London’s Global Connections

Class code  SCA-UA 9634 - 001

Instructor Details
Dr. Sharad Chari
s.chari@lse.ac.uk
+44 (0)207 107 5019

Class Details
Fall 2011
Thu 9-12am
Room 202, 4-5 Bedford Square

Prerequisites
None

Class Description
What makes London a Global City, and how has its global significance been shaped by wider connections? How does a global perspective on London shape our understanding of urbanism, globalization and change in this great metropolis? This course begins with Global London in the Victorian age, and with forms of knowledge that tried to keep urban order in a time of dramatic change. We see how people understood events also happening elsewhere in the great cities of the late 19th and early 20th century, as people were torn from settled ways of living, and as they found new forms of inequality and opportunity in the metropolis. We look at how the city was remade by modern urban infrastructure, and how people imagined their place in a new world of modern amenities. We also explore how these changes brought new forces of displacement and danger, conflict and opportunity, and how social scientists and reformers sought to understand and intervene in the life of the city. We then turn to transformations in the 20th and early 21st century, by looking at changing circuits and practices of migration, work, capital and neighborhood, keeping in mind in broader connections to the wider world as well as to global processes of social change. Using a range of ethnographic, sociological and geographical material, as well as literature and film, and explorations into the city, we will connect the socio-cultural, political-economic and geographical aspects of urban change that have made London a singular city continually interacting with its real and imagined global connections.

The course will consist of a combination of in-classroom lecture-seminar sessions and sessions that use the city as a laboratory for various field exercises on interpreting global connections in London’s urban experience.

Desired Outcomes
Students will gain a broad understanding of London’s transformation through a set of global forces that have connected it to wider events and forms of consciousness. One key outcome will be knowledge about past and present London, but rather than focusing on what makes it quaint or peculiar, we will use the opportunities that London’s past and present provide to interrogate the uneven geopolitics, political economy and cultural politics of capitalism and modernity. Indeed, London in the Victorian age vied for the title of ‘Capital of Modernity’ with the other ‘Global Cities’ of its time, and some of the readings help us understand enduring themes in the analysis of metropolitan modernity in other places. Indeed, one of the arguments of the course that students will critically interrogate is the idea that we continue to live in the shadows of Victorian globalism and its many discontents. In turning to representation, students will gain an understanding of the experimental writings of ‘stream of consciousness’ associated with the neighborhood surrounding NYU’s London campus in Bloomsbury. Students will experiment with this method, before turning to the different experiences and forms of consciousness of black migrants to London in the twentieth
century. In turning to themes of migration, work, capital, gentrification, planning and racism, students will gain a set of wider understandings of urban modernity as expressed in London’s histories and geographies. In bridging an analysis of social change with representation – in literature and film – students will gain a broad understanding of the many ways in which London’s connections keep transforming the ways in which it is ‘global’. Finally, through individual projects on change and connection in some specific site, students will forge their own ways of expressing London’s global connections.

**Assessment Components**

- SHORT ESSAY (1500 WORDS) DUE THU OCT 6 (20%)
- LONG ESSAY (2500 WORDS) DUE THU NOV 17 (30%)
- GLOBAL LONDON PROJECT PRESENTATION, THU DEC 8 (20%)
- FINAL EXAM, THU DEC 15 (30%)

Failure to submit or fulfil any required course component results in failure of the class.

**Assessment Expectations**

Assessment of the final examinations will take into account how carefully structured and argued responses to questions are. The mid-term take-home examination presumes access to a wider set of works and examples, as well as more time to carefully structure a critical response, and this will be taken into account in grading. The short essays are meant to demonstrate comprehension and critique in concise form. The project presentation rewards time put into creative expression, and good grades here will be a consequence of planning and collection of material over the entire term, as well as creative use of these materials in conveying something about London’s global connections.

**Grade A:** Strong command of reading material, excellent comprehension of readings and lectures/discussions, ability to engage with theory, fluency in writing, ability to engage in critical discussion, ability to express complex thoughts in well-structured arguments, and ability to link analysis with creative expression.

**Grade B:** Good command of reading material, fair comprehension of readings and lectures/discussions, stronger in description than in use of theory for analysis, formulaic writing style, occasional ability to engage in critical discussion, basic structure to arguments, and occasional creative expression.

