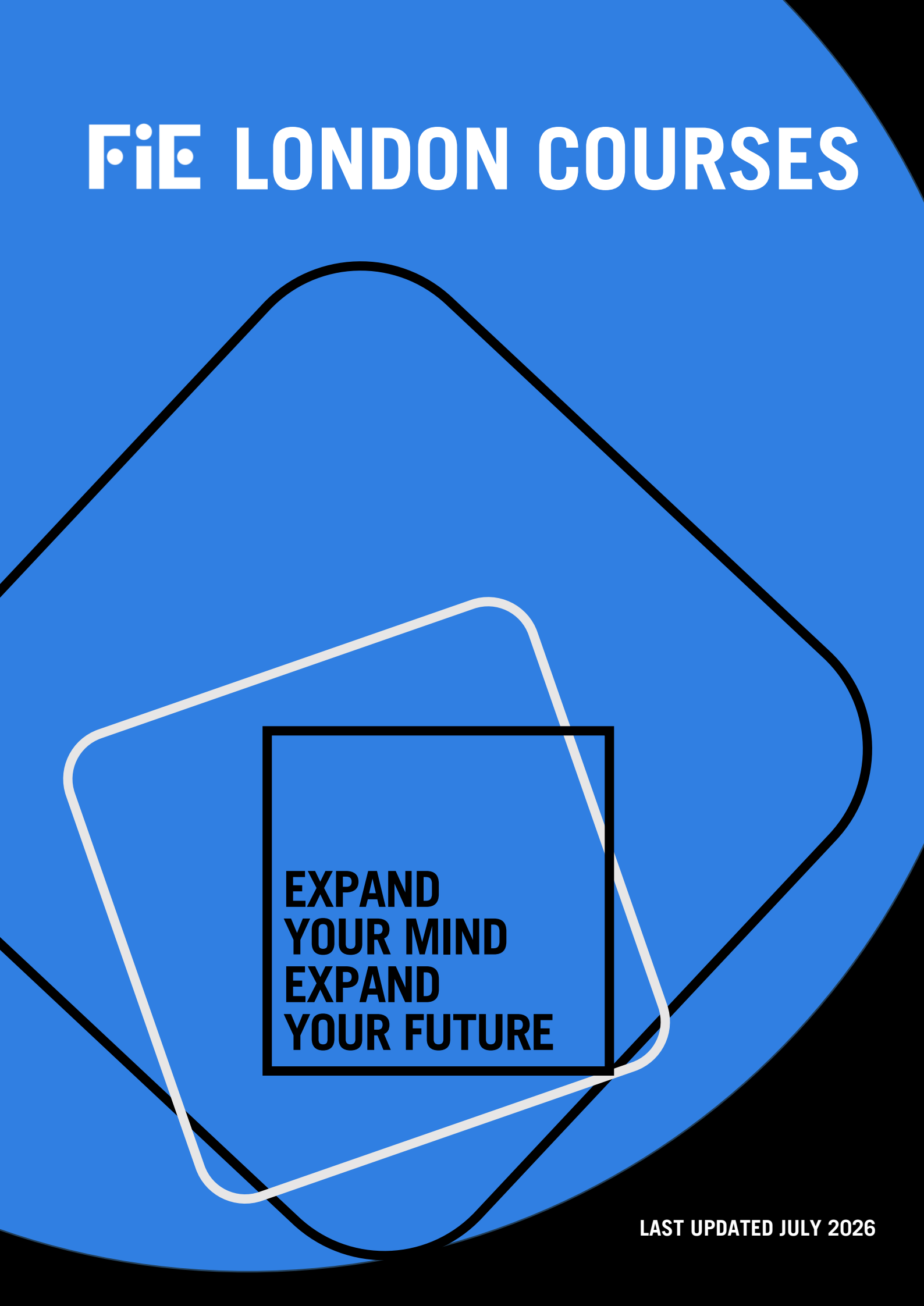


FiE LONDON COURSES



**EXPAND
YOUR MIND
EXPAND
YOUR FUTURE**

LAST UPDATED JULY 2026

CONTENTS

This document contains a list of all courses taught by FIE London on our Semester, Quarter and Summer Programs. For each class, we provide a description and some examples of possible co-curricular activities (field trips, experiences, guest lectures, etc.). Please note the information is provided to help students select their classes and may differ from the official course description in the syllabus. Course outlines (syllabi) are available to download [on our website](#). If you require more specific details on any class, for example to confirm course equivalencies, please contact FIE.

Choosing your classes and typical program structure	3
Concentrations	3
List of all FIE London Courses	4
Key Courses	5
Experiential Education Courses	6
Arts, Music and Theatre	7
Business, Communications and Marketing	10
Health Sciences	13
History and Politics	14
Humanities and Social Science	17
Literature and Writing	19

FIE's Values in the Curriculum

From our formal missions, FIE has devised specific Articulated Values which underpin and motivate all aspects of our organization.



These values are reflected in our Program Learning Attributes. As a direct result full engagement in FIE programs, students will:

- Demonstrate an understanding, appreciation of, and empathy towards diverse cultures and identities
- Analyze issues of social justice at global, national, and local levels
- Evaluate the ethical implications of their personal choices integrated with their civic and social responsibilities
- Discriminate between sustainability initiatives and critique them while also showing ways of improving sustainability

Each of our courses, and the assignments within each course, have been mapped to the Program Learning Attributes. Symbols next to each course title indicate which aspects of our values are explored.

KNOWLEDGE AND INCLUSIVITY 🌍

- A recognition of the social, cultural and historical context of knowledge, and of knowledge as socially and culturally constructed and maintained.
- An understanding of the potential for contribution of non-dominant groups and recognition of their role, power and privilege, within fields of study.

ETHICS AND HUMAN RIGHTS ⚖️

- Recognition of issues of social justice at global and national levels.
- Awareness of ethical implications of personal choice and governmental action.

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL REFLECTION AND ACTION ❤️

- A heightened awareness of civic and social responsibilities at local and global levels.
- Developing our understanding, appreciation of and empathy towards diverse cultures and identities.
- A continued engagement in cross-cultural and multicultural communication.

COMMITMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENT 🌱

- Active engagement with environmental impact.
- Addressing issues of sustainability and applying initiatives.

CHOOSING YOUR CLASSES AND TYPICAL PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Unless otherwise specified by their home institution, most students in London enroll in one of our [Key Courses](#), which analyze British life through a particular lens (Business, Culture, Europe, or Visual Media). In these courses, students contextualize their experience in London.

Students participating in the [Study & Internship](#) or [Study & Service Internship](#) programs will be enrolled in a corresponding [Experiential Education Course](#). In the fall and spring semesters, the course (comprising both placements and seminars) starts after the mid-semester break.

Depending on the program, students may also choose one or more Elective Courses.

