

Londinium to the Blitz: London through its Museums

Module Code	4HIST009X
Module Level	4
Length	Session One, Three Weeks
Site	Central London
Host Course	London International Summer Programme
Pre-Requisite	None
Assessment	30% Presentation, 70% Report

Special features

Site visits: the field trips include visits to the Roman Amphitheatre and the London Wall Walk, the British Museum, Museum of London, National Portrait Gallery, National Gallery, Museum of London in Docklands, British Library, the museums of South Kensington, Greenwich, Westminster as well as Medieval and Tudor London Walk. Note: these visits are subject to change.

Summary of module content

History of London, public history, museums, archaeology and history, presenting and re-presenting history.

Learning outcomes

On completing the module, the successful student will be able to:

- Produce an effective descriptive and analytical oral report on a specific representation of historical London in a museum or gallery
- Produce an effective descriptive and analytical written report on the same, demonstrating an awareness of the problems encountered by professional historians in presenting the past to the public
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the history of London providing the backdrop to the case study
- Communicate effectively in written English, using recognised academic apparatus
- Communicate effectively in good spoken English, using appropriate audio-visual supports and information and communication technology.

Course outcomes the module contributes to: not applicable

Indicative syllabus content

London is one of Europe's greatest cities, with a fascinating history stretching back over two thousand years. Originally built by the Romans, it has endured a long history of war and civil war, fire, famine and plague. It has survived aerial bombardment and terrorism, yet remains a fascinating mosaic of distinct villages, which has given shelter to successive generations of those fleeing persecution and poverty in other lands. It is home to the British monarchy and British parliament, and is the cockpit of British life and culture. This class aims to offer an introduction to a new history of London and to the specialism of 'public history', based in part on recent archaeological research and visits to London museums.

The class thus aims to provide students with the knowledge and skills to evaluate how and how well the history of London is presented to audiences of non-historians. The class will examine inter alia:

- Roman London
- London in the Middle Ages
- Georgian and Victorian London
- London at War
- Theory and methodology of historical presentation and representation
- Representation of historical London in museums and galleries.

Teaching and learning methods

The class is delivered via lectures, seminars and visits. Lectures provide the historical and theoretical framework of the class while seminars allow time for student-led group discussion of issues raised in the lectures and visits. Visits to appropriate museums and galleries form an essential part of this class and are therefore an integral part of the teaching scheme.

Activity type	Category	Student learning and teaching hours*
Lecture	Scheduled	12
Seminar	Scheduled	24
Tutorial	Scheduled	
Project supervisor	Scheduled	
Demonstration	Scheduled	
Practical classes and workshops	Scheduled	
Supervised time in studio/workshop	Scheduled	
Fieldwork	Scheduled	
External visits	Scheduled	12
Work-based learning	Scheduled	
Total scheduled		48
Placement	Placement	
Independent study	Independent	152
Total student learning and teaching hours		200

*the hours per activity type are indicative and subject to change.

Assessment rationale

Assessment is designed to allow the student to demonstrate knowledge of an aspect of London's history as presented to the public in a museum or gallery and the ability to do so in both oral and written form. In doing so they will be able to demonstrate their understanding of the nature of 'public history' and its associated difficulties. It is also intended to allow students to demonstrate the key skills of use of use of ICT, literacy and ability to argue a case in both written and oral form.

Assessment criteria

Presentation:

Students will be assessed on the extent to which they have demonstrated:

- Understanding of the topic addressed
- Incorporation of critical source material

- Engagement with the audience
- Quality of presentation in relation to audible delivery, clarity and structure; appropriate use of presentation aids (such as handouts, whiteboard, DVD, Powerpoint).

Report:

Students will be expected to employ a good level of written expression and academic register, and will be assessed additionally in relation to:

- Focused response to the topic
- Development of a coherent argument supported by appropriate examples
- Evidence of engagement with issues discussed during the module
- Range of research and secondary reading, appropriately referenced.

Assessment methods and weightings

Assessment name	Weighting %	Qualifying mark %	Qualifying set	Assessment type (e.g. essay, presentation, open exam or closed exam)
Presentation (15 minutes)	30	30		Presentation
Report (2500 words)	70	30		Report

Synoptic assessment – Not applicable

Essential reading list

- Ackroyd, Peter *London: a Biography* (2000)
- Gardner, James B. & LaPaglia, Peter S., (eds) *Public history essays from the field* (1999)
- Inwood, Stephen *A History of London* (1998)
- Kean, Hilda, Martin, Paul & Morgan, Sally J., (eds) *Seeing history: Public history in Britain Now* (2000)