documentation from the BU-ODS. We cannot accept letters from other universities/centres.

All disabilities need to be known to the ODS in Boston if they are to be used as a reason for requiring a change in conditions, i.e. reduced internship hours or special accommodations for the internship schedule.

**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 be required to meet with the Associate Director for Academic Affairs and if the lateness continues, may have his/her final grade penalized.

---

**Course Chronology**

**BLOCK ONE: The Making of an Imperial Capital: 1666-1877**

---

**Session One: London in 1666 (7 September)**


**Introduction:** Block structure of course (MP/RW)

**Lecture 1:** London’s population, economy and physical extent in 1666 (MP)
**Screening:** Bruce Robinson, ‘London: Brighter Lights, Bigger City’, BBC History (MP)
**Lecture 2:** The Great Fire and the re-building of the city (RW)
**Seminar:** Review Heyck readings (MP & RW)

**Follow up:** Self-directed visit. Before Session Two, please visit and explore the City of London. We suggest you begin at Monument tube station and find 1) The Monument and 2) Pudding Lane before walking to St Paul’s Cathedral. Entrance fees to The Monument and St Paul’s Cathedral will be reimbursed if receipts for student tickets are brought to the BU London Finance Office by 4pm on 15th September.
Session Two: Developing the Imperial Nation (13 September)


Lecture 3: 1688, 1707 and 1801: Constitutional Developments and their Impact on London (RW)
Seminar Discussion: Colley, Britons – Forging the Nation 1707-1837 (MP)
Seminar Discussion: Benjamin Franklin in London (RW)

Session Three: London, British Industrial Revolution, and Repercussions (20 September)

Reading 2: (primary sources) a) William Wordsworth, Composed upon Westminster Bridge, September 3rd 1802 b) William Blake, Jerusalem (1804)

Lecture 4: Industrial Revolution & the Economic & Physical Expansion of London (MP)
Seminar and Primary Source Discussion: Heyck, Chapter 10, Wordsworth and Blake poems (MP)
Lecture 5: Rights, Rebellions, and Reforms in the Capital (MP)

Liverpool and Lancaster Trip (20-22 September)

Preparatory Viewing: Please watch the short clips on Hillsborough and Slavery before the trip to Liverpool (located on Blackboard).

Complete assignment on Liverpool after visit (due 29 September via email by 5 pm to MP and Jurriaan). This assignment will help us to see where help may be needed in writing, research, comprehension, and citation usage. Successful completion counts towards your participation grade.
Session Four: Imperial Capital: London and the British Empire (27 September)

Reading/Assignment:
3. Please complete assignment on Blackboard: Assignments: 1851assignment_HI246.pdf

Lecture 6: The Great Exhibition of 1851 & London as Imperial Capital (RW)
Lecture 7: The ‘First’ and ‘Second’ British Empires (RW)

Seminar Discussion: On assignment (RW/MP)

______________

**BLOCK TWO: Imperial Capital, Imperial Crisis? c.1880-1945**

Session Five: Navigating Gender Roles in Modern London (4 October)


Recap Block One: (All)

Lecture 10 and discussion of readings: Separate Spheres and ‘The Women Question’ (Guest Lecturer, Dr Diane Atkinson)

Seminar Discussion on Primary Sources: Gender in Late Victorian and Edwardian London

Primary sources on suffrage to be distributed in class. (MP)

______________

Semester Break: 11-15 October
Mid-term Exam: 17 October
Session Six: Poverty and Wealth/ East and West: Tensions in Race, Ethnicity, and Class Part I (18 October)

Reading/Assignment:
2. Israel Zangwill, *Children of the Ghetto*, 1892. Read Chapter 5 ‘The Pauper Alien,’ online: http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=4LDTrE5WgV8C
3. Aliens Act of 1905- SEE ASSIGNMENT SECTION on BlackBoard

Lecture 8: The Concept of ‘Race’ in Victorian England (RW)

Seminar Discussion: Reading and Assignment on 1905/6 Aliens Act (RW/MP)

Session Seven: Poverty and Wealth/ East and West: Tensions in Race, Ethnicity, and Class Part II (25 October)

Reading:

Lecture 9: ‘Into Darkest London’: Exploring the East End (MP)

Seminar Discussion: *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and Inwood chapter (MP)

Session Eight: Competition and Conflict (1 November) - *four hour class*

Reading:

Lecture 11: Economic Competition and World Wars I and II (MP)

Field visit: Museum of London WW2 Galleries (RW)
BLOCK THREE:
From Imperial Capital to World City: 1945-present day

Session Nine: Re-building London after World Wars (8 November)

Preparatory Reading:


Recap Block Two:

Lecture 12: London Infrastructure, the beginnings of Suburbia and the Green Belt 1930- 1945 (RW)

Viewing in class: Metroland (RW)

Seminar Discussion: Readings and Metroland (RW)

Session Ten: Multi-cultural London? (15 November)

Field Trip: Brixton & Clapham. This tour will touch on the abolition of the slave trade movement, the Victorian middle-classes, The Windrush, Brixton riots, Afro-Caribbean culture, and gentrification in London. (Note: Class meets in Brixton or Clapham, TBA) (RW)

Reading:


Session Eleven: London’s Youth Culture (22 November) – four hour class

Reading:

1. Colin McInnes, Absolute Beginners (1959)

Seminar Discussion: Colin McInnes, Absolute Beginners (MP)

Field Visit: From Soho to Hendrix. We will leave from class for the field trip. Please make sure your Oyster card is fully topped up (RW)
Session Twelve: London, World City (29 November)

Preparatory Reading/Viewing/Assignment: ‘Swinging London’ Time, 15 April 1966

Seminar Discussion: Time article. (MP)
Lecture 13: London since the 1960s. Local to Global: Trauma, Change, and Optimism? (RW)
Seminar Discussion: London continuities and changes since 1966 (MP/RW)

Recap Block Three & Course: (MP/RW)
Course Review & Exam preparation

Final EXAM: 12 December (3pm; Location TBA)

Indicative Supplementary and Secondary Reading

General:
Leonore Davidoff & Catherine Hall, Family Fortunes, Routledge, London, 2002
Paul Griffiths & SR Jenner (eds), Londonopolis: Essays in the Culture and Social History of Early Modern London c. 1500-1750, Manchester University Press, 2001
Derek Keene, ‘Growth, modernisation and control: The transformation of London’s landscape, c.1500-1760’ in Peter Clark & Raymond Gillespie (eds), Two Capitals: London and Dublin 1500-1840, Oxford University Press, 2001

Additional reading may be found on Blackboard:  http://learn.bu.edu