PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE – APPLYING THE THEORY
SYLLABUS
This course has been taught in separate modules to cover both issues for individual buildings and areas such as streets and retail.

The first module will cover:
1. An introduction to the main architectural periods from the vernacular to modern day;
2. An introduction to methods for assessing the significance of heritage assets with an understanding of the main challenges faced in the preservation of heritage assets;

These classes will look at the conservation of heritage assets from the viewpoint of the practitioner. You will gain a basic understanding of London’s architectural history from the 18th – 20th Century, an insight into the work of some of the UK amenity societies, heritage public bodies and charitable organisations that exist to conserve the best buildings from this period. The class will be taught through a combination of lectures from your Instructor, guest speakers (all experienced practitioners in their field) and study visits.

The second module will cover:
1. An introduction to the interpretation of streets as functioning historic environments
2. An introduction to the contribution made by different professionals to achieving conservation outcomes.

These classes combine issues concerning the role played by conservation in maintaining streets both as historic environments and economically and socially sustainable places. The focus will move on to consideration of individual conservation projects and the roles played by different professionals in achieving sustainable solutions.

Assessment Components:
For the first module assignment will be a Building Assessment (Individual Assignment) to include a written description of a heritage building identifying the key elements of significance. This will require architectural knowledge, applied analysis, and concise description.

The second module assignment will be a Street Assessment (Individual Assignment) to include a written account of a central London commercial street (from a range of suggested locations) describing its historic background, current operation and the scope for improvements. This will require background research, application of theoretical models and conclusions drawn from observation and comparison.

Session 1: Introduction – Understanding Significance: Overview of the class content. Class discussion on skills gained to date and expectations from the class. An introduction to the terminology and practices relating to identification and conservation of heritage assets. An introduction to
Conservation Principles as a means to attribute significance to heritage assets.
Readings: Conservation Principles – English Heritage

**Session 2:** An introduction to vernacular buildings; Study visit: Rye, East Sussex
The tour will enable students to see the development of an English town from the medieval period onwards. The vernacular building types will show how local geology, materials and economy have influenced the town’s development.

**Session 3:** An introduction to 18th Century buildings in London: Lecture: An architectural over-view of 18th Century architecture & Study visit: Chiswick House, Chiswick. Jeremy Ashbee, Head Properties Curator at EH, Chris Sumner, Chairman of the London Parks & Gardens Trust and former Historic Buildings Inspector with English Heritage will discuss the restoration of the 18th Century Palladian house, recent works to its designed landscape and the new café structure. Readings: [www.georgiangroup.org.uk](http://www.georgiangroup.org.uk) Summerson, J., The Classical Language of Architecture. World of Art, Thames & Hudson


**Session 6:** Discussion session; feedback on the course. Return of first assignment and discussion on the work. Visit to Royal Academy to see exhibition ‘Eros to the Ritz: 100 Years of Street Architecture’ (curated by Alan Powers). Readings: [http://www.british-history.ac.uk](http://www.british-history.ac.uk) (Survey of London, vols.29-30: Chapter 38; vols.31-32: Chapters 12-13)


**Session 11:** Historic building re-use Study Visit: Former Royal Naval College, Greenwich. Neil Coe, Surveyor to Greenwich Foundation & Dr Jane Sidell, Inspector of Ancient Monuments, will give a tour of the premises outlining the management and conservation of the site and recent and current works. The College has been converted to accommodate the University of Greenwich and the Trinity College of Music. Each organisation taking a different approach to the internal alterations necessary for their use.

**Session 12:** Technical matters 1 Lecture: New uses bring with them new technical performance requirements. These requirements can be particularly challenging to accommodate in historic buildings. Judgement is required when considering new uses to ensure that they can be accommodated without causing harm to the significance of the building. Issues in this lecture will include floor loading, thermal performance and sound insulation. Study visit: Royal Opera House Rehearsal Studios, Purfleet, Essex. Paul Latham of Paul Latham Architects will explain how the studios have been accommodated within a medieval barn.
Microgeneration in the Historic Environment (2008) EH
Climate Change and the Historic Environment (2008)

**Session 13:** Technical matters 2
Lecture: This second lecture on technical performance will look at issues such as disabled access, fire containment and new services within historic buildings.
Site visit: Former Town Hall, Stoke Newington, London. Hawkins Brown Architects will lead a tour of the premises explaining the technical challenges involved in upgrading the building services into a modern multi-purpose community facility.
Readings: Same as Session 12

**Session 14:** Group presentations of student's area appraisal from Session 8
Overview of course

**Additional Sessions:** Two lectures by Prof Franny Eberhardt on US Preservation law and practice