Class code: V43.9674.001

Instructor Details
Benedict O’Looney  M.Arch, RIBA

Office Hour, Wednesdays 5-6:00pm

Individual meetings with the Instructor can be arranged usually before or following classes. Classes meet in different locations each week and the place of meetings with individuals will usually coincide with the Session Itineraries. Please discuss arrangements with the Instructor.

Class Details: Spring 2014

Classes are held on Wednesdays, starting at 2.00 pm and finishing at 5.00 pm.

The first class will meet at NYU in London, 6 Bedford Square. Meeting places for the other classes are indicated on the separate itineraries for each session, which will be given out during the first class.

There will be one field trip during the semester arranged centrally by NYU in London for all students enrolled in 'Seeing London's Architecture', which is a required co-curricular activity and attendance is
**Class Description**

This course is designed to work in three ways. Firstly it is an opportunity to learn about London's architecture and art by physically exploring it. Secondly this class is an introduction to sketching and keeping a travel notebook, a basic and useful skill that any liberal arts student should have an experience of. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, this course teaches how to 'read' a town or city. The ability to visually make sense of European built-environment should really help in understanding the architecture of New York City and, of course, town and cities throughout the United States, and anywhere else.

London, like New York is a rich and complicated city. Unlike New York however, it has been continuously occupied for just under 2000 years. Almost every epoch of London’s history can be detected in the city’s architecture and distinctive streetscape. Our course will flow through this city’s remarkable townscape, finding echoes of London’s past while surrounded by the din of a modern city in the midst of change, re-structuring and growth.

American architecture is broadly based on European architectural traditions. Your teacher is a practising architect who, aided by being the son of two art historians, has been teaching courses about London’s architectural history at the Architectural Association School of Architecture and the Canterbury school of Architecture for the past 15 years.

**Desired Outcomes**

To take aboard a firm grasp of the architecture and history of London. To have an introduction to sketching and keeping a travel notebook, and, perhaps most importantly, to learn to ‘read’ a city’s townscape. By understanding the materials and styles of the buildings in London one can begin to enjoy a sophisticated understanding of town and cities wherever one finds oneself in the world, a basic attribute of any truly cultivated adult!

**Assessment Components**

The Programme:

Fourteen afternoon sessions of ‘field’ visits around London, which will include an introductory session at 6 Bedford Square.

Location and Themes:

The field trips will concentrate on the three foci of London: the City of London, the City of Westminster, and Southwark on the south bank of the Thames – and will explore urban development from Roman times right up to today. The programme will include excursions up and down the Thames. Themes of transport, commerce, open space development, the rise and decline of industry, the realms of justice, administration and social management, and religious and cultural institutions will be considered in discussions as we visit different parts of this great city.

Course Requirements:

Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the broad circumstances of London’s history and development. There is a **required reading list** on page 4 of this syllabus.

Students are to keep **sketchbooks** containing assigned sketches of places and buildings visited during the course, and related photos, field notes and articles. These will form the major element of each student’s grading.

All students will be required to write an **essay** of 2000 words length on a building. A list of essay topics
and recommended sources will be handed out during the second session along with guidance on the expected content. Essays must be handed to the Instructor for marking at the beginning of the 15th session on Wednesday the 15th of May 2014. Discuss your choice of topic and reading sources for your essay with the Instructor. Students will also be expected to submit an electronic copy of the essay on the date when the essay is due.

There are **required reading assignments** for each session included on the itinerary for individual sessions below. A short **quiz** will be given on the **required reading assignments and the buildings covered in our weekly visits**.

Plan for grading:

Session 6: little quiz - 20% of grade

Session 8: sketchbook review 1 - 15% of grade

Session 13: hand in building essay - 30% of grade

Session 14: final sketchbook review - 25% of grade

General class participation throughout the semester - 10% of grade

Assessment of the sketchbook will also consider the attention of the student and their application in recording / sketching during each session. Failure to submit or fulfil any required course component results in failure of the class.

**Assessment Expectations**

I will collect your sketchbooks mid-way through the course at the end of the 8th session on Wednesday the 12th of March 2012 and assess them. Sketchbooks will be available for collection the following day at 6 Bedford Square.

You should put whatever you draw during field trips and whatever notes you take, in your sketchbook, include additional loose sketches, clippings, photographs, etc. Please clearly write name, address and telephone number on the inside front cover of the sketchbook; every sketch should be **initialled and dated. Location and subject and a concise description** should be given in each case.

