

Human Geographies of London

UEL_4_HGL

School of Law and Social
Sciences

Level 4



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1. MODULE DETAILS

Module Title:	Human Geographies of London
Module Level:	4
Module Reference Number:	UEL_4_HGL
Credit Value:	20 Cat Points
Student Study Hours:	200
Contact Hours:	36
Private Study Hours:	164
Pre-requisite Learning (If applicable):	None
Co-requisite Modules (If applicable):	None
Course(s):	BA(Hons Human Geography)
Year and Semester	Year 1, Semester 2
Module Coordinator:	Dr Sam Johnson-Schlee, johnss32@lsbu.ac.uk
Other tutors:	Dr Kevin Milburn, milburnk@lsbu.ac.uk
Subject Area:	Human Geography
Summary of Assessment Method:	100% Coursework

2. SHORT DESCRIPTION

This module uses the rich resources and the dynamic setting of London to explore the techniques and ideas human geographers use to understand urban life and in particular the issues faced by this global city. Case study visits are a core part of the learning experience and enable students to practice field research and observation skills.

3. AIMS OF THE MODULE

The module aims to provide students with a knowledge and understanding of the way a global city such as London both shapes, and is shaped by, global geographies and networks. It will demonstrate show how human geography provides practical and accessible analysis that is relevant to everyday lives and policy practice.

4. LEARNING OUTCOMES

4.1 Knowledge and Understanding

- demonstrate a broad understanding of the knowledge bases, discourses and terminologies of human geography and appreciate that these are open to ongoing debate and reformulation.
- show an understanding the spatial patterning of human and environmental phenomena across London and the ways in which these uneven geographies reflect and mediate socio-economic and environmental processes.
- show an understanding of the character of places and landscapes across London and how they are influenced by human and physical processes and through their interdependencies with other places across a range of spatial scales.

4.2 Intellectual Skills

- an ability to engage in critical analysis of urban landscapes and places
- conceptualize space and place using academic concepts and frameworks

4.3 Practical Skills

- can conduct fieldwork observation and data collection in a number of sites across London and can judge the reliability of these data and information

4.4 Transferable Skills

- communicate effectively in written, graphic, oral and multi-media forms in ways which are appropriate to the relevant audience and which respect intellectual property and copyright

5. ASSESSMENT OF THE MODULE

This module is 100% assessed by coursework and the pass mark for the module is 40%.

This module is 100% assessed by Coursework. Students will produce a reflective Field Diary which draws upon the site visits and ideas introduced by the module. The Diary involves a mix of written and visual materials.

This completed fieldwork diary must be submitted through **Moodle** (the University Virtual Learning Environment) by **Wednesday 13th May 2020**. Work cannot be submitted by post or e-mail, or to individual tutors.

5.1 Assessment briefing

The fieldwork diary should contain the following:

- At least 5 pieces of evidence gathered during your field trips presented however you wish
- A reflective essay that identifies connections or contradictions between these examples

You should use one of the following questions as the basis for your fieldwork diary:

1. Where can we observe _____ geography manifest in London and what can we learn from these observations?
2. London is a city of contradictions and connections, discuss this statement in relation to at least three of the field trips.

Guidance:

- The word limit for the essay is 2000 words, this does not include the annotations you must provide for your evidence.
- Evidence section should be a mixture of images (or other media) and text, if text based 500 words is the absolute maximum required!

- In addition to the 5 pieces of evidence from your field trip you should also incorporate academic sources, and journalistic features and other forms of evidence if relevant.
- The evidence can be presented in any medium e.g. photography, sound, film, drawings/diagrams, you should provide explanatory annotations.
- Your chosen pieces of evidence should be referenced in your reflective essay.
- More detailed briefing on evidence collection will be provided in weeks 3 and 12.
- It will be to your benefit if you begin your data collection with the first field trip and gather more than you need.

Assessment Criteria

- RESEARCH. Systematic identification and use of academic and relevant resources (25%)
- SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE. Understanding and application of subject knowledge. Contribution to subject debate. (25%)
- CRITICAL ANALYSIS. Analysis and interpretation of sources, literature and/or results. Structuring of issues/debates (25%)
- COMMUNICATION AND PRESENTATION. Clear intention in communication. Audience needs are predicted and met. Presentation format is used skilfully. Work is well structured. (25%)

6. FEEDBACK

Students will receive written feedback, normally within six teaching weeks from the date of submission, which will be made through the Moodle system. A sample will also be looked at by an external examiner for evaluation and approval.

7. INTRODUCTION TO STUDYING THE MODULE

7.1 Overview of the Main Content

The historical development and shaping of London. New technologies and the residential geography of Metroland. Post-war urban planning for London – green belts, new towns and new modern urban neighbourhoods.

Social and spatial inequality in London. Patterns of demography and social polarization across London. Planning for contemporary London – global housing markets and local affordability.

Processes and geographies of gentrification and regeneration – whose London? From world city to global city - the changing London economy. Geographies of global finance and the London built environment.

Moving Londoners – transport challenges and future mobilities in London. Alternative and sustainable transport futures? Tourist London – marketing and selling London.

