

CAS AH 381 London Architecture and Urbanism

Elective B

Meeting: Pinter Room, Boston University, 43 Harrington Gardens

Field Trips: Various London locations

Contact Hours: 36 + 2 hour exam

Course Overview:

This course provides an introduction to the history of London and its buildings. It is aimed at a wide audience, not architectural specialists, although some familiarity with British history is helpful. London's architecture and urban development will be explored through the themes that shaped the physical characteristics of London as a world city, including mapping the city, the city as representation of national identity, navigating the ever changing city and a review of recent developments. We will be looking at the growth of the city as a historical phenomenon, covering early modern London to the present day and assessing it as the result of social, political, economic and social change. Architectural styles will be discussed in the context of these wider topics.

Teaching Pattern: Teaching Sessions will be divided between classroom lectures and field trips. Students should bring travel cards and be dressed for all weather walking. Attendance at all classes and visits is mandatory. Students missing any session without a doctor's letter or authorisation from the Director will automatically be docked a grade. Persistent lateness will be penalised.

Assessment Methods:

- 1) The course work assignment is due Monday, 3rd April by 10am and is to be handed into the Academic office. This piece of work counts for 50% of the overall mark. Full details of the assignment are printed on the back sheet of this course outline.
- 2) The final exam is a seen paper and the questions will be handed out in Lecture 8. The paper consists of 2 questions of 25% each in value which counts for 50% of the overall mark.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Lectures One:

Meet at Boston University

Lecture: Introduction

Field Trip: Bloomsbury

Lecture Two:

Meet at Boston University
Lecture: London World City
Field Trip: Museum of London

Lecture Three:

Meet at Boston University
Lecture: Interpreting Architecture
Field Trip: Covent Garden

Lecture Four:

Meet at Boston University
Lecture: Battle of the Styles: Victorian Architecture
Field Trip: Parliament Square to Trafalgar Square

Lecture Five:

Meet at Boston University.
Lecture: Making Modern London: London Transport & Suburbs
Filed Trip: Hampstead Garden Suburb

Assignment due to be handed into the Academic Office by 10.00am.

Lecture Six:

Meet at Boston University
Lecture: The Age of Optimism
Field Trip: South Bank and the Royal Festival Hall

Lecture Seven & Eight:

Meet at Boston University
Lecture: The Commercial City
Field Trip: Westminster Pier Boat Trip to Cutty Sark, Greenwich, foot tunnel under Thames to Island Gardens, DLR to Canary Wharf.

Lecture Nine:

Meet at Monument Station
Lecture: Review
Field Trip: The City

Final Exam: see BU website for updates: <http://www.bu-london.co.uk/examsSP06.html>

Bibliography

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 Peter Davey, *Arts & Crafts Architecture*, Phaidon Press, 1995
 Dennis Edwards, *London's Underground Suburbs*, Capital Transport Publishing, (1986), second edition, 2003
 Andrew Emmerson, *The Underground Pioneers*, Capital Transport Publishing, 2000
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 Geographer's A-Z Map Company Limited, *London A-Z*, current edition
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 Stephen Halliday, *Underground to Everywhere*, 2001 Sutton Publishing, reprint 2003
 Samantha Hardingham, *London A Guide to Recent Architecture*, Batsford, 2002
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 Sheila Kirk, *Philip Webb: Pioneer of Arts & Crafts Architecture*, Wiley-Academy, 2005
 David Leboff, *The Underground Stations of Leslie Green*, Capital Transport Publishing, 2002
 David Leboff & Tim Demuth, *No Need to Ask! Early Maps of London's Underground Railways*, Capital Transport Publishing, 1999.
 Stefan Muthesius, *The English Terraced House*, Yale University Press, 1982
 Ed. Nikolaus Pevsner, *The Buildings of England Series: London*, (Penguin from 1951), republished Yale University Press from 2002
 Kenneth Powell, *City Reborn: Architecture and Regeneration in London, from Bankside to Dulwich*, Merrell Publishers, 2004
 Kenneth Powell, *New London Architecture*, Merrell, 2001, paper back edition 2003
 Kenneth Powell, *The Jubilee Line Extension*, Laurence King, reprinted 2001
 Andrew Saint, et al., *London Suburbs*, Merrell Holberton, 1999
 Ann Saunders, *The Art and Architecture of London: An Illustrated Guide*, Phaidon, 1988
 Deyan Sudjic & Helen Jones, *Architecture and Democracy*, Laurence King, 2001
 Ed. Sheila Taylor, *The Moving Metropolis*, Laurence King, 2001.
 Ben Weinreb & Christopher Hibbert, *The London Encyclopaedia*, Macmillan, 1983
 Mathew Weinreb, *London Architecture, features and facades*, Phaidon, 1993

Mapping Your Journey

Mapping Your Journey is an assignment that requires two elements of work which should directly relate to each other.