STUDY & INTERNSHIP SEMESTER			STUDY & INTERNSHIP SUMMER
PHASE 1 <i>Weeks 1 – 7</i>	Mid-semester break Week 8	PHASE 2 <i>Weeks 9 – 15</i>	<i>Weeks 1 – 8</i>
Key Course Electives		Key Course continues Some electives continue	Academic classes (Key Course and Internship seminars) 2.5 days per week
Placements are confirmed, interviews take place		Internship or Service Internship • Seminars once a week • Placement 3 full days per week	Internship 2.5 days per week

CONCENTRATIONS

FIE's fully customizable concentrations highlight how students with a particular interest can explore their field at FIE. [Visit our website](#) to learn more about each concentration.

LEADERSHIP LONDON <i>Spring semester only</i> Key Course Internship or Service Internship Ethical Leadership Student Global Leadership Conference Develop a Leadership Portfolio FIE student leadership events Personal guidance and coaching from an FIE Faculty advisor Receive an FIE Leadership Certificate	EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION Key Course Internship or Service Internship Choose electives from: • Angels, Whores and Angry Birds: Representations and Realities of British Women's Lives Since 1850 • Black Britain: Historical Perspectives on Power and Belonging • Diversity in Britain: Immigration, Discrimination, and Integration • Pride and Prejudice: LGBTQ Histories, Rights and Contemporary Issues in London	SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP Key Course Internship or Service Internship Choose electives from: • Ecology, Environment, and Economics: Market Forces and Sustainability • Ethical Leadership • Ethical Dilemmas: Business and the World
COMPARATIVE PUBLIC HEALTH Key Course Internship or Service Internship Choose electives from: • Genetics in Nursing and Healthcare • Health Care Policy • Health Care Ethics		SUSTAINABILITY Key Course Internship or Service Internship Choose electives from: • Ecology, Environment and Economics: Market forces and Sustainability • Sustainable Cities: London in the Era of Climate Change

[Click here to return to list of courses](#)

LIST OF ALL FIE LONDON COURSES

Please note that courses offered are subject to change each term based on academic programming needs, student enrollment, and faculty availability.

Click on any course title to see its description.

KEY COURSES

British Life and Business
British Life and Cultures
British Life and Europe
British Life and Visual Media

EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION COURSES

International Internship Course
International Service Internship Course

HISTORY AND POLITICS

Angels, Whores and Angry Birds: Representations and Realities of British Women's Lives Since 1850

Black Britain: Historical Perspectives on Power and Belonging

British Politics

Diversity in Britain: Immigration, Discrimination and Integration

International Diplomacy: Global Governance in a Divided World

Modern British History

Pride and Prejudice: LGBTQ Histories, Rights and Contemporary Issues in London

The Political Economy of the EU: Brexit and Beyond

Understanding Civilisations: Islam and the West

ARTS, MUSIC AND THEATRE

'Cash, Money, Records Forever': An Introduction to the Business Practices of the Evolving British Music Industry

History of Modern Design

Music in 20th Century Britain

Photojournalism: London through the Lens

Theatre in Britain: From the Globe to the West End

Underdogs and Anti-Heroes: The Social Realist Tradition in British Cinema

Understanding Art through London's Collections

BUSINESS, COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Contemporary British Broadcasting

Creative Thinking for Advertising

Ethical Dilemmas: Business and the World

Fundamentals of Finance

Global Marketing

International Trade

Media in Britain

Principles of Management

Principles of Marketing

Strategic Brand Management

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

Ecology, Environment and Economics: Market Forces and Sustainability

Ethical Leadership

Food, Society and Culture in Britain: From Traditional Tastes to Contemporary Concerns

Social Psychology in a Global Context

Sport in British Society

Sustainable Cities: London in the Era of Climate Change

LITERATURE AND WRITING

Harry Potter: Magic, Myth and Meaning

Literary London: Reading the Restless City

Shakespeare and Elizabethan Literature

The Nature of Story: Creative Writing

Travel Writing

HEALTH SCIENCES

Economics of Health Care

Genetics in Nursing and Healthcare

Health Care Ethics

Health Care Policy

KEY COURSES

British Life and Business

Did you know London has more international banking institutions than any other city in the world? Have you ever wondered how this business culture within a vastly multicultural environment is defined by issues that relate to history, politics, and even the monarchy? Students who take this course will gain a deeper understanding of what it truly means to be British all while discovering the impact this small nation's business culture has on the rest of the world.

Upon completion of this course, students will achieve an understanding of British culture and life in a business context. Students will be able to fully grasp the significance of the British Empire in the development of multiculturalism, as well as the country's impact on the development of business and trade. Topics will include the cultural impact on organizational decision making, negotiations, human resource management, and business functions, such as marketing.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Parliament Tour
- Brick Lane Tour
- Visiting a business, such as Chelsea Football Club or Fuller's Brewery
- Walking tour of a business district, such as Canary Wharf or the Silicon Roundabout

British Life and Cultures

It has been said that the US and UK are two countries divided by a common language. So, what are the definitive cultural differences between these two nations? How do the British people define themselves in relation to their European neighbors and the rest of the world? How have historical, political, and artistic developments shaped the identity of this small island nation? This course serves as the anchor of a study program in London, offering students an opportunity to place what they are learning in their other courses into a larger, contemporary context.

Students will be empowered to appreciate more of what they observe during their stay in Britain. Students enrolled in this course will develop an understanding of the issues of this rapidly changing nation and the exciting effects this has on British identity, its relationship with Europe and the rest of the world. In addition to the traditional classroom experience, learning will be supplemented with guest speakers and guided visits to places of both historical and contemporary significance.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Summer

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Parliament Tour
- Brick Lane Tour
- Visits to a museum such as the National Portrait Gallery, TATE Britain or Imperial War Museum
- Walking tour of a neighborhood such as the Docklands, City of London or Notting Hill

British Life and Europe

What is the contemporary relationship of Britain and the rest of Europe in the post-BREXIT era? What are the key historical developments that shaped Britain's involvement with and eventual departure from the European Union? How does Britain define itself culturally against the backdrop of European identity? Students taking this course will be challenged to think critically about the evolving relationship between the UK and its European neighbors and how this impacts both Britain's national identity and the concept of modern Europe.

Through a combination of lecture, debate, and co-curricular activities students will explore the historical background of the UK's relations with its European neighbors, understand the key moments in the process of the UK joining the EEC in 1973 to its departure from the European Union in 2020. Upon completion of the course, students will be able to think critically about culture and identity in general, and in relation to issues concerning British and European identity.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Parliament Tour
- Brick Lane Tour
- Visits to a museum such as the Churchill War Rooms, the V&A or the British Museum
- Walking tour of a neighborhood with European influence such as South Kensington, Soho or Brixton

British Life and Visual Media 🌐 🏛️ 🤝 🎨

What is the British identity? How do the British people reflect this identity in its television, film and visual arts? How have the developments in Visual Media impacted cultural growth in the UK and abroad? How is British culture perceived when Visual Media is exported overseas? Students taking this course will examine issues of cultural identity as reflected by British film, television, photography and the visual arts.