Consuming London – shopping, identity and the city’s retail landscapes. London’s natures - exploring the environmental geographies of London.

7.2 Overview of Types of Classes

The module is taught by a mixture of lectures and field trips. These site visits will be an important part of the teaching and learning experience and students will be expected to explore the city on their own as well.

7.3 Importance of Student Self-Managed Learning Time

It is important that students manage their own study time outside of the taught programme, in order to research and write their coursework report.

• Lectures and field visits	36
• Total Contact hours:	36
• Reading to support lectures	100
• Preparation for Coursework	64
• Student managed learning hours:	164
• Total learning time:	200

7.4 Employability

London is a key employment sector for our students and general knowledge of the challenges the city faces and the skills to articulate such challenges is welcomed by a wide range of employers . More specific understandings of spatial policy measures for the city provide key knowledge for jobs in planning and related professions.

8. THE PROGRAMME OF TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

	Date	Lecture Topic	Tutor
1	29 th Jan	London's Spatial Development – a History, pt. 1 (up to 1940) <i>Historical Geography, Urban Geography,...</i>	KM
2	5 th Feb	London's Spatial Development – a History, pt. 2 (post 1940)	KM
3	12 th Feb	Empire, Trade and Transport <i>Economic Geography, Historical Geography,...</i>	SJ-S
4	19 th Feb	FIELD TRIP: Museum of London Docklands - meet at entrance of Museum <i>Economic Geography, Historical Geography,...</i>	SJ-S/KM
5	26 th Feb	Neighbourhoods and Diversity <i>Social Geography, Urban Geography,...</i>	SJ-S
6	4 th March	FIELD TRIP: Peckham - meet in Peckham Rye station entrance hall <i>Social Geography, Urban Geography,...</i>	SJ-S/KM
7	11 th March	What Does it Mean to be a World City?: <i>Cultural Geographies, Economic and Political Geographies,...</i>	KM
8	18 th March	Nature in London <i>Cultural Geography</i>	KM
9	25 th March	FIELD TRIP: Olympic Park Stratford - meeting point tbc <i>Cultural Geographies, Political Geographies,...</i>	SJ-S
10	1 st April	London as a Sport, Events & Entertainment Capital <i>Cultural Geographies,...</i>	KM
11	29 th April	Evidencing the City + Assignment Advice <i>Cultural Geographies</i>	KM
12	6 th May	Drop-in Field Diary Surgery Session	KM
13		Assessment Hand-in Date, via Moodle VLE Wednesday 13 th May 2020	

9. STUDENT EVALUATION

previous students have appreciated the chance to apply conceptual ideas to real world spaces and landscapes. however, they have often sought quite specific guidance in compiling and completing the fieldstudy work.

10. LEARNING RESOURCES

Moodle – The Virtual Learning Environment

This module, like all University modules, is supported by its own Moodle site.

10.1 Core Materials

Cloke, P., Crang, P and Goodwin, M (eds) (2013) *Introducing Human Geographies* (3rd Edition). London: Routledge,

Glass, R., et al. (eds) (1964) *London: aspects of change*. London: MacGibbon & Kee.

Gregory, D., Johnston, R., Pratt, G and Watts, M (eds) (2009) *The Dictionary of Human Geography*. London: Wiley-Blackwell,

Hamnett, C (2003) *Unequal City: London in the Global Arena*. London: Routledge.

Hebbert, M (1998) *London: More By Fortune Than Design*, London: Wiley.

Imrie, R and Lees, L (eds) (2014) *Sustainable London?* London: Routledge,

Imrie, R., Lees, L and Raco, M (eds) (2009) *Regenerating London*. London: Routledge,

Jenkins, S. (2019) *A Short History of London: The Creation of a World Capital*. London: Viking.

Kerr, J. and Gibson, A. (eds) (2012) *London: from punk to Blair* (2nd Edition). London: Reaktion.

King, A.D. (1990) *Global cities: post-imperialism and the internationalization of London* (Part 1) London: Routledge.

Massey, D (2007) *World City* (particularly Part II). Cambridge: Polity Press,

Porter, R. (2000) *London: A Social History*. London: Penguin.

Sassen S. (1991) *The Global City*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Simmie J (1994) *Planning London*, London: UCL.

May, J., Wills, J., Datta, K., Evans, Y., Herbert, J. and McIlwaine, C. (2007) Keeping London working: global cities, the British state and London's new migrant division of labour, *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 32, pp. 151-167.

Sheppard, F. (1971) *London 1808-1870: the Infernal Wen*. London: Secker and Warburg.

Thornley, A. (ed. 1992) *The Crisis of London*. London: Routledge.

10.2 Other Materials

Key journals include:

Area

Geoforum

Geography Compass

The London Journal

Planning in London

Progress in Human Geography

Also:

The Mayor for London and Greater London Authority <https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/greater-london-authority-gla>

London Councils <http://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/>

City-wide newspaper: *The London Evening Standard*,

Local newspapers, e.g. *The Ilford Recorder*, *Lewisham Mercury* etc.

Local borough and neighbourhood blogs;

London listings magazine: *Time Out*