1. For the first task you are required to write an essay describing the journey you take from your residence to your place of work. Observe and describe the memorable elements encountered on the journey from the smallest detail of a doorway, to a statue, a landmark or an entire building.

2. The second part of the task is to create a visual record using maps and illustrations to depict your journey. The map should reference significant landmarks, including architecture and objects of any kind in the urban, built environment. The visual presentation should be in A4 format. Please use photographs and or / drawings and make sure that all illustrations are clearly labelled and are given full captions.

Or

Identify 1 Square Of The A-Z: Researching The History Of A District

The London A-Z is the best guide to the complex organisation of London's streets. Please use this guide to select one square from its pages to explore. Your essay should include all of the following. A potted history of the chosen area, tracing its earliest beginnings to the present day. A definition of the area, including the London borough it is in and it should include a description of the streets and landmarks. The landmarks could include specific buildings, street planning and layout, markets, street names and signs etc. Additionally it would be useful to examine the area with reference to its present complexion. For example, is the area dominated by a low rise housing development? Essays should be 2000 words in length and illustrated using photographs and /or drawings. Please make sure that all illustrations are clearly labelled and given full captions.

Both written papers should indicate thorough research and critical use of literary sources, with footnotes and a bibliographic sheet. Factual information such as dates of buildings, architects and the urban environment must be researched from published documentary evidence and publications.

GRADING SYSTEM

The following Boston University table explains the grading system that is used by faculty members on Boston University's British Programmes.

Grade	Honour Points	Usual
%		
A	4.00	93-100
A-	3.7	89-92
B+	3.3	85-88

B	3.0	81-84
B-	2.7	77-80
C+	2.3	73-76
C	2.0	69-72
D	1.0	60-64
F	0.0	Below 60

GRADING CRITERIA

Incomplete grades are not permitted because of the obvious difficulty in making up missed work once the student has left the country. All work must be completed on time. The grade reflects the quality of the work. Lecturers and students should use the following criteria for an understanding of what each grade means.

A, This exceptional grade is assigned only to work that has persistently outstanding quality in both substance and presentation. The student must demonstrate a sustained capacity for independent thought and extensive study, producing rigorous and convincing analyses in well ordered prose.

A-, Awarded to work that is clearly focused and analytical, and based on wide reading. The student must cover all the principal points of a question and systematically develop a persuasive overall thesis, allowing for one or two venial omissions of inapt expressions.

B+, B, B-, This range of grades indicates that the student has shown some evidence of original thought and intellectual initiative. The student has cited sources beyond class materials, and shown a degree of originality in perception and /or approach to the subject. The work will show a thoughtful management of material and a good grasp of issues. The differences between a B+, a straight B and a B- may reflect poor presentation of the material, or mistakes in punctuation, spelling and grammar.

C+, C, C-, Work in this grade range is satisfactory, but uninspiring. If the work is simply a recitation of the class materials or discussions, and shows no sign of genuine intellectual engagement with the issues, it cannot deserve a higher grade. Should an essay fail to provide a clear answer to the question as set, or argue a position coherently; the grade will fall within this range.

Quality of presentation can lift such work into the upper levels of this grade range. Work of this quality which is poorly presented and riddled with errors in grammar, spelling and punctuation will fall into the lower end of the range.

To earn a passing grade, the work must demonstrate that the student is familiar with the primary course material, be written well enough to readily understood, be relevant to the assignment, and of course be the students own work except where poorly cited.

D or F, The failing grade indicates the work is seriously flawed in one or more ways:

Obvious lack of familiarity with the material
So poorly written as to defy understanding
So Brief and insubstantial that it fails to properly address the subject
Material presented is not relevant to the assignment
Demonstrates evidence of plagiarism (see next paragraph)

PLAGIARISM

Simply stated, plagiarism is taking another's work and presenting it as your own. Dictionary definitions of plagiarism frequently include terms such as theft or steal. Plagiarism is, in fact, intellectual theft. It is one of the most serious forms of academic misconduct. Plagiarism committed by a student will certainly result in course failure and may result in suspension or dismissal. In the professional world it can ruin a career.