The course explores the new Britain through a unique balance between classroom instruction by British faculty, guest speakers from all walks of public life, and guided visits to places of both historical and contemporary significance. Students will gain an understanding of British culture and society by examining the history of its major social and political institutions, the cultural values of its peoples and significant contemporary socio-political issues and debates emphasizing the impact the development Visual Media has had on British life.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Parliament Tour
- Brick Lane Tour
- Visits to a museum such as the Guildhall Gallery, TATE Modern or Black Cultural Archives
- Walking tour of a neighborhood such as Brixton, Greenwich or Tower Hill

EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION COURSES

International Internship Course 🌐 🤝 🎨

Combine hands-on experience with thoughtful reflection in the IIC, which comprises both the internship placements and the classroom seminars with written assessments.

THE PLACEMENT

At FIE, we strongly believe that careful monitoring and individual support are crucial in arranging suitable and rewarding internships. FIE's Experiential Education Team works with you individually from admission to the program to match your skills and background with an appropriate organization. We provide extensive support, both before you begin and throughout your placement, to ensure a rewarding and successful experience. The IIC seminars provide ongoing opportunities to reflect on your internship experience, offering space for analysis and academic development.

Please note that all internships are unpaid and are for academic credit only.

THE SEMINARS

In order to enhance and contextualize your internship experience, you participate in a series of seminars designed to provide you with support to develop your understanding of the U.K. workplace and enable to you to make the most of your experience. You will work with a faculty member and your peers to reflect upon the experience and exchange ideas. You will be assessed on the detail, clarity, and quality of your written work and assessments, including reflective learning journals, development of a professional portfolio, and a workplace analysis.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Summer

International Service Internship Course 🌐 🏛️ 🤝 🎨

Make a difference while enhancing your résumé and skills with the ISIC, which combines a service-oriented internship with academic work in the classroom seminars.

THE PLACEMENT

At FIE, we strongly believe that careful monitoring and individual support are crucial in arranging suitable and rewarding internships. FIE's Experiential Education Team works with you individually from admission to the program to match your skills and background with an appropriate organization. Service Internships are exclusively hosted by organizations working toward goals associated with achieving public good, ensuring your work contributes to meaningful causes. We provide extensive support, both before you begin and throughout your placement, to ensure a rewarding and successful experience. The ISIC seminars provide ongoing opportunities to reflect on your internship experience, offering space for analysis and academic development.

Please note that all internships are unpaid and are for academic credit only.

THE SEMINARS

In order to enhance and contextualize your service internship experience, you participate in a series of seminars designed to provide you with support to develop your understanding of the U.K. workplace and the community you are supporting. Through discussions with faculty and peers, you will reflect on your experience, share insights, and develop new perspectives on what it means to be a global citizen. You will be assessed on the detail, clarity, and quality of your written work and assessments, including reflective learning journals, development of a professional portfolio, and a workplace analysis.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters

Vinspired: All Service Interns are eligible for a range of [Vinspired](#) awards. The awards recognize your commitment to service and make a great addition to your résumé. Upon successful completion of the required hours, FIE will validate your application.

ARTS, MUSIC AND THEATRE

'Cash, Money, Records Forever': An Introduction to the Business Practices of the Evolving British Music Industry



Ever wondered how the music industry really works? This course dives into the heart of the global music business, with a special focus on Britain and Europe. From the origins of record labels to the latest trends in music marketing and promotion, students will explore the key players and practices that drive the industry forward. Topics include how music is pitched and promoted, the primary revenue streams, and the legal frameworks, such as copyright, that protect creativity.

But it's not all theory! The course also incorporates practical experience, with opportunities to pitch music business ideas and analyze real-world case studies. By the end of the course, students will gain a deep understanding of the music industry's structure, its impact on British society, and how to navigate its ever-evolving landscape.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guest lecture from a professional in the music industry
- Attending a concert, musical or other gig
- Visting and touring a music venue or recording studio
- Attending a music industry event or exhibition

History of Modern Design

How has the design of modern objects made an impact on the way we live and how we feel about our lives? Can we consider design as an art form? From buildings to clothes, to London's tube and red phone boxes, how has the design of these entities defined our lives and helped shape modern culture? From Victorian aesthetics and the industrial revolution to the swinging 60's and beyond, this course examines the products of applied design during the past 150 years, including examples of furnishings, industrial design, fashion, and graphic design, in relation to demand, technology and production, standards, fine art, social reform, and the dynamics of consumption.

At the conclusion of this course, students will have gained a developed knowledge of a wide range of objects, designed in Britain from the Industrial Revolution to the present day. Furthermore, they will be able to relate a wide range of

[Click here to return to list of courses](#)

objects to the socio/historical conditions in which they were produced and to discuss the specific work of some of their most famous designers.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters, Summer

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Visits to museums such as the Victoria & Albert Museum, TATE Britain, Leighton House, London Transport Museum, Design Museum, Museum of Brands
- Art Nouveau, Art Deco or Modernist architecture walk

Music in 20th Century Britain 🌐 🏛️ 🤝

Everyone knows British bands like The Beatles and Oasis, but what is the political and cultural impact of this revolutionary music? How did the music we know and love develop from industrial under-served communities to chart-topping hits? How does music define British identity? This course examines a wide range of important musical styles and cultures in twentieth-century Britain.

Students in this course will be exposed to various cultural theories and apply these approaches to the subcultures that emerged in the UK after the Second World War, such as Teddy Boys, Rockers, and Mods. They will explore the “symbolic subsystems” of each group – their music, style, speech, and ritual – alongside notions of deviance, consumerism, identity, territoriality, and performance. At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to examine the stylistic traits of different artists and genres (the forms, lyrics, instrumentation etc.).

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Attending a variety of concerts across different genres and venues
- Visits to relevant exhibitions and special events

Photojournalism: London through the Lens 🌐 🏛️ 🤝

Please note: A camera is required for the course. Cameras on smartphones are acceptable, but students with a more advanced camera, such as a Digital SLR (DSLR), will benefit more from technical instruction. More information is available [here](#).

How can your experience with a culture be reflected your photography? How might you utilize images to narrate your experience during your stay in London? How can developing an appreciation of photography parallel a greater understanding of London as a global city? This course is intended for students with an interest in the history, theory and practice of photography. It is designed to familiarize students with skills that combine photographic composition and camera operation, together with conceptual ideas, especially those of narrative photography.

Through the use of the lens, students will be encouraged to document their experience with London as a city. Through classroom learning and field exploration, students will be exposed to an educational experience that challenges them to capture their knowledge and experience with London’s history, architecture, and cultural diversity. Students will learn to blend elements of photojournalism and aesthetic photography in order to challenge their creative abilities whilst creating a unique portfolio exhibiting their new-found knowledge and understanding of London as a global city. Central to the course is the exhibition of student work at the end of the term to showcase their journey from new arrivals to Londoners.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Frequent sessions outside the classroom to practice photography in a variety of public settings and conditions
- Visit to relevant photography exhibitions at museums such as the TATE Modern or Imperial War Museum
- Visit to the Photographers Gallery

Theatre in Britain: From the Globe to the West End 🌐 🏛️ 🤝 🎭

Please note: A £110 lab fee (covers performances and activities) is required for this course.

