

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School / Department:	CASS
Programme:	BA AVC
FHEQ Level:	5
Course Title:	Stately Homes and Palaces of London
Course Code:	AVC 5455
Course Leader:	Dr. Robert Wallis
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures:	22.5
Gallery Visits / Tutorials:	22.5
Independent / Guided Learning:	75
Semester:	Fall
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

This course looks at London's historic past through the architecture, design and art of the area's palatial and stately residences. Where relevant, gardens will also be considered. Drawing upon London's reputation as a 'museum metropolis', the course uses a series of case-study houses and palaces to trace developments particularly in architectural styles and interior design over the past 500 years, exploring how buildings may be understood and interpreted. Visits are made to key locations, providing students with valuable opportunities to practice analytic and connoisseurship skills and gain a sense of the 'genius of the place'.

Prerequisites:

AVC 3200 Foundations of Art Across Cultures or HST 3100 World Cultural History I

Aims and Objectives:

- To introduce students to key monuments in the architectural history of London and its environs
- To provide first-hand, empirical experience of the architecture and interiors of historic sites in central and Greater London
- To introduce key issues in the historical and cultural development of Britain as these pertaining to the specific locations studied

- To introduce students to the varied approaches to the analysis of three-dimensional design relevant to those monuments and locations
- To promote critical engagement with the aesthetics of the built environment
- To build a deepened understanding of the topic area by developing a working framework of British history, architecture and design from the late Renaissance period through the Victorian Age of Empire and into the 21st Century

Programme Outcomes:

A5(i); A5(ii);A5(iii);B5(i);B5(iii);C5(i);C5(ii);C5(iii);D5(1);D5(ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-schools/academic-registry/program-and-course-specifications.aspx>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Show a detailed understanding of contemporary discourses and methods relating to the critical evaluation of national heritage
- Demonstrate an understanding of techniques of visual analysis as applied to historical architectural monuments and interiors in London and its environs
- Show critical engagement with the aesthetics of the built environment
- Demonstrate well-developed skills (e.g. groupwork, writing, oral presentations) which translate to workplace.
- Completion of assigned work with a degree of clarity, technical competence and critical thinking, and a degree of independence and capacity for self-evaluation, appropriate for a 5000-level course

Indicative Content:

- Procession and pageantry
- Urban planning and the display of social hierarchy
- Representations of military victory and globalised trade
- Public vs. private spaces
- Domestic ritual
- Virtues of landscape and the 'pastoral'
- The presence and use of archaeological and historical evidence in reconstructing the past life of a 'heritage' site
- Site visits

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admitted-students/>

Teaching Methodology:

The course will be taught through classroom lectures and seminar classes, and through a series of closely guided site visits, with the intent of using London itself, and its environs, as the 'living' classroom. Lectures will follow the schedule detailed in the syllabus, and are structured as surveys and overviews of both accepted knowledge and current debate on each theme/topic. Short seminars will be held as feed-back opportunities in the subsequent session following each site visit, with a view to ensuring the integration of individual learning/interpretation from each site into the learning of the whole class. Seminars rely upon active student preparation, note-taking and response to each site, and will consist of student-led discussion of historical, perceptual and heritage issues arising from each site. Visits will comprise tutor mini-lectures and explanations, student independent exploration, small group and full group exploration and guided discussion.

Indicative Text(s):

Ackroyd, P. (2001) London, the Biography (London, Vintage)

Mandler, P. (2009) The Fall and Rise of the Stately Home (New Haven and London, Yale)

Saunders, A. (1984/1988) The Art and Architecture of London (London, Phaidon)

Soros, S. (2013) William Kent: Designing Georgian Britain (London, Victoria and Albert Museum)

Journals

Web Sites

See syllabus for complete reading list

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
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Content (and template) updated from 2013 (to 2017 template) in spring 2018		