

London 1580-1830: The history of Britain's capital city.

M W 12.00-1.15 Professor John Marshall. Office: Gilman 330 E Email jmarsha2@jhu.edu.

This is a seminar-style, discussion-centred course analyzing the social, cultural, gender, religious, economic, colonial, and political history of London from Shakespeare's time through seventeenth century Revolutions, Plague, and Fire, to commercial and colonial expansion as London is often said to have become a 'modern' city in the later seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. It is based on extensive participation in discussions of extensive assigned readings (40%), on the writing of either one c8-12pp paper or 2 4-6 pp papers on the topic or topics that most interest you by the end of the semester (45%), and on writing one shorter paper of 3-4pp about half way through the semester which uses the on-line criminal trial records of the Old Bailey, London's central criminal court (15%). There will be **NO exams**.

The paper(s) can be based exclusively on the readings done for class listed on the syllabus below. A list of suggested paper topics will be provided, but you are able also to design a question that is of most interest to you in consultation with me (usually to make sure that you are not taking on something too big). I will hold individual paper conferences for every student after the shorter paper has been submitted, with the opportunity to undertake rewrites for those students who wish to do so. Paper conferences to discuss drafts of the longer paper(s) are also strongly recommended. Grading: **60% total for papers; 40% class attendance and participation.**

Course aims: The course aims to provide an incisive and extensive understanding of the central features of London's history during a period of enormous transition, as it went from a city of c200,000 in c1600 to becoming the largest city in Europe at over 1 million people by 1800, and became the capital city of an expanding empire. The course also aims to introduce students to thinking about urban history.

Required Purchases (the other books are available as library ebooks, or in one case will be loaned to you):

Peter Linebaugh, [The London Hanged](#) (Penguin 0140132627); Miles Ogborn, [Spaces of Modernity: London's Geographies 1680-1780](#) (Guilford 1572303654); David Hancock, [Citizens of the World: London merchants and the Integration of the British Atlantic Community 1735-1785](#) (Cambridge 052162942x); James Delbourgo, [Collecting the World](#) (Harvard University Press ISBN 9780674237483).

The syllabus below may be adjusted as the semester goes on, based on the discussions.

Week One:

M Aug 30 Introduction/ free wheeling Introductory Discussion: cities and how to think about them.

W Sept 1: Stephen Porter, Shakespeare's London: Everyday Life in London 1580-1616, (Amberly 2011, 978 184868 200 9), c1-3. (I will loan an individual copy to each student at Monday's class)

Week Two:

M Sept 6: No classes: Labor Day

W Sept 8: Porter, Shakespeare's London , c4-8.

Week Three:

M Sept 13: Laura Gowing, Domestic Dangers: Women, Words and Sex in Early Modern London (Oxford ISBN 9780198207634) and **Library ebook**, c1, 3,4

W Sept 15 Gowing Domestic Dangers, c5,6

Week Four:

M Sept 20: Eleanor Hubbard, City Women: Money, Sex and the Social Order in Early Modern London (Oxford 9780199609345) and **Library ebook**, c1-3

W Sept 22: Eleanor Hubbard, City Women, c4-6

Week Five:

M Sept 27 Lloyd Moote and Dorothy Moote, The Great Plague: The Story of London's most deadly year (Johns Hopkins Press, 0801884931) and **Library ebook**, c1-7 (they are very short chapters!)

W Sept 29: The Great Plague continued, c8-9, 11-13; and discussion of online special on the Plague: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tj5ztc3daBU> ("The Great Plague"/ Channel 4, Royal Television Society Award winning documentary, 1:02:36)

Week Six:

M Oct 4: Discussion of online special on Londoners' responses to the Great Fire: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GBzEoyJ_5jU ("National Geographic "Great Fire of London, The Untold Story", 44:35). With a few supplementary materials sent by email, I will talk about London after the Great Fire, and about the two Revolutions of 1640-60 and 1688-9.

W October 6: Peter Linebaugh, The London Hanged (Penguin 0140132627) , Introduction and c 1,3,4.

Week Seven:

M Oct 11 and Wed Oct 13: Linebaugh, London Hanged, c5, 7.

Wed Oct 13, Linebaugh, London Hanged, c 9, 10.

Week Eight:

M Oct 18 and Wed Oct 20 **No Classes: Shorter Paper assignment: 3-4pp.**

Old Bailey On-line: <https://www.oldbaileyonline.org>. Using this very extensive on-line resource, you are required to investigate either a single case, or a small number of similar cases about a single type of crime, whose trial was held in the central criminal court in London, The Old Bailey, at some point between the later seventeenth and the early nineteenth century (1674-1834). You need to write a short paper (3-4pp) analyzing that case and placing that case/type of crime briefly into its historical contexts. There are 100,000+ trials on this website, including such crimes as: Treason, Sedition, or Religious Offences; Murder, Manslaughter, or Infanticide; Theft, Shoplifting or Pickpocketing; Forgery or Coining; Assault; Brothel Keeping, or Bigamy. There will be **no classes and no other reading** this week. Papers should be submitted to me by email by the end of Saturday Oct 23th

Week Nine:

M Oct 25: Miles Ogborn, Spaces of Modernity: London's Geographies 1680-1780 (Guilford 1572303654), c1, 3, and 6

W Oct 27 Ogborn, Spaces, c2, 4.

Week Ten:

M Nov 1 Fahmeraz Dabhoiwala, The Origins of Sex: a history of the first sexual revolution (Penguin 9780241955963), and **ebook in library**, prologue and c1-2

W Nov 3: Dabhoiwala, Origins, cs3 and-5.

Week Eleven:

M Nov 8: David Hancock, Citizens of the World: London merchants and the Integration of the British Atlantic Community 1735-1785 (Cambridge 052162942x) , Intro, and c1-4

W: Nov 10: Hancock, Citizens, c6-7, the section 'Works of Lasting Benefit to the Country' from c9, and c10

Week Twelve:

M Nov 15: James Delbourgo, Collecting the World (Harvard University Press ISBN 9780674237483), Introduction, pp xix-xxi and xxix-xxxii; c1 pp3-8; c2 entire; c3 pp 96-116.

W Nov 17: Delbourgo, Collecting, c4 pp143-74 and 185-92; c5 entire; c7 pp320-42.

Week Thirteen: THANKSGIVING VACATION Nov 22, 24

Week Fourteen:

M Nov 29 Nick Robins, The Corporation that changed the world: How the East India Company shaped the modern multinational (Pluto Press ISBN 9781849646918) and **Library ebook**, Introduction and c1-4

W Dec 1 Robins, Corporation, c5-7.

Week Fifteen:

M December 6 G.Gerzina, Black London: Life before Emancipation (<http://collections.dartmouth.edu/published-derivatives/gerzina-black-london-1995/pdf/gerzina-black-london-1995.pdf>), selections, probably c2-4

Final Paper(s) Due by email to me by the end of 12/20. Paper conferences are very, very strongly encouraged. Not leaving it until the very last minute is also very, very strongly encouraged! I am very happy to receive paper(s) and discuss them earlier in term. (The Thanksgiving vacation is a really good time to start to write/plan them!!!)