Aims and Objectives

The assessed work required for the Internship has as its main purpose the enabling of the Intern to gain maximum benefit from their Internship experience. These projects will encourage students to look at their internship work, and work place, with a constructively critical eye, while also enabling relevant creative work where appropriate.

Attendance

Classes

All Boston University London Programme students are expected to attend each and every class session, seminar, and field trip in order to fulfil 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 penalised.
Grading

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

* Final Grades are subject to deductions by the Academic Affairs Office due to unauthorised absences.

Readings

Details of these to be handed out in class.

Learning Outcomes of The Seminar

1. Understanding of the nature of 'culture' and 'work', cultural differences, and the role of 'culture' in shaping beliefs, practices (including economic practices) and perceptions of the 'world' (the world view, or weltanschauung).
2. Understanding of British Culture and Society, aided by the students' academic studies in London.
3. Understanding of British 'Work Culture', and the specific 'work culture' of the placement.
4. Develop new perspectives on one's own culture, and an ability to think 'critically' about one's own values, beliefs and goals.

Assignments

Students will have tests and presentations in class, and be asked to hand in Reports and Projects.

Summary Deadlines

There will be presentations and course work due in Sessions 2 and 3. Detailed information to be handed out in class.

Assessment Criteria

1. Writing. Standard Written English (SWE), in the professional or academic style and register appropriate to the work.
2. Originality of thought and expression.
3. Work that is worth reading. No exercise should be treated as 'busy-work'. If it takes the time of the writer to write and the time of the reader to read, then it should be worth that time.
4. Researched Evidence. Range and Depth. There must be an adequate range of types of evidence explored and used, and this evidence must go into an adequate depth of detail.
5. Evaluation of Researched Evidence. Whatever evidence is marshalled must be evaluated for its truth-value by cross-comparisons with other evidence and other arguments, and by an internal analysis of any theories used for logical coherence.
6. Persuasive argument. This will require reliable, relevant and comprehensive evidence to be marshalled into a logical structure that stands up to a rigorous interrogation. The important point here is not that the argument is foolproof, but that is 'arguable'.

This is the overarching criterion, and no work can be given a higher grade than that given for this criterion. A work might just score very well in criteria 1 to 5, but the grade it achieves for criterion 6 will be the ceiling grade.