**Grade C:** Some engagement but not full command of reading material, marked gaps in comprehension of readings and lectures/discussions, largely a descriptive approach with very little reliance on theory or concepts, arguments meander and lack proper structure, and limited creative expression.

**Grade D:** Weak engagement with reading, non-comprehension of readings and lectures/discussions, struggles with a descriptive approach with almost no reliance on concepts, unstructured writings with little sense of an argument, and almost no creative expression.

**Grade F:** Lack of an engagement with readings and lectures/discussions, and failure to attend to the requirements let alone to possibilities of learning or creative expression.
NYU in London uses the following scale of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

A=94-100
A-=90-93
B+=87-89
B=84-86
B-=80-83
C+=77-79
C=74-76
C-=70-73
D+=67-69
D=65-66
F=below 65

Where no specific numerical equivalent is assigned to a letter grade by the class teacher, the mid point of the range will be used in calculating the final class grade (except in the A range, where 95.5 will be used).

NYU in London aims to have grading standards and results in all its courses similar to those that prevail at Washington Square.

In addition, Stern School of Business classes adhere to the following Stern grading guidelines:

There should be no more than

- 25-35% A's - awarded for excellent work
- 50-70% B's - awarded for good or very good work
- 5-15% C's or below - awarded for adequate or below work

A guideline is not a curve. A guideline is just that-it gives an ideal benchmark for the distribution of grades towards which we work.

NYUL has a strict policy about course attendance. **No unexcused absences are permitted.** While students should contact their class teachers to catch up on missed work, you should NOT approach them for excused absences.

Excused absences will usually only be considered for serious, unavoidable reasons such as personal ill-health or illness in the immediate family. Trivial or non-essential reasons for absence will not be considered.

Excused absences can only be considered if they are reported in accordance with the guidelines that follow.

**Please note that you will need to ensure that no make-up classes – or required excursions - have been organised before making any travel plans for the semester.**

**Absence reporting**

1. On the first day of absence you should report the details of your illness by calling free (from landline) 0800 316 0469 (option 2) or by e-mailing
absences@nyu.ac.uk including - class missed, professor, class time and whether any work was due including exams.

2. Generally a doctor’s note will be required to ensure you have sought treatment for the illness. Contact the Gower Street Health Centre on 0207 636 7628 to make an appointment, or use HTH general practitioners if you cannot get an appointment expediently at Gower Street.

3. At the end of your period of absence, you will need to complete an absence form online at http://www.nyu.edu/global/london/academics/attendance_policy.htm

4. Finally you must arrange an appointment to speak to David Crout (freshmen) or Nigel Freeman (non-freshmen) on your first day back at class. You must have completed the absence form before making your appointment.

Absence requests for non-illness purposes must be discussed with the Assistant Director for Freshman Programmes (Freshmen) or Assistant Director for Academic Affairs (non-freshmen) prior to the date(s) in question – no excused absences for non-illness purposes can be applied retrospectively.

Supporting documentation relating to absences must be submitted within one week of your return to class.

3% will be deducted from the student’s final course mark for each unexcused absence. Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to absence.

Unexcused absences from exams are not permitted and will result in failure of the exam. If you are granted an excused absence from an examination (with authorisation, as above), your lecturer will decide how you will make-up the assessment component, if at all (by make-up examination, extra coursework, viva voce (oral examination), or an increased weighting on an alternate assessment component, etc.). In the past, students have asked about early departure from the program at the end of the semester. This will not normally be allowed. Under no circumstances will we allow a student to take a final exam at any time other than it has been scheduled - neither before the other students in the class, nor afterwards. Students have been informed not to make return travel plans before the end of the exam week. Exams may not be held during your regularly scheduled class meeting. Please do not make plans during the exam period until you know the exact times of your exams.

NYUL also expects students to arrive to class promptly (both at the beginning and after any breaks) and to remain for the duration of the class. If timely attendance becomes a problem it is the prerogative of each instructor to deduct a mark or marks from the final grade of each late arrival and each early departure.

Please note that for classes involving a field trip or other external visit, transportation difficulties are never grounds for an excused absence. It is the student’s responsibility to arrive at an agreed meeting point in a punctual and timely fashion.

Please refer to the Student Handbook for full details of the policies relating to attendance.
Late Submission of Work

(1) Written work due in class must be submitted during the class time to the professor.