How does British theatre reflect its vibrant cultural landscape? This course immerses students in London’s vibrant theatre scene as they attend a range of performances in this experiential class. This course offers a comprehensive exploration of contemporary British theatre through the lens of current London productions. From the grand stages of

[Click here to return to list of courses](#)

the West End to the innovative fringe theatres, students will delve into the key elements of theatre production, including place, space, audience dynamics, and directorial vision.

Key discussions will cover the structure of the UK theatre sector, historical movements, political and ethical questions (such as public funding for the arts), and the core principles of dramatic writing. Along the way, students will explore the work of significant playwrights and their role within wider theatrical movements, with particular focus on productions seen throughout the course. By the end of the course, students will gain critical insight into the creative and practical processes that shape modern British theatre, enhancing their ability to analyze and evaluate performances with a deep understanding of the industry's historical and social context.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Attending evening theatre performances each week across a variety of types, including subsidized, West End, and Fringe
- Backstage theatre tours, for example the National Theatre or the Globe Theatre
- Visiting relevant museums and exhibitions, such as the Theatre & Performance collection at the V&A

Underdogs and Anti-Heroes: The Social Realist Tradition in British Cinema

When you think of “realism” in British cinema, what comes to mind? How is British cinema different to other major production centers, such as Hollywood? This course delves into how British films have reflected and challenged societal norms through a focus on social realism, championing the lives and experiences of ordinary people. The course, which is generally chronological, begins with the pioneering “Documentary Mob” of the 1930s and the flowering of the studio movement, through the Mass Observation social research project and the innovative Free Cinema movement. The course also examines the British New Wave of the 1960s, characterized by its disaffected working-class portrayal, and the British black and Asian directors who brought fresh perspectives to the genre in the late 80s and 90s. Finally, the course considers how the current generation of British film-makers is influenced by social realism. This chronological journey will be interrupted by screenings of the newest British films.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Regular cinema screenings and Q&A with filmmakers
- Visit to the British Film Institute

Understanding Art through London's Collections

Please note: This is not a practical art-making class.

Curious about why the Pre-Raphaelites were considered radical or how Picasso's rare visits to London influenced early British Modern Art? Embark on a cultural journey through modern and contemporary art, from the late 19th century to today. London, home to some of the world's most renowned modern artworks, is the perfect backdrop for exploring artistic movements. Tread the pavements of London's artistic collective – the Bloomsbury Group – in the city they critiqued. Study why Cezanne is considered the “father of modern art” by visiting the Courtauld Gallery to discover his paintings that influenced the likes of Matisse and Picasso. And let's not forget that London houses the largest collection of Turners in the world!

London becomes a study canvas as student explore the plethora of modern genres housed in its artistic landscape, making weekly visits to museums and galleries to critically analyze the cross-fertilization between art and society. Learn how each era in art reflects society's notion of beauty and challenges its stereotypes; and how today the young British artists such as Damien Hirst and Tracy Emin are also commentators, a construct, and an influence on modern society.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guided visits to galleries and collections such as the Tate Modern, Tate Britain, National Gallery and Courtauld
- Visits to special exhibitions and temporary installations
- Walking tours of art outside galleries, such as street art, public art and monuments

BUSINESS, COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Contemporary British Broadcasting 🌐 ⚖️ 🤝 🎤

ABC, NBC, and Fox may all sound familiar but did you know the British Broadcasting Corporation is the largest is broadcasting organization in the world? What impact does this public service media giant play in the UK and around the world? What about radio broadcasting? Where does the radio format fit in modern society? What role do digital technologies play in modern broadcast?

Built on the ethos that broadcasting must exist not only to entertain the public but also to inform and educate, British radio and television remains a lively mix of genres and programs with extensive influence throughout the world. This course emphasises how Britain's public service broadcasting foundations have paved the way for the rapid evolution of the factual genre and an independent production community that leads the world in exporting reality formats. Students in this course will explore the history of British radio and television broadcasting, its role in British society and culture, its global impact, and its place in today's digital world.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters, Summer

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guest lectures from broadcasting professionals
- Watching live and recorded broadcasts
- Walking tour of locations featured in popular and well-known films and media
- Visits to relevant exhibitions and special events

Creative Thinking for Advertising 🌐 ⚖️ 🤝 🎤

Is there such a thing as “original” advertising? Is it art, or simply a means to sell? This course explores the fine line between creativity and commerce in advertising. Starting with an investigation into the nature of creativity—what it means to be original, innovative, and provocative—it compares high-end creative art with advertising, which is often seen as “second-tier” due to its sales-driven nature.

The course also addresses the tension between breaking rules in ad campaigns and the commercial pressure to conform. Students will learn the tools and techniques to interpret ad briefs and develop successful pitches. Case studies of both successful and failed UK ad campaigns will offer practical insights. A key theme is whether advertising has replaced traditional art forms as the new avant-garde. Protected by regulations, advertising can push boundaries, but the course will critically question whether shock is simply cheap creative. In the end, students will gain strategies for crafting compelling, innovative advertising that impacts consumer behavior.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Visits to museums such as the Saatchi Gallery, Museum of Brands, TATE Modern, Victoria & Albert Museum
- Field trip to locations such as Piccadilly Circus to see creative advertising in action

Ethical Dilemmas: Business and the World 🌐 ⚖️ 🤝 🎤

What is Fair Trade and how does it fit with traditional notions of free trade? Do business ethics and business profits conflict? How do moral rights factor into the workplace? Is carbon trading an effective tool for addressing climate change? These are some of the pressing questions explored in this interdisciplinary course, which explores the ethical dilemmas businesses face in today's globalized world.

The course critically examines corporate social responsibility (CSR), focusing on how companies integrate social and environmental concerns into their operations. It traces the rise of CSR in Europe and explores the evolving relationship between business practices and societal expectations. Students will investigate the influence of international standards and codes of conduct on corporate behavior.

The course also debates whether managers should consider responsibilities beyond shareholders, addressing the ethical implications of fair trade, ethical consumption, and climate change policy. Lastly, with London as a global financial hub, the course delves into the intersection of ethics, finance, investment, and banking, revealing how these factors shape modern business practices.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

[Click here to return to list of courses](#)

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guest lecture by an industry professional on topics such as discrimination law or the B Corp model
- Attending a relevant theatre performance or art exhibition exploring an ethical dilemma
- Sustainability walking tour

Fundamentals of Finance

Note: Students taking this course are required to have an understanding of college-level mathematical/numerical principles.

Which elements are most crucial in investment and funding decisions? What calculations must be made regarding those decisions and how are they executed? What are the basic functions and responsibilities of a finance department in a business? This course will introduce students to fundamental concepts in corporate finance and provide an understanding of basic financial calculations.

