

Art, Music, & Architectural History: *Highlights from Syracuse London*

Art history, music history, and architectural history students have the opportunity to engage with the multicultural city that is London. The Syracuse London Center has strong connections to a wide network in the London art world – we invite you to consider spending a semester abroad with us, where you can make the most of your time in the UK through academic coursework, internships, and extracurricular programming.

Highlighted Courses: Art, Music, & Architectural History

ARC434: London's Built Environment

London's Built Environment: The Ways of the Architect presents a history of London's built environment by examining the changing attitudes and practices of British architects from the mid-17th to the mid-20th century. It explores the ways in which London's architectural culture was understood and produced through its architects' diverse trainings, evolving modes of design and notions of style, built and theoretical work. The syllabus is built around critical understandings of buildings. Each of the four thematic chapters of the course involves two seminars and a site visit, taking you to get a behind-the-scenes look at some of London's architectural gems.

ARC500: Genealogies of the City

Genealogies of the City: A Comparative Study of London's Urban Lineage examines the development of London in relation to three European cities: Lisbon, Paris, and Barcelona. These four cities serve as useful case studies in understanding paradigms connected with the radical transformations of urban environment from the 17th century onward.

Through notions of biopolitics, political economy and architectural and urban history, the course explores the genealogies of the public in the city and of the private in the house. The content will address the role of planning in the formation of the public realm, and as a response by public and private authorities and entities to the emerging problematics of population. The course includes numerous site visits to places across London. The assignments consist of a series of drawings—maps, axonometrics, sections—that critically explore the formation and transformation of each city.

ART400: History of Contemporary Design

This course offers a survey of major design movements and leading designers over the past 150 years. It examines the evolution of design, its changing cultural, ideological, economic and technological contexts, and the development of the role of the designer within this period. Lectures and reflective assignments are supplemented with visits to sites such as the Victoria & Albert Museum, the Barbican Centre, and the Tate Modern.

HOA208: An Architectural History of London

London's architecture has been influenced by Italy, France, and America. London originally developed around two centres located two miles apart along the River Thames. The original walled city, founded by the Romans nearly 2000 years ago, is now a world centre of finance and commerce; while at the West End, state and church now preside where the monastic settlement of Westminster was located.

This class pairs weekly lectures with site visits and walking tours, seeing locations such as the Tower of London, Westminster Abbey, Whitehall Banqueting Hall, the National Gallery, and the Royal Opera House.

HOA372: The Business of Art

Physical works of art, in addition to being some of the most significant cultural manifestations produced by man, are also an important commercial product. This course offers an introduction to the practice and strategies of art as a tradable commodity. Visits to studios, museums, galleries, and auction houses help the class consider the ethics of collecting, investment strategies, the conservation and preservation of art, and art-related crime.

HOA/HST473: London Museums

Through the study of London's outstanding array of museums and galleries, this class familiarizes students with museum-related debates, curatorial practice, and heritage skills. Students analyse major art-historical and sociological themes from the perspective of both museum-goers (the public) and museum-insiders (curators, restorers, trustees etc.). Weekly visits to museums enable students to test theories in front of original works.

HOA/HST474: A History of London in 11 Objects

This class is an object-led study of the history of London through some of the city's most important art. Examining a selection of paintings, sculpture, and buildings, the course introduces students to the various ways objects tell their stories. Through weekly site visits, students what those objects say about the history of the neighbourhoods in which they are housed.

Professional Development & Industry Opportunities

London is the perfect space to explore a career related to the arts. Alongside our optional internship experience, Syracuse offers several classes designed to help students understand professional pathways in the creative industries.

CRS300: London's Creative Industries

This class explores what makes London such a rich home for creativity and economy. Assignments include analysing a social justice issue in the creative industries and a project proposal for your own event/performance to practice your skills in 'pitching'. Students will explore questions like:

- What is creativity and how is it channelled into and exploited by markets?
- How do London's creative industries reflect and (re)produce individual and collective identities?
- How does Britain's long history of colonisation, empire, and industry impact today's creative industries?
- How can I launch an international career in the creative industries?

This course involves behind-the-scenes tours of creative venues, attendance at performances, and interviews with high-profile creative professionals.