(2) Late work should be submitted in person to the Administrative Assistant for Academic Affairs in office hours (Mon – Fri, 10:30 – 17:30), who will write on the essay or other work the date and time of submission, in the presence of the student. Another member of the administrative staff can accept the work, in person, in the absence of the Administrative Assistant for Academic Affairs and will write the date and time of submission on the work, as above. Please also send an electronic copy to academics@nyu.ac.uk for submission to Turnitin.

(3) Work submitted within 5 weekdays after the submission time without an agreed extension receives a penalty of 10 points on the 100 point scale.

(4) Written work submitted after 5 weekdays after the submission date without an agreed extension fails and is given a zero.

(5) Please note end of semester essays must be submitted on time.

Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism: the presentation of another person’s words, ideas, judgment, images or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism.

All students must submit an electronic copy of each piece of their written work to www.turnitin.com and hand in a printed copy with the digital receipt to their professor. Late submission of work rules apply to both the paper and electronic submission (see section 12 below) and failure to submit either copy of your work will result in automatic failure in the assignment and possible failure in the class.

Electronic Submission

All students must submit an electronic copy of their written work to www.turnitin.com. This database will be searched for the purpose of comparison with other students’ work or with other pre-existing writing or publications, and other academic institutions may also search it. The database is managed by JISC (Joint Information Systems Council) and has been established with the support of the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

In order for you to be able to submit your work onto the Turnitin website, you will need to set up an account:

1) Go onto the Turnitin website http://www.turnitin.com
2) Click ‘New Users’ in the top right hand corner
3) Select user type of ‘student’
4) Enter your class ID & Turnitin class enrolment password (these will be e-mailed to you after the drop/add period, or contact academics@nyu.ac.uk if you have mislaid these.
5) Follow the online instructions to create your profile.

To submit your work for class, you will then need to:

1) Log in to the Turnitin website
2) Enter your class by clicking on the class name
3) Next to the piece of work you are submitting (please confirm the due date), click on the ‘submit’ icon
4) Enter the title of your piece of work
5) Browse for the file to upload from wherever you have saved it (USB drive, etc.), please ensure your work is in Word or PDF format, and click ‘submit’
6) Click ‘yes, submit’ to confirm you have selected the correct paper (or ‘no, go back’ to retry)
7) You will then have submitted your essay onto the Turnitin website.
8) Please print your digital receipt and attach this to the hard copy of your paper before you
Submit it to your professor (this digital receipt appears on the web site, immediately after you submit your paper and is also sent to your e-mail address). Please also note that when a paper is submitted to Turnitin all formatting, images, graphics, graphs, charts, and drawings are removed from the paper so that the program can read it accurately. Please do not print the paper in this form to submit to your lecturers, as it is obviously pretty difficult to read! You can still access the exact file you uploaded by clicking on the ‘file’ icon in the ‘content’ column.

Please also see the Late Submission of Work policy, above.

Students must retain an electronic copy of their work for one month after their grades are posted online on Albert and must supply an electronic copy of their work if requested to do so by NYU in London. Not submitting a copy of a piece of work upon request will result in automatic failure in the assignment and possible failure in the class. NYU in London may submit in an electronic form the work of any student to a database for use in the detection of plagiarism, without further prior notification to the student.

Penalties for confirmed cases of plagiarism are set out in the Student Handbook.

Required Text(s)


Further Reading (recommended), Copies in NYU-L course collection at Senate House Library


**LONDON ARCHIVES AND WEBSITES:**

The National Archives ([www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk)) are located in Kew, and are the largest of all, with all national government records from the 11th to the late 20th century.

The London Metropolitan Archives ([www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lma](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lma)) holds records of London administration along with Church of England parish registers.

London is of course a tale of two cities, hence the records of the City of London and of the ancient city of Westminster are in separate locations. The Guildhall Library ([www.history.ac.uk/gh](http://www.history.ac.uk/gh)) houses city parish and probate records, livery company papers, business archives, and the City’s legal administration, along with The Lloyds of London Collection. The Westminster City Archives ([www.westminster.gov.uk/archives](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/archives)) house the records of the local taxation papers, parish registers, probate registers, legal records, maps and plans having to do with Westminster.

As the erstwhile capital of the British Empire, London’s archives house important imperial records, such as The Oriental and India Office Collection at the British Library ([www.bl.uk](http://www.bl.uk)).