The course also aims to provide a basis for further studies related to managerial responsibilities and financial markets. Students enrolled in this course will expand their confidence in performing financial calculations, communication, team-work, and presentation skills to support their activity during the course. Topics in the course will cover a wide range of issues such as financial markets and systems, investment decisions, debt financing, and capital structure.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Walking tour of a financial district such as Canary Wharf or the City of London
- Guest lecture by an industry professional

Global Marketing

Have you ever wondered how global differences affect how products are presented to various cultures on a worldwide scale? How do businesses reconcile or take advantage of this global diversity in order to meet international objectives? What are the challenges of managing and delivering high-quality service to customers in a cross-cultural context? This course explores the decision-making process in the marketing of products and services in the international marketplace.

Students will learn the formulation of key elements in international marketing strategy, such as identification and assessment of potential markets, price setting, and design, promotion, and distribution of products and services. They will also explore issues such as the competitive advantage of nations, the changing nature of the international social and business environment, and the emerging role of the Internet in international marketing.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters, Summer

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Visits to businesses and venues with iconic brands such as Wimbledon, Chelsea Football Club, or the Royal Albert Hall
- Assessing retail marketing in action with a visit to Harrods, Selfridges or Camden Market

International Trade

How do various cultures influence business decisions on a global scale? How do the functional business areas of marketing, management, accounting, finance and law change in an international setting? This course is designed to enable students to understand the critical importance of the role of multinational decision-making and strategy with respect to trade issues.

Students in this course will examine the major issues in international trade and commercial policy and be exposed to their real-world applications which derive and illustrate models of international trade. The course covers rationales and benefits of international trade, protectionism, the political economy of commercial policy, international trade and development, and economic integration and world trade. At the conclusion of this course, students will gain the ability to identify current trends in international trade and foreign investment, explain the governmental impact on international businesses, and describe the concepts of export and import practices and procedures.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

[Click here to return to list of courses](#)

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Walking tour of a trade district such as the City of London, Greenwich or Canary Wharf
- Attending open lectures at the London School of Economics
- Visit to a business with invisible trade earnings, such as Wembley Stadium, Arsenal or Chelsea Football Club

Media in Britain

What is mass media and how do we relate to it? What is the political role of the press and broadcasting in Britain? What impact does Hollywood have on the British Film industry? What function do the various British newspaper have? This course will explore British media organizations as social, economic and cultural entities and examines specific determinants and processes of production.

Students enrolled in this course will gain an in-depth understanding of broadcasting and the film industry, the press and the “convergent” new media of digital television and the Internet. As popular perceptions of the media often revolve around the excitement, glamour, creativity, and controversy, this course attempts to separate myths from reality and give students a pragmatic approach of what the British media are about and what working for them entails.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guest lecture from an industry professional
- Film screening at the British Film Institute
- Walking tour of a media district such as Fleet Street

Principles of Management

How do you successfully manage organizations and people? What's the difference between managing and leading? Are there special skills needed to manage across borders and in different cultures? This course gives a broad overview of management and provides students with information that will help them not only become better managers, but also better team members. Students are introduced to a variety of concepts, assessments, tools, and techniques that are important for understanding the changing business environment; elements of strategic planning; methods of organizing including recruiting, selecting, training, and developing; techniques for leading individuals and teams; and procedures for controlling resources to improve productivity and results.

The material covered will be relevant to students regardless of career objectives. In all likelihood, students will either be a manager or work with one in any occupation they choose. In the final analysis, we are all managers of our own lives and can benefit from studying to be better managers.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guest lecture from an industry professional
- Visit to a business such as Wembley Stadium or Wimbledon Tennis Club
- Walking tour of a business district such as Oxford Street

Principles of Marketing

Isn't marketing just advertising? What's the difference? Does European marketing differ from the rest of the world, especially the USA? What are some of the most successful marketing strategies? People often define “marketing” as advertising – a highly visible activity by which organizations try to persuade consumers to buy products and services. However, marketing is much more than advertising and even the most skillful marketing cannot make consumers buy things that they don't want.

Through a European lens, this introductory course prepares students to think strategically about marketing in today's global environment. After successful completion of this course, students have a basic understanding of the marketing concept, the marketing mix (product, place, promotion, and price), segmentation, targeting, positioning, customer value, branding, services marketing, global marketing, marketing metrics, consumer and business behavior, ethics and social responsibility in marketing, market planning, market research, and competitive analysis. In addition, students have the opportunity to evaluate and formulate marketing strategies taking into account the influence of international issues and technology.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

[Click here to return to list of courses](#)

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guest lecture from an industry professional
- Visit to a museum such as the Museum of Brands
- Assessing retail marketing in action with a visit to Harrods, Selfridges or Camden Market

Strategic Brand Management

How does brand management affect organizational value? How do customers and their engagement in real or virtual communities shape the nature of brands? How does service branding differ from goods branding?

This course introduces, explores, and applies a range of strategic brand management issues that drive brand equity and value. Customers are increasingly co-creators of brand value as part of a more interactive and dialectical process. Witness the rise of social media where dialogue, conversation, interaction are the key drivers of brand growth. The days of shouting from a billboard as the primary form of brand marketing are gone. Students will explore issues such as the strategic branding process, consumer perception, brands as social and psychological vehicles, the competitive landscape, and brand evaluation. By the end of the course should have developed a deeper understanding of brand, the strategic branding process, and an appreciation of how to brand in a given context to maximize equity and value.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guest lecture from an industry professional
- Visit to a museum such as the Museum of Brands
- Assessing luxury brands in action with a visit to Westfield Shopping Centre or Harrods
- Visit to a business such as Hiver Brewery or Fulham Brewery

HEALTH SCIENCES

Economics of Health Care

How does money shape the care you receive? And why do healthcare systems look so different in the US and UK? This course dives into the fascinating world where economics meets health care, exploring how both countries tackle the big questions of who gets care, who pays, and why it matters.

From supply and demand to cost-benefit analysis, student will learn to think like an economist while digging into real-world issues like health insurance, hospital financing, and market failures. Suitable for all majors, this course breaks down the nuts and bolts of healthcare economics, with a side-by-side look at the NHS and the US system. Along the way, students unravel the politics, ethics, and history that shape these systems and ask: what can each country learn from the other?

Terms offered: Not currently offered

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guest lecture from an NHS professional
- Visit to a medical museum such as the Science Museum, Wellcome Collection or Alexander Fleming Laboratory Museum
- Visit to a teaching hospital

Genetics in Nursing and Healthcare

What if you could predict your future – which political party you will vote for, what kind of person you will marry, which disease will end your life, whether your blue mood will fester into something more troubling, even debilitating – would you want to know? This course explores the implications of medical genetics for the clinical nursing practice. The basic history and principles of genetics are reviewed, and their implications in health and disease discussed and analyzed. Cutting-edge approaches to genetics and genomics research are examined and consideration is given to their current and likely future clinical application. The course also focuses on the ethical, legal, and social implications of genetics in the clinical practice, with reference to issues such as consent, genetic privacy, and consumer genetic testing.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guest lecture from an industry professional
- Visit to a medical museum such as the Science Museum, Wellcome Collection or Alexander Fleming Laboratory Museum

