



Boston University Study Abroad London

Boston University Study Abroad London Human Ecology/Global Ecology: Humans, London, and Urban Sustainability CGS NS 202 Summer 2014

Instructor Information

A. Names Dr. Peter E. Busher

Course Learning Objectives

1. To study and understand the science of ecology
2. To study and review Darwinian evolution and make connections to ecology
3. To understand how humans interact with and influence their environment
4. To study London as a “model” human ecosystem in the contemporary world
5. To study and understand the interactions between human populations, resources and the environment
6. To study and understand human population growth and the disease process
7. To investigate the role of technology and its role in human ecology
8. To examine and understand the rise of science in Victorian London and its influence on human environmental issues
9. To reflect on the influence of personality, culture and place on scientific endeavour

Assessment

1. There will be one **final exam** that is scheduled for **Thursday, August 7**. The grade on this examination will constitute **40%** of the overall grade. **This allows the student to demonstrate competence in understanding the scientific information presented in the course and in using this information for evaluation and analysis.**
2. A Course Project (PowerPoint presentation + written outline and summary essay) will account for **20%** of course grade. **This allows the student to illustrate competence in analyzing scientific information, communicating scientific knowledge and connecting science and society.**
3. There will be one (1) quiz – Thursday, July 31 that is worth **20%**. **This allows the student to illustrate competence in understanding accepted scientific information.**
4. There will be one (2) field trip exercises worth **20% (10% each)**. **This exercise will allow the student to demonstrate competence in understanding how to use the scientific process to explain and understand the natural world.**
5. This course is a student-driven, active learning, experiential exercise in learning. To be successful students must attend and participate appropriately in all lectures and field trips. Failure to be an active, appropriate participant in the educational process can result in failure of the course.

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.*

Attendance Policy

Classes

All Boston University Study Abroad London Programme students are expected to attend each and every class session, tutorial, 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 which students should submit the Authorised 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 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 be required to meet with the Assistant Director of Academic Affairs and if the lateness continues, may have his/her final grade penalised.

Schedule for NS 202

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Lecture/Activity</u>	<u>Reading</u>
1	21 July	A.M. NHM – Ecology Exercise P.M. Lecture and discussion	

Johnson	22 July	A.M. Lecture – Plants and Humans P.M. Chelsea Physic Garden	
	23 July	A.M. Lecture – Sustainability and Cities - water P.M. Barnes Wetlands Centre	
	24 July	A.M. Lecture – London & Human Population P.M. Museum of London First Assignment due	Johnson

WEEKEND – July 25, 26 & 27

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Lecture/Activity</u>	<u>Reading</u>
2	28 July	A.M./P.M. Embankment Walk – Visualizing the Urban Environment	Johnson Halliday
	29 July	A.M. Lecture: Water in the Urban environment P.M. Crossness Victorian Pumping Station	Johnson Halliday
	30 July	A.M./P.M. Trip to the east end and Olympic Park	Johnson Halliday
	31 July	A.M. Quiz: Lecture/Discussion P.M. Museums Second assignment due	Johnson Halliday

WEEKEND August 1, 2 & 3

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Lecture/Activity</u>	<u>Reading</u>
3	4 August	A.M./P.M. All day visit to Kew Gardens	Halliday
	5 August	A.M. /P.M. Highgate Cemetery – paying back the entropy debt	Halliday
	6 August	A.M. Lecture/discussion P.M. Presentations	Halliday
	7 August	A.M. Final Exam	
	9 August	Departure Day	

Textbooks:

Halliday, Stephen. 2001. *The Great Stink of London: Sir Joseph Bazalgette and the Cleansing of the Victorian Metropolis.* The History Press, Stroud, England, 210 pp.

Johnson, Steven. 2006. *The Ghost Map: A Street, A City, An Epidemic and the Hidden Power of Urban Networks.* Penguin Books, London, England, 299pp.

Additional readings may be posted on Blackboard: <https://lms.bu.edu>