

# Course Syllabus

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## COURSE SYLLABUS

### International Real Estate Regions: London

*Date and time: Thursdays, 1:30-3:30 pm*

*Location: 200 Fayerweather*

Instructor: Kate Ascher

Fayerweather 324M

[kja2127@columbia.edu](mailto:kja2127@columbia.edu)

(646) 398-0077 (cell)

Teaching Assistant: Shivam Jumani

[Shivam.jumani@columbia.edu](mailto:Shivam.jumani@columbia.edu)

(646) 696-1970

## 1. Course Description

*International Real Estate Regions: London* is a half-semester course that focuses on real estate development in London, and combines classroom study and a week-long site visit during spring break. The first several weeks of study will be focused on providing a historical, economic and political perspective for real estate development today in London. This includes a consideration of the role of the royal family and landed gentry in initiating urban development, the impact of the Great Estates on London's physical, the nature of public housing both before and after the World Wars, and the crucial link between transport and real estate development. Students will also learn the basics of the planning process which governs development in the capital, as well as political and financial issues relevant to commercial and residential development projects.

## 1. Course Requirements and Assignments

The class will involve six lectures, supported by relevant readings. Students will be expected to attend all classes and complete assigned weekly readings. Short assignments or reflections on selected topics from these readings may also be requested. Students may be asked to submit a paper based on the group's experiences and visits in London in March.

### III. Course Grading Criteria

Course grading criteria are as follows:

- Completion of reading reflections: 30%
- Attendance and in-class participation: 30%<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>
- Class presentations: 40%

Only exceptional performers will receive a High Pass. Those who do not fully participate in class or on activities in London will receive a Low Pass.

#### 1. Readings

Students will be expected to complete readings in advance of class. With the exception of any from required textbooks, these will be posted one week in advance on *Courseworks*.

There is one required textbook for the course, which is available in bookstores or may be ordered on-line:

Farrell, Terry, Shaping London: the Patterns and Forms that Make the Metropolis, Columbia University Press, 2012.

#### 1. Course Outline

##### January 19: the origins of London real estate

- Early London – location and trading center
- Westminster and the City of London

West End-

- Parks, open space, Nash, regal London
- The Great Estates and the squares
- Industrial change

- The tube and new suburbs
- Social housing
- Greenbelt

*Readings: Shaping London (textbook):*

- *Introduction pg 8 to 19*
- *The Urban Thames pg 36 to 59*
- *Landscapes, Parks and Gardens pg 236 to 255*

## **January 26: The City and the rise of skyscrapers**

- History of The city (Fire)
- Legal status and governance today
- The physical City – markets, train stations and railyards and skyscrapers
- The rise of tall
- Thameslink + Crossrail – intersection of transit
- Towards a mixed-use City?
- Barbican – attempt to bring mixed use to the City
- Innovation area around old street, Moorgate

*Readings: London's Growing Up (NLA) Chapter 1 to 3*

*City Local Plan 2015 pg 1-37, 109-121, 135-144.*

## **February 2: Development in the east**

- Early attempts in the London Docklands
- DLR and Canary Wharf
- The London Docklands Development Corporation
- The Olympics and Stratford reborn
- Looking forward

*Readings: Shaping London (textbook):*

- *The Docklands (pg 60 to 77)*

*London Docklands Revisited by Sue Brownill (on Courseworks)*

## **February 9: NO CLASS**

## **February 16: Rediscovering the river**

- The river's impact on development
- South Bank vs North Bank
- Industrial uses
- Post-industrial decline
- Rediscovering the river
  - Power plants – Tate Modern and Battersea
  - Vauxhall
  - Wapping, east of Tower Bridge
  - Greenwich – dome, cable car, etc
  - The South Bank
  - Canals/ Tributaries and property Maida Vale, Paddington etc

*Readings: Shaping London (textbook):*

- *The Tributaries pg 102 to 111*
- *Canals (114 to 131)*

## **February 23: Transit-oriented development**

- The Jubilee Line and London Bridge
- Paddington
  - Crossrail
  - Kings Cross
  - The London Overground

*Readings: Shaping London (textbook):*

- *Railways pg 132 to 151*
- *The Tube pg 152 to 165*

## **March 2: The development process**

- London governance

- the boroughs
- financing development
- the process and the players
- view corridors

*Readings: London's Growing Up (NLA) Chapter 4 and 5 (on courseworks)*

*Thames Court case study (on courseworks)*

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