Course Description: This is a special double course about London and the making of Modern Britain. It is impossible to understand London without considering Britain’s empire and its relations with Europe. Over three centuries, from 1700-2000, Britain fought and defeated its rival European powers, and gained and lost the world’s largest empire. London was the center of it all. Unlike any city in the United States, London is at once the intellectual, governmental, bureaucratic, cultural, and economic center of an entire nation – and at one time of an empire ruling 25 percent of the world’s people and land. But London is also very much a product of its engagement with the British provinces, Europe, the empire, and other global forces – it was never an all powerful force shaping other places to its interests. Immigration from the Roman Empire, from across Europe, and from what is now the former empire in Ireland, India, Africa, and the Caribbean, has profoundly shaped the city’s history over thousands of years. As we learn about the city and its development, we will question our assumptions about Britain, its people, and its past, about being in a foreign country, and about life in a world megalopolis.

Course Requirements: Attending all daily outings is required. We will begin each morning in the entrance to Schafer House at 9:30am British Summer Time, or depending on the daily activities at another time announced verbally and in writing the prior day. Set your watch to the Schafer clock. Each absence at 9:30 costs half of a letter grade to your final grade. Don’t be late!

Map Assignment 10%
Timeline Assignment 10%
Short Moment-in-Time Papers (X3) 20%
Final journal or other final project 30%
Active Participation 30%

Active participation means completing all readings, listening attentively to lectures and discussions throughout the city and to guest lecturers, asking questions, offering ideas, and taking notes and photographs to document your learning.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a serious offence. It is not limited to uncited quotations but includes the uncited use of other people’s IDEAS and EVIDENCE even if you paraphrase. I will immediately fail an assignment containing plagiarized material and refer your case to the Office of Student Conduct: http://www.cs.ucr.edu/cs14/cs14_04spr/handouts/ucr_aka_dis_policy.html

Late Papers: Late assignments will lose 10% per day.

Books & Readings: The reading list is on the course iLearn site.