



## **Course Structure**

### *Week One*

1. Introduction: Mapping Modern London
2. A Global Metropolis: Europe, Empire and the World
3. Politics and Protest: from Suffrage to Stop the War
4. London at War

### *Week Two*

1. Queer London: Sex in the City
2. Londoners at Home (Visit to the Museum of the Home)
3. Workshop: A Beginner's Guide to Podcasting
4. Migrant City (Visit to the Migration Museum)

### *Week Three*

1. Going Underground: Soundtracks to the City
2. Urban Explorations: Group Walking Tours
3. Review Seminar and Assessment Workshop
4. Electric City: London on the Big Screen

## **Module Aims**

The course aims to provide students with a grounding in the history of the city they are living in and a critical appreciation of how London has evolved over the last 100 years. Students will also be introduced to concepts and approaches to public history to consider how this history has been communicated. They will engage with a range of historical sources, including newspapers, photographs, oral histories, films and fiction, to analyse development over time. They will also make use of the city's spaces and heritage sites as source material. In addition, students will be introduced to podcasting as a mode of disseminating historical understanding. The course will be delivered through a combination of class presentations, seminar discussions, hands-on activities and field trips to engage with the city's space.

## **Teaching Methods**

The module will be taught using interactive lectures and seminars, with whole class and small group discussions, excursions and walking tours, group work, practical workshops and private study. Students will also be offered a short one-to-one meeting with the module tutor before

their final assignment. Reading lists will be available online via the UCL library. Students will also be directed towards class materials and asynchronous activities (discussion forums, videos, podcasts) on Moodle.

## **Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Describe key themes of London's history in the twentieth century.
- Explain the city's historical geography.
- Analyse a range of primary sources for the study of twentieth-century London.
- Recognize key museums, collections and sites that support such studies.
- Demonstrate practical public history skills through the creation of podcasts.

## **Assessment**

This course has two assessments which are explained in detail below.

- A 4-minute podcast (30%)
- A 2,000-word essay (70%)

### The Podcast: Due on Monday 29 July, 2pm

This is an opportunity for you to try something new but there is no pressure on producing anything professional. Instead, we are asking you to think about how you would communicate what you've learnt about the history of London to future summer school students. You will take one example or case study of how London has been represented. This could be in an exhibition, in a walking tour, in a film, or a novel, or a song. We'd like you to introduce your example and offer some reflection on how it relates to the broader history of London. We will assess these based on the structure and coherence of the podcast, its creative aspects and how it is targeted at your audience.

Don't worry if you've never made a podcast before, we will teach you how! There is a dedicated session to help you in Week Two.

When it is time to submit your work, please include your script/transcript in case there are any technical issues with your audio files.

### The Essay: Due on Friday 2 August, 2pm

For your final work, you will write a 2000 word essay which will address themes covered in the module. You will find a list of essay questions to download below. If you would like to make changes to any of the questions, let me know.

In your answer to this question, we would like you to make reference to the secondary literature which you've been engaging with, as well as the additional self-study material. You can also

draw examples from class discussion, including primary source material, as evidence to support your answer.

### Marking Criteria

The podcast will be marked according to the History department criteria on public history outputs and the essay will be marked according to the general marking criteria for undergraduate assessments. We will spend time reviewing each of these in class so that ahead of submission you understand how to address what you are being asked.

## **Week One: Mapping the Century City**

In this first week of the course, we will be mapping out some of the key historical events and historical geographies of London in the twentieth century. Below you can find details of each of the sessions, including preparatory reading ahead of class.

### Session One. Introduction: Mapping Modern London

- 10am: Introductions
- 11am: Lecture - London in the Twentieth Century
- 12pm: Mapping the City - Charles Booth and Layers of London
- Session Two. A Global Metropolis: Europe, Empire and the World

### Session Two. A Global Metropolis: Europe, Empire and the World

#### *Preparatory Reading*

1. Marc Matera, *Black London. The Imperial Metropolis and Decolonization in the Twentieth Century*, Chapter One.
2. Radhika Natarajan, 'Performing Multiculturalism: The Commonwealth Arts Festival of 1965', *Journal of British Studies*, 53,3 (2014), 705-733.

- 10am: Lecture - London as a Global City
- 11am: Symbols of Empire in the City
- 12pm: London's Docklands

### Session Three. Politics and Protest: from Suffrage to Stop the War

#### *Preparatory Reading*

1. Lyndsey Jenkins, 'Singing "The Red Flag" for suffrage: class, feminism and local politics in the Canning Town branch of the Women's Social and Political Union, 1906-7', *The Politics of Women's Suffrage* (2021).
2. Ruth Percy, 'Picket Lines and Parades', *Urban History*, (2014)

- 10am: Lecture - Staging Politics in London
- 11am: The Suffrage Campaign in London
- 12pm: Political Spaces in London

### Session Four. London at War

#### *Preparatory Reading*

1. Stefan Goebel and Jerry White, 'London and the First World War', *The London Journal*, 41, 3 (2016), 199-218.
2. Oliver Parken, 'Blitz Spirits: Ghosts of London and the Nation in Second World War Britain', *The London Journal*, 48, 2 (2023), 165-182.

