

**London Study Tour 2023
(Maymester THEA 490H)
Course description and syllabus**

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This course is designed for the student who is interested in observing a culture politically, theoretically, ethically, religiously, socially, and philosophically through live performance. This course will explore issues of equality, diversity, inclusion, or exclusion that define the cities of London/Dublin based upon the performance visible on the stages of each city.

Prior to arrival in London/Dublin, each student selected for the course will choose a specific area of ‘personnel truth’ to explore, such as race, gender, sexuality, politics, religion, ritual, or science. The student will research the issue as it “plays out” at Penn State, their hometown, in the U.S. and in the U.K. Issue choices will be discussed during the first few mandatory meetings.

The first meeting will also discuss the specific School of Theatre production(s) which this course requires attendance. Once in London, prior personal research on specific diversity issues will act as a foundation for personal observations of both a culture in practice and the practice of theatre within a culture. The personal observations will be applied to daily observation journal, post-performance discussions, and one topical seminar paper due by 5:00 pm Tuesday, May 31st after our return. Ongoing observations will be shared in informal settings Throughout the course, an assessment of individual explorations will be based upon a journal, the post-show discussions, and the seminar paper. Class participation in all discussion is encouraged.

Pre-departure Seminars will be in Theatre 128 at the University Park campus

Dates

March 18	INTO THE WOODS	7:30pm	Playhouse Theatre
April 10	Class and discussion	7 pm	128 School of Theatre
April 12	Emilia	7:30pm	Playhouse Theatre
April 23	Class and discussion	7 pm	128 School of Theatre (Mandatory)

Course Work:

To be turned in and graded: 1. Journal 2. Seminar paper 3. Any other assignment required by the

instructors while at Penn State or in London/Dublin

Student journals will be documented and read periodically while in London/Dublin students will be given a participation grade, which evaluates your level of inquisitiveness and positive contributions to discussions and other group activities (which includes returning emails). 3 assignments will be given throughout the course. Those assignments will be TBA. Along with the journal and assignments, the student will also write a comprehensive paper due May 31, 5 pm The paper will be inspired by your London/Dublin experience and your topic of truth, exploring your subject through viewed performances from an historical, literary, or analytical point of view. Your topic should be based on consultations with the instructor. We will be in communication through Canvas and other forms of group chat applications, so please check your settings and email.

Grading:

Participation	40%
Assignments	20%
Journal	20%
Final Paper	20%

Code of Conduct:

Student Misconduct:

Clearly, both the online and the face-to-face learning world present similar chances for inappropriate student behaviors. All expectations and policies regarding student conduct are ultimately guided by Penn State's Code of Conduct: <https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/support-safety-conduct/student-conduct/code-conduct>

In brief, the University's Code of Conduct states that all students should act with personal integrity, respect other students' dignity, rights and property, and help create and maintain an environment in which all can succeed through the fruits of their efforts. Any student behaving in a manner which violates these essential principles will be subject to disciplinary sanctions.

Two Strike Rule:

A strike will be given to any student who breaks the code of conduct rules while traveling in London/Dublin. While traveling in the UK it might seem very much like home, however it is not. We are in a foreign country! 2 strikes will be given to each student and on the second strike, the student will be sent home at the expense of the student. This is at the discretion of the teachers while in the UK.

1. Never go anywhere alone. Let your leader or buddy know where you are.
2. Never bring anyone not on the LST into apartment of hotel.

University Policies

Disability/alternate media:

Penn State welcomes students with disabilities into the University's educational programs. Every Penn State campus has an office for students with disabilities. Student Disability Resources (SDR) website provides [contact information for every Penn State campus](#). For further information, please visit [Student Disability Resources website](#).

In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, you must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: [See documentation guidelines](#). If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus disability services office will provide you with an accommodation letter. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early as possible. You must follow this process for every semester that you request accommodations.

If you have a documented disability, send a copy of the letter from the Office of Disability services to your instructor (using Canvas email). If you suspect that you have a disability but have not been assessed, you must contact the Office of Disability Services at: <http://equity.psu.edu/ods/applying-for-services-from-ods>

Counseling and Psychological Services Statement:

Many students at Penn State face personal challenges or have psychological needs that may interfere with their academic progress, social development, or emotional wellbeing. The university offers a variety of confidential services to help you through difficult times, including individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, consultations, online chats, and mental health screenings. These services are provided by staff who welcome all students and embrace a philosophy respectful of clients' cultural and religious backgrounds, and sensitive to differences in race, ability, gender identity and sexual orientation.