Health Care Ethics

What is the practitioner-patient relationship and how is it affected by concepts such as “duty-to-assist,” Good Samaritan, and conscientious objection? What happens when there’s conflict between what’s best for the individual versus what’s best for the community? How do culture and religion affect health care? What happens when patients (and/or their families) and practitioners disagree? The provision of health care is constantly changing. These changes sometimes require us to reconsider even basic assumptions in health care ethics. This course addresses some of the ethical issues raised by changes in the health care delivery system, rapidly advancing technology, an aging population, economic and resource limitations, and social and cultural changes, and their impact on health care and promotion.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Walking tour on medical history
- The Old Operating Theatre and a re-enactment of Victorian Surgery
- Attending a relevant theatre performance or art exhibition exploring ethics

Health Care Policy

Is free health care a human right? What happens if there isn’t funding to provide access to every opportunity? Who misses out? Are we responsible for our own positive health? Is there a correct answer to the provision of health care? This introductory course compares health care policy in the UK and USA and tracks the evolution of health policy in the UK prior to and since the implementation of the National Health Service (NHS). It also identifies contingencies and issues that remain problematic in health care delivery across differing systems despite the ongoing changes made to this service, and the ideological shifts that underpin these changes. Using a spiral curriculum approach, the course seeks to synthesize the concepts through returning to previous learning and providing space for reflection and comparison with the student’s own experiences of health care in the USA.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Walking tour on medical history
- The Old Operating Theatre and a re-enactment of Victorian Surgery
- Visit to a local GP surgery (primary care doctor’s office)

HISTORY AND POLITICS

Angels, Whores and Angry Birds: Representations and Realities of British Women’s Lives Since 1850

How have stereotypes shaped—and limited—the lives of British women over the past two centuries? This course examines the evolving realities of women in Britain, from the Victorian “Angel in the House” to the “unsexed” bluestocking, the “depraved” sex worker to the “angry” feminist, modern British women have been praised, pitied and feared, beset by stereotypes. to the revolutionary feminists of the late 20th century. Spanning Queen Victoria’s reign to the rise of Margaret Thatcher, the first female prime minister, students will explore women’s shifting roles in marriage, family, work, education, and politics.

Key topics include divorce reforms, the suffrage movement, sexual freedoms of the 1960s, and the Equal Pay Act of 1970. Alongside these milestones, this course will question the persistent inequalities that remain today. Students will engage with historical testimonies, analyze primary sources, and critique historiographical arguments to understand the complex intersections of gender, power, and society. Through the lens of pioneering women, rebels, and social reformers, this course provides a nuanced understanding of the struggles and achievements of British women, helping students connect the past with contemporary issues of gender equality and social justice.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

[Click here to return to list of courses](#)

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Walking tour focusing on women's history in a place like Westminster, Bloomsbury, or the East End
- Visit to the Women's Library
- Visits to relevant exhibitions for example Women at War at the Imperial War Museum or Women and the Vote at the London Museum Docklands

Black Britain: Historical Perspectives on Power and Belonging 🌍 ⚖️ 🤝

What does the history of Britain look like when seen through Black lives? This course traces the deep and evolving presence of African, Caribbean, and Black communities in Britain, from Roman soldiers to Windrush migrants to today's diasporic generations. It explores how Black Britons have shaped, and been shaped by, empire, migration, and resistance. Drawing on archival materials, literature, music, film, and visits to key cultural sites, the course investigates political movements, community organizing, and creative expression across centuries. Topics include the fight for abolition, the rise of Pan-Africanism, Black feminist activism, youth culture and policing, and the contested politics of citizenship and belonging.

Through critical engagement with race, gender, class, and nation, students will examine how Black British history is constructed, remembered, and represented. The course asks not only who makes history, but how histories of Black Britain continue to influence debates on identity, justice, and belonging today.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Black history walking tours
- Visits to relevant museums such as the Black Cultural Archives, Migration Museum, George Padmore Institute, or London Sugar and Slavery Gallery at the London Museum Docklands
- Visits to black bookshops

British Politics 🌍 ⚖️ 🤝

What power does the Monarchy still have? How does a democratic government work without a written constitution? Who are the Tories, the Lib-Dems, and Labour? How do British Politics differ from those of the United States? Students enrolled in this course will be provided an understanding of the British system of government and the political process in Britain, as well as the socio-historical processes that have shaped modern Britain.

This course will cover topics concerning the Monarchy, the Parliament, political parties, the Prime Minister, political ideology, and political culture. Throughout the course, comparisons with American politics and society will be made as a point of reference to provide the student with a better framework for understanding British politics. This is an introductory course on contemporary British politics, and therefore requires no previous political science courses.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters, Summer

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guest lecture from an industry professional
- Walking tour of a political district such as Whitehall or Westminster
- Visit to a ministerial department such as the Cabinet Office or British Council

Diversity in Britain: Immigration, Discrimination and Integration 🌍 ⚖️ 🤝

What is Britain's historical relationship with peoples that migrated to Britain? How have forms of religion been transplanted, transformed and then helped in the building of community? What does it mean to grow up as an immigrant in London? The course will be a study of Britons from multi-ethnic backgrounds, which have evolved from diaspora communities into multicultural ethnicities. The spotlight will be on London, a "global city" where much of the debate focuses on these transnational communities that inhabit the capital, the unique mixture of cultural assets and beliefs, and the consequent challenging inequalities.

Students enrolled in this course will the diasporas of the Black community, Chinese and South Asians, and religions in the global diasporas – Jewish, Islamic & Sikh. At the conclusion of this course, students will attain a sound knowledge of the transnational nature of the modern world and will have developed an anthropological perspective and related skills in dealing with issues in the diaspora.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

[Click here to return to list of courses](#)

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guest lecture from a sector professional
- Walking tour of an area known for its immigrant communities such as Brixton, Southall or the East End
- Visit to religious centres such as Swaminarayan Mandir (popularly known as the “Neasden Temple”), West London Synagogue or East London Mosque
- Visit to a museum such as the Victoria & Albert or British Museum to consider the legacy of imperialism

International Diplomacy: Global Governance in a Divided World

How do nations communicate, negotiate, and address global challenges in an increasingly fragmented world? This course offers a behind-the-scenes look at diplomacy and how it's used to address issues like war and peace, climate change, and global governance. This course is designed for students from any academic background, offering practical skills like negotiation, communication, and strategic thinking that apply to a variety of fields. Through in-depth discussions and analysis of real-world current issues, students will gain insights into the structure and function of diplomatic missions and how they advance national and international interests. This course is ideal for those seeking a broad understanding of global diplomacy or looking to apply diplomatic strategies to contemporary challenges.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guest lecture from a diplomat
- Visit to a relevant institution such as Chatham House, the Royal Institute of International Affairs or SOAS's Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy

Modern British History

It used to be said that the sun never set on the British Empire. Did you know that at its height, Britain had the largest empire in history? How did Britain become the foremost global power for over a century? What impact did this have on British culture? From the defeat of Napoleon and the rise of Imperialism to the World Wars and beyond, students in the course will be exposed to Britain's dramatic past and what this means for her future.