There are numerous smaller collections that are vital sources of information, such as the important collection of women’s history at the London Metropolitan University’s Women’s Library ([http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/thewomenslibrary](http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/thewomenslibrary)), the black history collection at the George Padmore Institute in Stroud Green ([http://www.georgepadmoreinstitute.org/](http://www.georgepadmoreinstitute.org/)) and the LGBT history collection at the LSE Archives ([http://www2.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/holdings/lesbian_and_gay_archives.aspx](http://www2.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/holdings/lesbian_and_gay_archives.aspx)).

London’s Past Online is an online bibliography of published material relating to the history of the Greater London area developed by the Centre for Metropolitan History, with the Royal Historical Society Bibliography ([http://www.history.ac.uk/cmh/lpol/](http://www.history.ac.uk/cmh/lpol/)).

**LONDON IS ALSO A CITY OF BLOGGERS:**


[http://thecabbiescapital.co.uk/](http://thecabbiescapital.co.uk/)

[http://greatwenlondon.wordpress.com/](http://greatwenlondon.wordpress.com/)

You will need to keep a journal of observations or material collected for your Global London assignment, to be checked twice before your presentation. Each student will decide on a site – whether a building, a neighborhood, a street corner, a park, or anything else – and collect material on various moments in time that express its ‘global connections’ in various ways, past and present. You can use photographs or short clips taken on a mobile phone, or various ephemera you find at these sites as evidence of global connections in your chosen site.

Session 1
8 September 2011
LONDON’S GLOBAL CONNECTIONS – COURSE OVERVIEW
VIKTORIAN GLOBALISM

Session 2
15 September 2011
MAKING AND LIVING THE VICTORIAN METROPOLIS

Session 3
22 September 2011
THE PROBLEM OF ‘OUTCAST LONDON’

Session 4
29 September 2011

SOCIAL REFORM, SOCIAL SCIENCE AND SOCIAL CONTROL IN VICTORIAN LONDON


GLOBAL LONDON JOURNAL CHECK

Session 5
6 October 2011

FIN-DE-SIECLE MODERNITY AND BLOOMSBURY


DISCUSSION & WRITING EXERCISE ON THE MOVE (IN THE SPIRIT OF WOOLF)

SHORT ESSAY DUE

Session 6
13 October 2011

MIGRATION AND THE MAKING OF ‘BLACK’ LONDON


Susan Pennybacker From Scottsboro to Munich: Race and Political Culture in 1930s Britain, (Chapter 2: “George Padmore in London.”)


RACISM/ ANTIRACISM ON FILM PART 1

Session 7
20 October 2011

CHANGING RACISMS AND NEW ETHNICITIES

James Procter ed. 2000 Writing black Britain, (Part II, pp.95-193)


RACISM/ ANTIRACISM ON FILM PART 2

GLOBAL LONDON JOURNAL CHECK
Session 8
27 October 2011

MUSEUM OF LONDON VISIT (To Be Rescheduled)

WORK ON LONG ESSAY AND GLOBAL LONDON PROJECTS

Catch up on Procter ed. 2000 Writing black Britain (Part III, pp. 193-321) and read more widely for long essay. Remember the ‘Mediatheque’ at the National Film Theatre has film material that you can draw on for changing views of racism on film, and watch the links shown in class.

Session 9
3 November 2011

GENTRIFICATION WALK (To Be Rescheduled)

(Use this time to read ahead on the syllabus, and to research your Global London project)

Session 10
17 November 2011

PLANNED AND UNPLANNED TRANSFORMATIONS IN LONDON


LONG ESSAY DUE

Session 11
24 November 2011

CHANGES IN PEOPLE AND PLACES IN LATE TWENTIETH CENTURY LONDON


Session 12
1 December 2011

GLOBAL MIGRATION: A RETURN TO OUTCAST LONDON?


Session 13
8 December 2011

CLASS CONFERENCE ON GLOBAL LONDON PROJECTS

Session 14
15 December, 2011

FINAL EXAMINATION
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classroom Etiquette</th>
<th>Eating is not permitted in any classrooms in 6 Bedford Square or at Birkbeck College. Please kindly dispose of rubbish in the bins provided.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required Co-curricular Activities</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggested Co-curricular Activities</td>
<td>There will be various suggested activities pointed out during the course of the term.</td>
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