Sketchbooks should be handed to the Instructor for final assessment at the end of the 15th session on May 15th 2014. Both mid-semester and end of semester assessments will be an aggregate of the quality and breadth of coverage in your sketchbook, your progress in recording buildings and schemes and the presentation of these elements in your sketchbook. This achievement will consider how you have developed the following aspects of recording:

- Visual representations in the form of sketches, including general views and details,
- Written annotations of relevant physical and historical facts that are discussed during the visits to different sites, which should include:
  - Name of building or place,
  - Date of building,
  - Name of architect, designer, client, and
  - Description: including scale, form, structure, materials, construction, etc.
- Written descriptions and notes of personal impressions of the places visited, with (hopefully)
some coverage and flavour of the many other adventures that will likely characterise your term in London.

This course is interested in the development of skills in recording and not with artistic ability. Students should compensate for weakness in drawing skills or inability to describe adequately places or buildings by means of drawing with well-thought-out researched notes. Notes taken from required reading assignments and discussions during site visits as well as notes recording physical characteristics and impressions should supplement sketches and drawings.

Please follow the advice given in the ‘Assessment and Study Guide’, which you will receive at the beginning of the semester.

**Grade A:** Excellent – a deep level of comprehension of London’s history, art and architecture and a good effort with sketching and note taking throughout the term.

**Grade B:** Good – a strong understanding of London’s history and architecture, and a neat, well presented sketch / note book

**Grade C:** Average -

**Grade D:** Below Average

**Grade F:** Failure [Click here and enter expectations for grade F]

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### Required Texts


- **Lucy Watson.** *Artist’s Sketchbook, the art of effective sketching*. 2002, ISBN 0 00 713325 Collins, Quarto.

- **Ann Saunders.** *The Art and Architecture of London an Illustrated guide*, ISBN 0 7148 2523 9 (paperback) or 0 7148 2533 (hardback), published by Phaidon,

  *(Highly Recommended – with potential readings noted)*

- **The Times History of London.** Hugh Clout. Harper Collins, United Kingdom. isbn 000726643X

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### Supplemental Texts (not purchased as copies are in NYU-L Library)

- **Volumes of The Buildings of England** series, which are held in the NYU library at Senate House. Details of the volumes will be handed out at the first meeting of the class.

- **English Architecture, a Concise History**, David Watkin. ISBN 0 500 20171 4 (paperback), published by Thames and Hudson.

- **Architecture in Britain 1530-1830.** John Summerson. Yale University Press. isbn: 0.300.05886-1


0 500 34212 1

England, a guide to post war listed buildings, Elain Harwood. Ellipsis, London. isbn: 1.84166.037-x


London – A guide to Recent Architecture. Samantha Hardingham. Ellipsis (an inexpensive and useful guide to contemporary architecture available in most bookshops)


HISTORICAL MAPS REPRINTED


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HISTORICAL MAPS REPRINTED


P. Laxton & J. Wisdom, The A to Z of Regency London, Harry Margary in association with Guildhall
ADDITIONAL REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

You must use a hard-backed sketchbook and fine tipped pens and 2B pencils. These can be bought locally from a good, and very old artist’s material shop just around the corner from us: L. Cornelissen and Son, 105 Great Russell Street, London, WC1B 3RY, tel. 020 7636 1045. Everything you need will be there, and has been for about 200 years (!)

The recommended sketchbook is A4 with a minimum of 50 sheets of plain paper, 265mm by 210mm, 120 g/m2 acid free cartridge paper. Your sketchbook should have hard or heavy stiff card-backed end covers, which will give much better support as you sketch. It is usually easier to work with one that is bound along its short side, ie. ‘landscape’ format. It is essential that you write your name, address and telephone number on the inside cover. This sketchbook will form a very important part of your final assessment so you must not loose it. It is also hoped that this sketchbook will form a unique record of your time in London.

You should buy sketching pencils in hardnesses of 2B, 4B with a pencil sharpener and an eraser. Also get some fine point drawing pens. Nib sizes 02, 05 and 08 are recommended.

Money for Travel Fares

Don’t forget to bring enough money for Underground and bus fares (£5.00). In nearly most cases you will be able to get to the places and buildings that we will visit by Underground, though there will be some days when busses and suburban trains will be used. Obtain an ‘Oyster Card’ for travel on the underground and buses, on a pay as you go basis. They are incredibly handy and offer a serious discount over cash fares. Please note that an ‘Oyster Card’ cannot be used on all suburban trains yet, most however.

London Street Atlas

The London A to Z is the standard pocket street atlas. You will need one to work out how to get to the start of each visit and for understanding the broader context of the locality - not to mention getting around London during your stay – get a little one to put in your pocket.