[Counseling and Psychological Services at University Park \(CAPS\)](#): 814-863-0395

Counseling and Psychological Services at [Commonwealth Campuses](#)

Penn State Crisis Line (24 hours/7 days/week): 877-229-6400

Crisis Text Line (24 hours/7 days/week): Text LIONS to 741741

Educational Equity/Report Bias Statement:

Penn State University has adopted a "[Protocol for Responding to Bias Motivated Incidents](#)" that is grounded in the policy that the "University is committed to creating an educational environment which is free from intolerance directed toward individuals or groups and strives to create and maintain an environment that fosters respect for others." That policy is embedded within an institution traditionally committed to [academic freedom](#). Bias motivated incidents include conduct that is defined in University [Policy AD 91: Discrimination and Harassment, and Related Inappropriate Conduct](#). Students, faculty, or staff who experience or witness a possible bias motivated incident are

urged to report the incident immediately by doing one of the following:

- * Submit a report via the [Report Bias webpage](#)
- * Contact one of the following offices:

University Police Services, University Park: 814-863-1111

Multicultural Resource Center, Diversity Advocate for Students: 814-865-1773

Office of the Vice Provost for Educational Equity: 814-865-5906

Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs: 814-865-0909

Affirmative Action Office: 814-863-0471

- * Dial 911 in cases where physical injury has occurred or is imminent.

Student Misconduct:

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In brief, the University's Code of Conduct states that all students should act with personal integrity, respect other students' dignity, rights and property, and help create and maintain an environment in which all can succeed through the fruits of their efforts. Any student behaving in a manner which violates these essential principles will be subject to disciplinary sanctions.

Plagiarism/academic integrity:

Academic integrity — the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest and responsible manner, free of fraud and deception — is an important educational objective of Penn State. Academic integrity is a basic guiding principle for all academic activity at The Pennsylvania State University, and all members of the University community are expected to act in accordance with this principle.

All students in this class agree to abide by the principles of academic integrity. All cases of dishonesty in this course, including cheating on examinations and quizzes, or plagiarism on writing assignments, will not be tolerated and will be dealt with according to the policies of the University. Cheating by sharing information during or about exams and quizzes or using unauthorized materials will result in an AUTOMATIC ZERO for the student's assessment and further action as outlined by University policy.

Academic dishonesty can lead to a failing grade or referral to the [Office of Student Conduct](#). Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- Cheating
- Plagiarism
- Fabrication of information or citations
- Facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others

- Unauthorized prior possession of examinations
- Submitting the work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor and securing written approval
- Tampering with the academic work of other students

Copyright Policy:

All course materials students receive or to which students have online access are protected by copyright laws. Students may use course materials and make copies for their own use as needed, but **unauthorized distribution and/or uploading of materials without the instructor's express permission is strictly prohibited**. Students who engage in the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted materials may be held in violation of the University's Code of Conduct, and/or liable under Federal and State laws. University Policy AD 40, the University Policy Recording of Classroom Activities and Note Taking Services addresses this issue more specifically:

<https://guru.psu.edu/policies/AD40.html>

Communication Policy:

University policy dictates that the instructor cannot discuss academic information with students via e-mail EXCEPT when messages are sent to and from your PSU e-mail account.

College of Arts & Architecture Policies:

For the College of Arts and Architecture Academic Integrity Policy Statement, see:

http://www.artsandarchitecture.psu.edu/students/acad_integrity.

To see a copy of the College's sanctioning guidelines, see:

http://artsandarchitecture.psu.edu/sites/artsandarchitecture.psu.edu/files/Sanctioning_Guidelines.pdf.

Course Policies/Makeup Policy:

If you have a conflict with any of the assessment dates on the semester schedule, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor well in advance via e-mail to discuss. Makeup quizzes, exams, and/or extended deadlines are only authorized under extraordinary circumstances and at the instructor's discretion.

NOTICE: This Syllabus is subject to change. Students will be notified in the event of any changes, and the amended syllabus will be posted.