**UCL SUMMER SCHOOL**

**LITERARY LONDON**

### Key Information

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Module code</strong></th>
<th>ISSU0011</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Taught during</strong></td>
<td>Session One: Monday 1 July - Friday 19 July 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Module workload</strong></td>
<td>45 teaching hours plus approximately 100 study hours</td>
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<td><strong>Module leader</strong></td>
<td>Alistair Robinson, Alex Grafen</td>
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<td><strong>Department</strong></td>
<td>English Language &amp; Literature, Faculty of Arts &amp; Humanities</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Credit</strong></td>
<td>15 UCL credits, 7.5 ECTS, 4 US</td>
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<td><strong>Level</strong></td>
<td>Level 1, first year Undergraduate</td>
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<td><strong>Pre-requisites</strong></td>
<td>Standard entry requirements</td>
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<td><strong>Assessment</strong></td>
<td>Presentation (25%), Essay (75%)</td>
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### Module Overview

This course begins in the 18th century with Jonathan Swift and John Gay, and ends in contemporary London with Alan Hollinghurst and Zadie Smith, by way of William Blake, T.S. Eliot and Virginia Woolf. As we read some of London’s greatest poems, short stories and novels, we will also walk the streets of London, visiting some of the great landmarks and museums, whilst uncovering many of the city’s dark secrets. It is here, in the crowds, crime and grime of late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century London that we will linger longest, looking closely at: Oliver Twist; The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde; Sherlock Holmes; and From Hell.

**Week One: A Poetic Introduction to London**

- Jonathan Swift (1667-1745): ‘A Description of a City Shower’; ‘A Beautiful Young Nymph Going to Bed’
- John Gay (1685-1732): ‘Trivia: or, The Art of Walking the Streets of London’
- Mary Robinson (1757-1800): ‘London’s Summer Morning’
- John Keats (1795-1821): ‘On Seeing the Elgin Marbles’
- Thomas Hardy (1840-1928): ‘On the British Museum’

**Week Two: Criminal London**

- Oliver Twist, Charles Dickens
- Jekyll and Hyde, R.L. Stevenson
- Sherlock Holmes, Arthur Conan Doyle
- From Hell, Alan Moore and Eddie Campbell

Please note that this module description is indicative and may be subject to change.
Week Three: 20th-century London

- T.S. Eliot, The Waste Land
- Virginia Woolf, Mrs Dalloway
- Alan Hollinghurst, The Swimming Pool Library
- Zadie Smith, White Teeth

Module Aims
The module aims to give students a broad historical and literary awareness of how London has changed as a city from the early 18th century to the present day. Within this broad historical sweep, students will be given the opportunity to engage with particular literary texts at a more rigorous and analytical level. This awareness of the macroscopic and the microscopic, alongside their own physical experiences of living in and engaging with the city, will allow students to explore the city’s social, historical, and architectural foundations and the exciting, invigorating relationships these have had and continue to have with literature and literary form.

Teaching Methods
This module will include a range of teaching methods, including lectures, seminars, group and individual work. There will be two outcomes: a 3,000 word essay to be submitted on the last Friday of Summer School and an oral presentation, which will be delivered over the course of the 3 weeks. Instructions for these assignments will be given in advance and students will have the opportunity to meet the Module Leader individually to discuss their titles and the subjects of their presentations during office hours.

Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this module, students will:

- Be confident and able to discuss, close read and write about poetry, short stories, novels and art;
- Have produced and delivered oral presentations on an aspect of the course that has particularly engaged them;
- Have a strong sense of how London as a European city has grown, developed and changed over the last 300 years;
- Have visited and physically experienced London in a way that is informed by this growing awareness of the past and the constantly shifting permutations of life in the metropolis;
- Be aware of how literature and particular literary forms have developed in order to relate these shifts in urban experience more effectively.

Assessment Methods

- 10-minute presentation (25%)
- 2,500-word essay (75%)

Key Texts
Jonathan Swift (1667-1745):
   “A Description of the Morning”
   “A Description of a City Shower”

John Gay (1685-1732):
   “Trivia: or, The Art of Waking the Streets of London”
William Blake (1757-1827):
   “The Chimney Sweeper”
   “London”

Charles Dickens (1812-1870):

Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894)
   Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde (1886; London: W.W. Norton, 2003)

Arthur Conan Doyle (1859-1930):
   A Study in Scarlet (1886; London: Penguin, 2008)
   “A Scandal in Bohemia” (1892) and

Oscar Wilde (1854-1900):

T.S. Eliot (1888-1965):

Virginia Woolf (1882-1941):
   Mrs Dalloway (1925; London: Penguin, 2000)

Alan Moore (1953 - ) and Eddie Campbell (1955 - ):

Alan Hollinghurst (1954 - ):

Zadie Smith (1975 - ):

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