Clothing

The weather may not be particularly great during the first weeks of the semester. You must listen to weather reports on the radio, or check the rather useful MET office website (national meteorological office). Dress appropriately. Dress warmly as we will be out of doors nearly all of the time, and London’s damp climate can be deceiving. It may seem warm when you initially step outside but will soon feel much colder when you are sketching, standing or sitting in an outdoor location for a time. Warm fleeces, and down ve will be key to stay warm and healthy. You will also need a waterproof shell to combine with these warm layers for the occasional rainy day. Make sure you have a warm hat too! There are a series of quite good outdoor shops on Southampton Street, off the south side of Covent Garden if you need some warm gear.
Session 1  
**Wednesday the 29th of January**

*Introductory slide talk about London’s physical development, and tour of Bedford Square.*
Meet: at NYU in London Bedford Square

Allinson - pp. 5-11  
(Times London History Atlas pp. 18-29)

Session 2  
**Friday the 31st of January**

*Greenwich Trip: Boat tour + sketching and study visit to Greenwich.*
Meet: at Westminster Pier at 10:15am  
Reading: Sutcliffe - Chapter 3 - London’s Augustan Age pp 29-92.  

Session 3  
**Wednesday the 5th of February**

*The Architecture of Bloomsbury and Kings Cross – an introduction to the architecture and history around NYU in London, University College and the neighbourhood of your dormitories.*
Meet: at NYU in London Bedford Square

Reading: Sutcliffe - Chapter 3 - London’s Augustan Age pp 29-92 & ‘Stone Brick and Stucco’ pp 211-215,  
Allinson - pp. 5-11  
(Times London History Atlas pp. 18-29)  
(Risebero pp 208-220)

Session 4  
**Wednesday the 12th of February**

*The City of London: Harbour, historic townscape and contemporary developments.*
Meet: at the entrance to the gift shop at the Tower of London. (sketching at St. Paul’s)

Reading: Sutcliffe - Chapter 4 - the London of the Styles 1830-1914 pp 93-157 & ‘Building Regulations’ pp. 221-223.  
Saunders, pp 25-84 (excepting pp 61-67)  
Allinson - ‘the City’ pp12-61  
Times London History Atlas pp. 30-50

Session 5  
**Wednesday the 19th of February**

*Westminster Abbey, Parliament Square, Whitehall, the heart of Westminster.*
Meet: at the entrance to the gift shop at Westminster Abbey. (sketching in the Abbey)

Reading: Sutcliffe - Chapter 4 - the London of the Styles 1830-1914 pp 93-157;  
Saunders, pp 95-122.  
Allinson - ‘Whitehall’ pp 65-75
Session 6

Wednesday the 26th February

Hampton Court: the finest Tudor and Stuart art, architecture and interiors in England.
Meet: under the Memorial Arch, north side of the concourse, Waterloo Station at 1:30pm - note earlier meeting time!
(sketching at Hampton Court)

Saunders, pp 249-255
Allinson - page 133.
(Times London History Atlas 47-63)
(Risebero pp. 130-165)

Session 7

Wednesday the 5th March

Covent Garden / the Strand/ Somerset House: London expands in the Renaissance.
Meet: at the entrance of NYU at Bedford Square. (sketching at Somerset House)

Saunders, pp 122-139 Covent Garden, the Strand.
Allinson - pp 86-90, 137,140.
(Times London History Atlas 47-63)

little quiz 1 (15% of grade)

Session 8

Wednesday the 12th of March

St James and Piccadilly: A look at the West End from the 17th Century to today - with a focus on Edwardian London, Regent Street etc.
Meet: at the ‘Eros’ statue at Piccadilly Circus (sketching at the Royal Academy)

Saunders, pp 139-154 (then on to 161 ideally)
Allinson - pp 78-84
(Times London History Atlas pp. 70-75)

Hand in sketchbooks for preliminary sketchbook review. Sketchbooks will be available for collection the following day at 6 Bedford Square – to put back to use!

Session 9

Wednesday the 19th of March

Southwark - Bankside and Borough: the gritty, working, ‘other’ side of the river.
Meet: Southwark Jubilee Line Station, entrance.

**Session 10**

*Wednesday the 26th March*

London’s docklands: the massive expansion of the harbour after 1800 – now housing and commerce.
Meet: Tower Hill Tube Station ticket hall. (sketching - St. Katherine’s Dock)

Saunders, pp 410-419 ‘Southwark’
Allinson - pp 141-153
(Times London History Atlas 76-88)

**Session 11**

*Wednesday the 2nd April*

A Post War Vision: The Elephant and Castle – experiments with the new, modern city.
Meet: at Ticket Hall Elephant and Castle Tube Station.

Reading: Sutcliffe – Conclusion – Has there ever Been an Architecture of London? – pp 209-223
Saunders, pp 410-419 ‘Southwark’
Allinson - pp 301-303
(Times London History Atlas 76-88)

**Session 12**

*Wednesday the 9th April*

London’s great railway stations: Paddington, Kings Cross and St. Pancras
Meet: at ‘EAT’ in the new ‘Lawn area’ at the town end of the Paddington Station’s, main concourse, second level.

