



# Syllabus

**Course Title:** London: A History of Place, Space, and Power

**Program and Date:** London Maymester: May 16 – 30, 2027

**Instructor Name:** Dr. Paul R. Beezley

**Instructor Home Institution and Department:** Department of History and Foreign Languages,  
Jacksonville State University

**Instructor Email and Phone:** [pbeezley@jsu.edu](mailto:pbeezley@jsu.edu) ; Office - 256-782-5631

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## Get to Know Your Professor

I love cities, their history, their buildings and public spaces. I look forward to exploring one of the world's great cities with you: London. From standing on the walls of the Tower of London, to walking around Piccadilly Circus, to gazing up at Big Ben, nothing can compare to being in the actual places history was made. Each of these spaces, and many more in London, were created with specific uses and messages in mind, from an exertion of power, to celebration, to memorialization. As a cultural historian with life-long interest in buildings and monuments, I find the history of these spaces, their creation and evolution, to be fascinating. I am truly excited to share London with you. Previously I led study abroad classes to Rome, Italy. I look forward to transferring my experiences in Rome to what became the "new" Rome, and to sharing my knowledge of not just the history of the city, but of how it developed from its Roman beginnings to the world-class city it is today. We often take the spaces we inhabit for granted, but they are layered with meanings. Space can conjure up emotions, spark memories, and be statements of power. I hope you will join me in exploring the history of this magnificent city while you develop an appreciation for not only London as a place but also the built world that surrounds us.

## Course Description

How do cities come to look like they do? How does the built environment of cities reflect, promote, or challenge power? How do people use these historic spaces? These are some of the questions this course will consider as we examine the built world of London, including famous structures, such as the Tower of London and Hampton Court Palace, but also public spaces such as Trafalgar Square and Green and Hyde Parks. Immersing ourselves in the physical environment of London, this class will explore the development of physical London as a place of power, from its origins as a Roman garrison town, to its glory days as an imperial capital and into the present. This class will consider how space developed, evolved, and how space is used to impress, intimidate or unite people, as we experience the history of London as a place.

## Course Level and Credit Hours

Undergraduate, 3 hours



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## Prerequisite(s)

None

## Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of all coursework with a passing grade and full participation in course activities, students shall be able to:

Describe London's major eras of development.

- Identify London's major built spaces, their development and importance.
- Describe how public spaces, buildings, and monuments can project messages to the public and visitors.
- Reflect on the intentions behind the creation of a space, its execution, and the public uses of that space.
- Contrast London's development with Paris, Rome and Washington DC.

## Required Readings and Materials

Do you have a suggestion here?

## Assignments and Grades

|                                                                                                                                                 |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Pre-departure assigned readings                                                                                                                 | 100 points        |
| Pre-departure introductory biography                                                                                                            | 50 points         |
| Five-minute presentation on assigned place, space or monument. Outline due before departure, presentation on site                               | 50 points         |
| Scavenger hunt – items to be found on daily excursions. Photos will be shared with a brief description of why the item fulfills the assignment. | 100 points        |
| Daily, physical reflection journal                                                                                                              | 150 points        |
| Participation and attendance                                                                                                                    | 50 points         |
| <b>Total points</b>                                                                                                                             | <b>500 points</b> |

## Grading Scale

The following scale will be used to compute your grade.

A: 500-450 points  
B: 449-400 points  
C: 399-350 points  
D: 349- 300 points  
F: 299 points or fewer



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## Onsite Learning Experiences and Activities

Onsite learning experiences in this class will likely include the following site visits. This is a tentative list which will be replaced with a detailed daily itinerary of class meetings and field trips prior to the departure date.

- Tower of London and Tower Bridge
- London City Museum
- Great Fire Monument
- St. Paul's and Westminster Abbey
- Piccadilly Circus and Trafalgar Squares
- Houses of Parliament
- Green and Hyde Parks, The Mall
- Kew and Kensington Gardens
- Hampton Court Palace
- The Banqueting House
- British Museum and the National Portrait Gallery
- Churchill's War Rooms
- Oxford and the University

## Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory at all scheduled activities and class meetings as well as field trip excursions. This includes any virtual meetings before and after the onsite experience. Repeated absences, including for ill health, will require documentation to be excused.

## Academic Integrity Policy

All students are expected to complete the academic requirements with the honesty and integrity expected of members of an academic community. Cheating, plagiarism or allowing AI to do all the work for you is unacceptable. Penalties to the students grade can and will be assessed and can include failure of the course.

## Physical Expectations

Program requires walking 3-5 miles per day on uneven pavement in all kinds of weather and long periods of standing. Students must be able to carry their own bags and belongings.

## Disability Accommodation

CCSA is committed to providing access to education abroad to the extent possible in a study abroad setting. The earlier CCSA and the faculty know the needs, the more likely we can accommodate them. At a minimum, students seeking accommodations are to contact both the CCSA office and the faculty one month in advance of the program's beginning. Students seeking such accommodation must provide CCSA with a copy of the letter on file with their own Office of Disability Services outlining what services they receive on their home campus.



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## **Title IX Policy**

Sexual misconduct (including sexual harassment, sexual assault, and any nonconsensual behavior of a sexual nature) and sexual discrimination violate CCSA policies. Students experiencing such behavior may obtain support from the Onsite Program Director or the CCSA Executive Director. To report sexual misconduct or sex discrimination, contact either of these two officers. Disclosure to faculty instructors or CCSA officers of sexual misconduct, domestic violence, dating violence, or sex discrimination occurring on the program or involving a visitor, student or employee is not confidential under Title IX. Faculty and other CCSA employees are required to forward such reports, including names and circumstances, to the CCSA Executive Director.

## **Statement about Final Syllabus**

Please note that all CCSA syllabi are subject to change, but every effort will be made to ensure participants receive notice of such changes in a timely manner.