- 10am: The First World War (mini-lecture)
- 10.30am: First-Hand Accounts of London at War
- 11.30am: The Second World War (mini-lecture)
- 12pm: Keep Calm and Carry On?

## **Week Two: Londoners' Lives**

In our second week, we will think about the various lives Londoners have lived over the course of the twentieth century and how they've communicated their experiences. This will include two field trips: to the Museum of the Home and to the Migration Museum. We'll also spend a session this week working on your first assignment for this module with an introduction to podcasting.

### Session One. Queer London/Sex in the City.

#### *Preparatory Reading*

1. Matt Houlbrook, *Queer London*, Chapter Two
  2. Julia Laite, 'Traffickers and Pimps in the Era of White Slavery', *Past and Present* (2017), 237-269.
- 9am: Lecture
  - 10am: Seminar
  - 12pm: Film Screening - *Pride* (2014)

### Session Two. Londoners at Home.

#### *Preparatory Reading*

1. Eloise Moss, 'Burglary Insurance and the Culture of Fear In Britain, c. 1889–1939', *The Historical Journal*, 54, 4 (2011), 1039-1064.
  2. Rob Waters, 'Respectability and race between the suburb and the city: an argument about the making of 'inner-city' London', *Urban History*, 50, 2, 214-231.
- 9am: Lecture - Where do Londoners live?
  - 10am: Seminar
  - 12pm: Field Trip - *The Museum of the Home*

### Session Three. A Beginner's Guide to Podcasting.

#### *Preparation*

1. Watch the video on Moodle about making podcasts
2. [Listen to a History Workshop podcast](#)

### Session Four. Migrant City.

#### *Preparatory Reading*

1. Panikos Panayi, *Migrant City* – Chapter One
  2. Kennetta Hammond Perry, *London is the Place for Me* – Chapter One
- 9am: Lecture - Why is London different?
  - 10am: Oral Histories of Migration

- 11am: Migration on Page and Screen
- 12pm Field Trip - *Migration Museum*

### **Week Three: Tales of the City**

In our final week of the module, we're going to think about how London has been made iconic, in its music, films and streets. We will be getting outside the classroom again and you can vote on which walking tour you'd like to do. We will also spend time reviewing the course content and thinking about what it all adds up to, ahead of writing your final assignments.

#### Session One. Going Underground: Soundtracks to the City

##### *Preparatory Reading*

1. Zakariya Cochrane, 'Notting Hill Carnival and Rock Against Racism: converging cultures of resistance during late 1970s Britain', *Ethnic and Racial Studies* (2024)
  2. Lucy Robinson, 'Exhibition Review: Punk's 40th Anniversary - An Itchy Sort of Heritage', *TCBH* (2018).
- 9am: Musical Spaces and Events in London
  - 10am: London in Song
  - 11am: Writing Historical Essays, pt. 1

#### Session Two. Urban Explorations: Walking London's Streets

- 10am: Walking Tour
- 12pm: Reflection

#### Session Three. Review Seminar and Assessment Workshop

- 10am: Making Sense of Modern London
- 12pm: Writing Historical Essays, pt. 2

#### Session Four. Electric City: London on the Big Screen

##### *Preparatory Reading*

1. Luke McKernan, 'Diverting Time: London's Cinemas and their Audiences, 1906-1914', *The London Journal*, 32, 2 (2007), 125-144.
  2. Sam Wetherell, 'Painting the Crisis: Community Arts and the Search for the "Ordinary" in 1970s and '80s London', *History Workshop Journal*, 76, 1 (2013), 235-49.
- 10am: Seminar
  - 12pm: Film Screening - TBC!

### **Essay Questions**

You should choose one of the below questions to write your essay about. Some relate to specific weeks of the course, others take a broader view. We will work on your essay plans and bibliographies in class and you will receive formative feedback from the module tutor. If you want to amend any of these questions slightly, please do so only in consultation with the module tutor.

1. How has London been presented as a city of migration and empire?
2. What does London's representation in music OR film tell us about its twentieth century history?
3. There are as many histories of London as there are Londoners. Discuss with reference to two examples of London's historic representation/public history.
4. How has London's geography shaped historical experience of the twentieth century?
5. To what extent can a history of London's politics be written only with reference to Westminster and Trafalgar Square?
6. How has wartime London been remembered?
7. When and for who did London 'swing'?