



Study abroad.

SYLLABUS

Fall Session Only

LONDON: BIOGRAPHY OF A CITY

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Contact Hrs: 39

Language of Instruction: English

LONDON, ENGLAND (ILACA)

Course Overview

The course proceeds chronologically through the history of London, from its Roman foundations to the impact of the Blitz in the middle of the 20th century. Cities are entirely human constructs, and we will not only trace the physical growth of the city over some 2000 years, but see how the pattern of that growth reflects the social conditions of the time. The main reading is of primary sources, to hear the voices of Londoners through the ages.

All Tuesday classes and a few Thursday classes will be held in the classroom. These sessions will consist of informal lecture, analysis of the maps and diagrams in the atlas (*The Times History of London*), and discussion of the Sourcebook readings. Further background reading can be found in the *London Readings*. Please bring the atlas and Sourcebook for every classroom session.

Most Thursday classes will be for walks. We will meet just beyond the barrier at the designated underground station, where I will hand out a walk itinerary. You will probably also want to bring a small notebook. Be on time: the walks depart promptly! The walks also take place whatever the weather conditions, so be prepared. All rules applicable to the classroom apply to our walks: no smoking and no mobile phones from the moment we set off from our meeting point!

Course texts

Hugh Clout, ed., *The Times History of London* (London: Times Books, any edition)

L. M. Bowers Isaacson, ed., *Sourcebook on London* [photocopy]

L. M. Bowers Isaacson, ed., *London Readings*

Course Requirements

- . To prepare for, attend and participate in classes and walks
- . To visit two museums outside class time, in preparation for exams: the Museum of London before the midterm and the Geffrye Museum before the final (free admission to each)
- . To produce two paper/projects (see below)
- . To present evidence of understanding and reflection on the course issues and materials through satisfactory performance on two exams: a midterm and a final exam

Museum Visits: There will be a question on the midterm and final exams that will require you to describe and interpret objects you have seen in these museums. The Museum of London [London Wall ECI] is extraordinary, providing a chronological journey through the City's history making use of reconstructions and artifacts. At the moment the lower ground floor, covering the period after the

Great Fire in 1666 is closed for refurbishment, but the main floor, covering the Roman, Anglo-Saxon, Medieval, Tudor and early Stuart periods is open. Thus you will need to visit this before the midterm to select your artifacts. The museum's entrance is not at street level, but on the podium, one storey up. The nearest underground stations are St Paul's and Barbican.

For the final exam you will be visiting another of London's great museums, the Geffrye Museum (open Tues thru Sat), housed in an 18th-century almshouse at 136 Kingsland Road E2. (Nearest underground: Old Street or Liverpool Street.) It is a museum of domestic interiors covering the period 1600 to the present. All but the very first room (early 17th century) is therefore relevant.

Further particulars will be given nearer the exams.

Stow Ward Walk Paper/Project: John Stow, a contemporary of Shakespeare, wrote a guidebook to London which offers a unique opportunity to study in detail the transformation of London from a medieval city to its present form. Each student will explore a neighbourhood [ward] of the City of London using Stow as a guidebook. The selection, together with relevant maps, will be provided. The final product will be 3 to 5 pages assessing to what degree the medieval city has survived into the 21st century. Due date: Thursday, 4 October.

'Inside London' Walk Project: This is your chance to plan a walk in London to illustrate some topic of interest to you. It might be a particular ethnic community, a 'village' within London, or the London connected with a particular historical figure. The final product will be 5 to 7 pages of narrative and analysis, plus a map showing the locations. Photos and other illustrations may also be added. Due date: Tuesday, 4 December.

Basis of Course grade

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|----------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|
| Class participation* | 10% | Stow project | 15% |
| Midterm exam | 20% | 'Inside London' project | 25% |
| 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.

Schedule of Classes

Please note that because the London courses are able to take advantage of the numerous and ever changing exhibits, theatre programs, and local offerings that some topics are subject to change. This schedule is a sample from a previous session. Please visit the AHA London Centre website at www.ahalondon.org.uk/ for the current syllabus.

Class 1

Lecture/discussion: Roman Origins
 Reading: Sourcebook, Ch I: Londinium: the Roman City (in class)

Class 2

Lecture/ discussion: Two Saxon Settlements
 Reading: Sourcebook, Ch 2: Saxon London; Times [atlas], pp. 23-43; 138-9; 154-5.
 Readings, Sections 1 & 2.

Class 3

Walk: The Roman Wall: 'reading' the past in the modern City Meet just through barriers at Tower Hill tube Station

Class 4

Lecture: Medieval Urban Society
 Reading: Times [atlas], pp. 44-53; 152-3. Readings, Section 3.

Class 5

Walk: Medieval Westminster; Meet just through barriers at Westminster Underground Station

Introduce Stow Paper/Project Assignment

Class 6

Discussion: Medieval Urban Society

Reading: Sourcebook, Ch 3: Medieval London; Times [atlas], pp. 44–53; 152–3.

Class 7

Walk: Church and Guild: the landscape of the medieval city

Meet just through barriers at Farringdon Underground Station

Class 8

Lecture/ discussion: Impact of the Reformation

Reading: Sourcebook, Ch 4: Reformation in the City; Times [atlas], pp. 54–65; 146–7.
Readings, Section 4.

Class 9

Walk: Legal London and the Inns of Court; Meet just through barriers at Temple Underground Station

Stow Paper Due

Class 10

Lecture/ discussion: The City Destroyed by Plague and Fire

Reading: Sourcebook, Ch 5: The Great Plague & the Great Fire; Times [atlas], pp. 66–9; 132–3; 168–9. Readings, Section 5.

Class 11

Midterm Exam; Introduce 'Inside London' Project

Class 12

Lecture: The Growth of the West End in the 17th and 18th centuries

Reading: Times [atlas], pp. 70–81; 140–3. Readings, Section 6.

Class 13

Walk: St James's and the 18th-Century Squares

Meet just through barriers at St James's Park Underground Station (Broadway Exit)

Class 14

Discussion: The Growth of the West End in the 17th and 18th centuries

Reading: Sourcebook, Ch 6: Life in the Georgian City

Class 15

NO CLASS: Stratford trip

Class 16

Lecture: Poverty and Wealth in Victorian London

Reading: Times [atlas], pp. 82–9; 92–107; 134–7; 144–5; 148–9. Readings, Section 7.

Class 17

Walk: East End Poverty and the Furniture Sweatshops

Meet just through barriers at Old Street Underground Station

Class 18

Discussion: Poverty and Wealth in Victorian London

Reading: Sourcebook, Ch 7: The Victorian East End; Times [atlas], pp. 82–9; 92–107; 134–7; 144–5; 148–9.

Class 19

Walk: Victorian Village Suburb; Meet just through barriers at Hampstead Underground Station (Zone 2)

Class 20

Lecture: The Growth of the Suburbs before the First World War
Reading: Times [atlas], pp. 90–1; 108–17; 160–1. Readings, Sections 8 & 9.

Class 21

Discussion: The Growth of the Suburbs before the First World War
Reading: Sourcebook, Ch 8: Imperial Capital & Ch 9: Transport & the Rise of the Suburbs;
Times [atlas], pp. 90–1; 108–17; 160–1.

Class 22

Paper/Project work & consultations.

Class 23

Lecture/discussion: The Blitz and its Aftermath: London in the Second World War
Reading: Sourcebook, Ch 10: London at War; Times [atlas], pp. 23–43; 138–9; 154–5.
Readings, Section 10.
'Inside London' Project Due.

Class 24

Final Exam