This course introduces students to the main themes of British social history from the Napoleonic Wars to the end of the twentieth century, a period that witnessed the gradual acquisition and rapid dissolution of a global economic and political empire, underwritten by the world's largest navy. Students examine the ways in which Britain's global rise and fall affected the politics, culture and day to day lives of ordinary Britons. The course concentrates on the empire and national identity, the industrial revolution and the making of the British working class, the struggle for women's suffrage, the impact of the first and Second World War, and the impact of decolonization on British society and Britain's status in the world.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Visits to locations and artifacts of historical significance, such as London Museum Docklands, the British Museum, the Imperial War Museum, the Cabinet Rooms or the Black Cultural Archives.
- Historical walking tour to a district such as Brixton, East London or Camden

Pride and Prejudice: LGBTQ Histories, Rights and Contemporary Issues in London

How did Britain go from colonial anti-homosexuality laws to becoming a leader in LGBTQ rights? This course explores the vibrant history of LGBTQ movements in the UK, focusing on key legal and social transformations that shaped the community. Students will engage with London's rich history, cultural landmarks, and groundbreaking films like *Pride* and *Beautiful Thing*. Diving into intersectionality, students will analyze how race, class, and gender have intersected with LGBTQ rights in Britain. With a mix of historical context, personal reflection, and critical analysis, this course offers a dynamic exploration of diversity, activism, and human rights in London's queer landscape.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guest lectures from activists
- Visits to relevant galleries, such as the LGBTQ+ Walk at the V&A, Queer Britain Gallery or Gay's the Word Book Shop
- Relevant walking tours such as an AIDS Memory tour in Bloomsbury

[Click here to return to list of courses](#)

The Political Economy of the EU: Brexit and Beyond

With 27 member countries, how are various cultural differences reconciled to create a free flow of people, goods, services, and capital around the European Union? What are the origins of European integration? What place does the EU have in the world economy? What does the future hold for the EU in terms of growth in membership and economic prowess?

This course provides a comprehensive examination of the processes of European economic integration and a critical analysis of EU policies in their broader political-economic context. It focuses on the external dimension of Europe in the global economy, the integration processes of the EU, including the Single Market, Economic, and Monetary Union or the Common Agricultural Policy, and its impact on global economics, ranging from the World Trade Organization to EU enlargement and the Third World.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Visit to a museum such as the Imperial War Museum
- Walking tour with a focus on globalization/Europeanisation in a place like the City of London or Oxford Street
- Attending open lectures at the London School of Economics
- Visit to a football club such as Arsenal or Chelsea as many British people relate to Europe through football

Understanding Civilisations: Islam and the West

What is Islam? What is the “West”? Is Islam inherently resistant to secularization as some scholars and Islamic activists believe? Why is one defined in terms of religion and the other a geographical designation? The aim of this course is to focus on the historical, political and religious relationships between “Islam” and the “West”. Islam has for centuries been Europe’s neighbor and cultural contestant with a history of conflict and co-existence. Since September 11th there has been increasing talk of a “clash of civilizations”, but globalization has also created an interdependency of faiths which requires greater co-operation, understanding, and dialogue.

Students in this course will be exposed to the recurrent theme of whether it is possible to separate the world into monolithic entities called “Islam” and the “West”. Students will also gain insight into the profound urgency to develop mutual understanding between the West and the Islamic World which is highlighted by a myriad of violent events over the last decades. On the assumption that ignorance is the enemy of peace, this course intends to explore the sources of conflict that have led towards the notion of “a clash of civilizations.”

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Visit to the Jameel Gallery of Islamic Art in the Victoria and Albert Museum
- Visit to a mosque such as the Suleymaniye Mosque
- Visit to the Almanaar Muslim Cultural Heritage Centre
- Walking tour focusing on Muslim History

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

Ecology, Environment and Economics: Market Forces and Sustainability

What happens when market forces clash with environmental integrity? Can the push for profits coexist with the planet’s survival? As governments ramp up “green” initiatives and consumers demand eco-friendly products, the tension between business interests and sustainability grows. From local issues to global crises, this course dives into the complex relationship between economic forces and the natural environment.

Students will explore how economic theory views this balancing act, unpacking examples from around the world to see how decisions in business and policy shape – and sometimes strain – our ecosystems. This course offers a deep dive into the critical intersections of ecology, environment, and economics, challenging students to think about how sustainability and economic growth can work hand in hand – or how they might collide.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Sustainability walking tours
- Visits to case studies for sustainable development, for example the Olympic Park
- Film screening and debate, for example *An Inconvenient Truth*

Ethical Leadership

Please note: For the Spring Semester, a lab fee of £110 (which covers registration and participation in the Student Global Leadership Conference) is required for this course.

What is it about power and success that makes ethical dilemmas unavoidable for leaders? Why does ethical leadership matter, and what makes some leaders so compelling, even dangerously so? This course explores how leaders wield influence, navigate moral obligations, and, sometimes, face the temptations of power. From the charisma that captivates to the differences between leaders and celebrities, the course challenges students to think critically about the ethical responsibilities of leadership in both personal and global contexts.

Students will explore the public and private morality of leaders, how they shape the moral landscape around them, and what makes ethical leadership essential in today's interconnected world. By analyzing real-world examples and discussing key theories, students will gain insights into leadership virtues, ethical judgments in cross-cultural settings, and the role of followers in holding leaders accountable. The course aims to expand students' moral point of view by first considering personal ethics, then moving on to look at leadership and the common good, and finishing with an examination of ethics in a global community.

In the *spring semester* (only), FIE's Ethical Leadership course combines classroom study with the opportunity to present a topic on leadership to other delegates at an international conference. As part of the Ethical Leadership course, students will attend and present at the FIE [Student Global Leadership Conference](#) (SGLC), held in FIE's Kensington Campus, in April. The SGLC is a weekend event that encourages emerging global leaders to think beyond short-term gains and build sustainable communities, policies, practices, and organizations which support our planet, people, and global prosperity. Activities include keynote speakers, breakout sessions led by leadership professionals as well as other students, networking opportunities, receptions, and more. Students are expected to attend the full event (all sessions).

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Visit to relevant, current special exhibitions, for example the Ethics of War
- *Spring only:* Student Global Leadership Conference

Food, Society and Culture in Britain: From Traditional Tastes to Contemporary Concerns

Please note: A lab fee of £110 (covers tastings and samples of relevant food and drink) is required for this course.

Please note: This is not a practical cooking class.

Bangers and mash? Bubble and squeak? What is British cuisine and how has it changed from wartime to the present? Have negative stereotypes of British cuisine been replaced by a new food culture of focused on celebrity chefs, ethical choices and a new-found “best of British” pride? Or, do fast-rising rates of obesity, childhood diabetes and dependency on supermarkets and ready meals tell a different story?

Using a multi-disciplinary approach, this course examines the critical issues in food today and the interconnectedness of food, culture, and society in modern Britain. The rich and multicultural heritage of London provides a multitude of opportunities to explore the issues herein and use our senses to taste, smell and see the food cultures of this dynamic city.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters, Summer

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guided walking lectures and market visits to culinary hot spots like Borough Market, Brixton or Southall
- Cheese lecture and tasting with a cheese expert

Social Psychology in a Global Context

Prerequisites: Students should have at least two semesters or quarters of introductory psychology and/or sociology courses.