Reading: Saunders, pp. 190-194 ‘Paddington’; 217-222 ‘Camden’
Allinson - pp 97, 106,
(Times London History Atlas 90-92; 160-161)

**Session 13**

*Wednesday the 30th April*

South Kensington: Kultur Zentrum 1850-2000, Prince Albert and Sir Henry Cole build a cultural quarter for London after the Great Exhibition in 1851.

Reading: Sutcliffe, Queen Anne and the Engineering Syles pp 112-126;
Saunders, pp 298-309
Allinson - pp 190-194.
(Times London History Atlas 164-166)

**Session 14**

*Wednesday the 7th of May*

Term paper research / production assistance.
Room 106 NYU Academic Centre

**Session 15**

**Wednesday the 15th of May**

**Back to the City of London: London’s future, what happens next?**

Saunders, pp 25-84, ‘The City of London’
Allinson – ‘the City’ pp12-61
(Times London History Atlas 168-171)

Sketch book review #2 (30% of the grade)
Hand in term papers, (original + one copy please)

**Required Co-curricular Activities**

There will be one field trip during the semester arranged centrally by NYU in London for all students enrolled in ‘Seeing London’s Architecture’, which is a **required co-curricular activity and attendance is mandatory**. This will be to Greenwich on Friday the 31st of January. Details of times and the meeting place will be sent to students by the Student Life Administrator.

**Suggested Co-curricular Activities**

Use your sketchbook outside of our class hours, make notes, collage. A rich and intelligently developed semester sketch / note book is a key component of this terms assessment. Take it anywhere you go and draw at the theatre, football matches, even parties, wherever.

The Architectural Association and particularly its library, directly opposite us, on the other side of Bedford Square can be a great resource for you. One of the best architectural and London libraries in Europe, this can help you learn about the architecture of London and buildings generally. In addition, there is a quite interesting and unusual crowd of international students there who would be worth mingling with. Further – a healthy and inexpensive café, exhibition openings once a month, evening lectures and a smart bar are all attractions in this legendary British architectural institution on your doorstep.

**Your Instructor**

**Benedict O’Looney** is an architect living and working in Peckham. His current work includes restoring the Victorian Peckham Rye Station and extending and completing the Peckham Mosque and Croydon Mosques. Benedict is on the committee of the Peckham Society and has been campaigning to create a conservation area that recognizes the significance of Peckham’s town centre.

Prior to establishing his own practice Benedict O’Looney Architects, (benedictolooney.co.uk) Benedict worked for Grimshaw and Alsop Architects, restoring Paddington Station and building the new Bath Spa. He teaches architecture history and sketching at New York University’s London Programme, is a past president of the London Sketch Club, a member of the Victorian Society’s southern buildings committee and is the chair of Southwark’s Conservation Areas Advisory Group.

Prior to coming to London in the early nineties Benedict lived for 20 years on the east coast of the United States and received his liberal arts and architectural training there – at Hunter College and Yale University respectively. As a student, Benedict helped research the Guidebook to Manhattan’s Outdoor Sculpture for the Art Commission of the City of New York.
NYU LONDON ACADEMIC POLICIES

Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism: the presentation of another piece of work or words, ideas, judgments, images or data, in whole or in part, as though they were originally created by you for the assignment, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism.

Please refer to the Student Handbook for full details of the plagiarism policy.

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 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

The Turnitin 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.

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 ‘Create Account’ 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 misplaced 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.
Late Submission of Work

Written work due in class must be submitted during the class time to the professor. Late work should be submitted in person to a member of NYU London staff in the Academic Office (Room 308, 6 Bedford Square) during office hours (Mon – Fri, 10:30 – 17:30). Please also send an electronic copy to academics@nyu.ac.uk for submission to Turnitin.

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

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

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

Attendance Policy

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 guidelines which follow, and can only be obtained from the appropriate member of NYUL’s staff.

**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 for an absence due to illness**

1. On the first day of absence due to illness you should report the details of your symptoms by e-mailing absences@nyu.ac.uk including details of: class(es) missed; professor; class time; and whether any work was due including exams. Or call free (from landline) 0800 316 0469 (option 2) to report your absences on the phone.

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://bit.ly/NuCL5K. You will need to log in to NYU Home to access the form.

4. Finally you must arrange an appointment to speak to Nigel Freeman or Donna Drummond-Smart on your first day back at class. You must have completed the absence form before making your appointment.

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

**Absence requests for non-illness reasons**

Absence requests for non-illness reasons must be discussed with the Academic Office prior to the date(s) in question – no excused absences for reasons other than illness can be applied retrospectively. Please come in and see us in Room 308, 6 Bedford Square, or e-mail us at academics@nyu.ac.uk.

**Further information regarding absences**

Each unexcused absence will be penalized by deducting 3% from the student’s final course mark. 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.).
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. A copy is in your apartment and has been shared with you on Google Docs.

**Grade conversion**

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).

**Grading Policy**

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