How do humans relate to each other, and how do we all relate to the environment we all inhabit – Planet Earth? This course explores how people behave in groups across different cultures, continents, and online spaces. From national identities to social unrest, and from the impact of social media to global demographic challenges, this course examines the forces that shape human behavior in a complex, interconnected world. Combining theory with hands-on experiments and real-world applications, students will dive into key social psychology concepts while investigating current global events. Whether analyzing social compliance or prejudice, the course offers insights into why societies act the way they do – and how these behaviors play out on the global stage.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Visit to the Freud Museum
- Visit to the Wellcome Collection Museum

Sport in British Society

What role does sport play in shaping local, national, and international identities? How do social trends and commercialism influence who plays, watches, and profits from sports? This course dives into these questions with a focus on British sports culture, using London's history as an Olympic host city in 1908, 1948, and 2012 as a backdrop. From the history and sociology of sport to its economic and political impact, this course offers an exciting look at sports as a social phenomenon. Students will explore British sports and organizations, applying a sociological lens to contemporary issues in sports. With insights from academic writing, popular media, and personal observations, this course gives a unique perspective on the world of athletics in a globalized world.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Visit to the Olympic Park, center of the 2012 London Olympics and Paralympics
- Walking tour of London's sports history
- Visits to professional sporting clubs and venues, focusing on British sports such as football (soccer), rugby, cricket and horse racing

Sustainable Cities: London in the Era of Climate Change

Who is in charge of envisioning a sustainable future, and what information are they using to make their decisions? Sustainable for who? And who is being excluded from this vision? As climate change transforms urban areas, understanding, predicting, and mitigating its social impact is more important than ever. This course delves into the ways cities are being reshaped by climate change and explores who benefits – and who doesn't – from these changes. With a focus on urban sociology, the course unpacks how policy-makers, scholars, and practitioners are grappling with the challenges of urban life in an era of environmental upheaval. From the history of cities to their climate-driven futures, it's an exploration of the shifting landscapes of sustainability.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Walking tour through historic and modern areas, focusing on London's changing urban landscape
- Visit to sites encapsulating sustainability and change, such as BedZED Eco-Village, Coal Drop Yard, Greenwich Peninsula Ecology Park or an urban farm

LITERATURE AND WRITING

Harry Potter: Magic, Myth and Meaning

Please note: this course requires students have read all the books in the Harry Potter series before the course begins.

How does magic help us make sense of our world? Magic, like literature, is a way of finding meaning in the mayhem and maelstrom of life, a way of imposing order on, or even creating the world around us. Using other texts (Shakespeare, C.S. Lewis, Tolkien, Greek myth and Arthurian legend) this course explores how J.K. Rowling, by using [Click here to return to list of courses](#)

an alchemy of intertextuality, conjured a world that explores our interconnected myths, magical rituals, archetypes and shared histories to make meaning of our selves.

Each week, students analyze the intertextual magic behind Rowling's world, exploring everything from Arthurian legends to the British school novel. Discussions and assignments will connect the characters and themes of *Harry Potter* to larger literary traditions, offering insight into how these narratives speak to our own experiences. With a focus on character studies, mythological influences, and critical close reading, this course uncovers the layers of meaning behind one of the most beloved "shared texts" of the 21st century.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Walking tours of locations that inspired *Harry Potter* and other literature
- Group viewing of a Harry Potter film
- Visiting the Making of Harry Potter Experience

Literary London: Reading the Restless City 🌐 ⚖️ 🤝

Is London fairly represented in literature? Has the way London is presented changed over time? Is there a difference in the London of a novel and the London of a travel guide?

London is a city of stories and has been an inspiration and subject for writers over hundreds of years. This course introduces students to London, both as an object of inquiry and as a source, setting, and inspiration for numerous literary texts. Exploring the places, tropes, symbols, and characters in a selection of texts enable students to think about the city in relation to key theoretical and historical/cultural events that have helped shape the way we each experience London. Different approaches to "writing and reading" London are addressed alongside an analysis of the ways in which the city acts as a basis for critical interrogation and understanding.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Walking tours to "read" London
- Visits to locations and neighborhoods described in course texts

Shakespeare and Elizabethan Literature 🌐 ⚖️ 🤝

You're undoubtedly familiar with William Shakespeare, but how did he and other Elizabethan writers define such a dramatic era with their works? What was it like to enjoy live Elizabethan theatre? This course dives into the world of Elizabethan poetry and drama, exploring how the values, stereotypes, and social dynamics of the time are reflected in the works of Shakespeare, John Donne, Christopher Marlowe, and more. Students will uncover the fascinating history behind some of the most famous literature ever written, experience the thrill of live theatre and explore Shakespeare's London. This course is perfect for anyone curious about how Elizabethan literature continues to resonate today.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters, Fall & Winter Quarters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Visit to the recreated Globe Theatre
- Attending live theatre performances of works read in the course

The Nature of Story: Creative Writing 🌐 ⚖️ 🤝

Do you fancy yourself a novelist or a writer of short stories? Not sure how to develop your main characters? How should you structure the plot? What point of view should you choose? The focus of this course will be decidedly practical as students learn to read as writers, glean tips on the craft. Students will consider the processes of writing, aiming to uncover various methods of confronting potential issues. London's own vibrant arts scene and literary traditions form a fascinating focus and locus for the study of creative writing as students engage with local novelists, poets, and playwrights through guest lectures and readings.

The literary-steeped surroundings of London provide the perfect backdrop for students to explore their own creative powers as students develop their own work within the context of contemporary British writing. Although the focus will be on fiction writing, students will also have the opportunity to experiment with various other forms and genres. Classes examining contemporary British literature are complemented by writing workshops. By the end of the course, each class member will have developed a portfolio of work.

[Click here to return to list of courses](#)

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Guest lecture from a local writer, novelist, poet or playwright
- Walking tours to locations that have inspired important authors, such as a Dickens walk or Keat's House
- Visits to interesting locations such as museums, gardens or markets to inspire writing exercises

Travel Writing 🌍🤝✍️

What is traveling and what does it mean to each of us? What is it for? Why do we travel, and how do we decide where to go? What is travel writing? What do we want from it? Do you feel more “American” now you’re out of America (if that’s where you’re from)? This course explores how travel writers transform everyday experiences into insightful, captivating stories. From Tim Cahill to Bill Bryson, travel writers don’t just document journeys, they reveal something deeper about themselves and the world. It’s not just about where they go; it’s how they experience and write about the adventure. This course invites students to dive into the genre by reading renowned authors, discussing different cultural perspectives, and crafting their own stories. By the end of the course, student will have developed a portfolio of engaging travel pieces and a broader understanding of how travel and writing intersect.

Terms offered: Fall & Spring Semesters

Possible co-curricular activities (2 – 4 per course):

- Frequent visits to interesting, historic and unique locations to inspire writing exercises
- Scavenger Hunt or Travel Game across the city