HOM300: Performance Live: London

Through weekly attendance at events, this course questions 'performance' and how to become more aware as a spectator in all viewing, listening, and sensing experiences. Students develop methods for thinking and feeling a performance, starting with their expectations of it, through moments of experiencing it, to the afterglow of its happening. Examining music, theatre, dance, and interdisciplinary art, the class considers how various models of critical response work with different types of performance.

The Global Workplace (Internship Program)

Art, music, and architectural history students are especially encouraged to participate in the Syracuse London Internship Program. Internship students will earn 3 credits, inclusive of their credits for 'The Global Workplace' class.

This course is designed to guide students' professional development during experience in the workforce. Participation in the course will equip students with the practical skills needed to thrive in a globalised world of work. Students will be introduced to the global workplace, consider evolving careers in a changing world, identify ethical issues of concern for businesses and workers, and refine their professional objectives and strategies.

See highlighted internship opportunities on the next page.

Example Internship Placements

Syracuse London has several existing partnerships relating to the creative industries. Charlie Loynes, Internship Program Manager, also fosters new relationships with placement hosts each semester based on student interest.

Archer & Braun

Archer & Braun are a small firm focused on approachable and contextual architecture for public, private and commercial clients. Interns can get involved with blueprints, publicity design, and client meetings.

Big Indie Records

An independent record label based in Austin, TX and London, England. Interns have the opportunity to create content for socials, shadow team members, and attend A&R pitch meetings.

Culture&

Culture& is an independent arts and education charity formed in 1988 and based in London. They work in partnership with heritage institutions and artists to develop programmes that promote diversity in the workforce and expand audiences. Interns attend new art exhibits and installations and create content for the Culture& website and social media accounts.

DMY Artists

DMY Artists' mission is to help artists make a sustainable income from their music while building better connections with their fans via distribution, publishing, and NFT services for artists. Interns create content for DMY's socials and magazine, attend concerts, and shadow team members.

Migration Museum

The Migration Museum explores how the movement of people to and from Britain across the ages has influenced the contemporary UK. Interns catalogue materials, transcribe interviews, and help curate new exhibits.

Solar Management

A London-based artist, songwriter and producer management company. Interns will have the opportunity to review contracts, attend meetings, manage socials, and engage with Solar's artists.

Unseen Tours

Unseen Tours hosts walking tours and experiences curated by people affected by homelessness. Interns work with guides to develop, curate, and lead guided walking tours to various neighbourhoods in London.

Meet a few of our Faculty



Ella Finer works in sound and performance, spanning writing, composing, and curating with a particular interest in how women's voices take up space. She also explores how bodies acoustically disrupt, challenge or change the order of who is allowed to occupy – command – space. Ella has performed in galleries, theatres and with broken records, voice scores and speech choirs. Her project *Sound Politics* queries the ownership of cultural expression

through sound, informing recently curated events at the British Library. Ella is a trustee of [Longplayer](#) and a member of the [International Western](#).

Both as a Routemaster bus driver and as former Director of Critical and Historical Studies at the Royal College of Art, **Joe Kerr** has an exceptionally passionate love for London in all its untamed chaos. In 1995, Joe curated 'Strangely Familiar: Narratives of Architecture and The City' (RIBA). He guided tours as part of the Tate's 'Disappearing London' season, and uses that knowledge to show Syracuse students London's multi-layered past. Among Joe's many books are 'Autopia: Cars and Culture' (2002) and 'London from Punk to Blair' (2004).



Jacqueline Springer is Curator Africa & Diaspora: Performance at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London. Jacqueline began her media career in print, writing for several specialist music titles before moving to the BBC as a Senior Broadcast Journalist in radio, contributing to discussions on contemporary music, culture, and representation. Jacqueline is a co-founder of the fashion, culture and identity studies event curation duo **Union**

Black where the relationship between music, sartorial style, race, and cultural identities are explored via bespoke commissions.

Frank Wasser is a doctoral researcher at the University of Oxford, where he examines issues of voice, class, and colonialism in art economics. Wasser regularly runs workshops for key sites such as Tate Modern and Tate Britain and has consulted for major art collections and fairs such as Frieze art fair and Art Basel. Frank has also worked on appraisals, auctions, and provenance documentation for private collectors as well as institutes such as London's iconic Sotheby's Auction House.



Programming Highlights

Alongside course-related field trips led by our professors, the staff at Syracuse University London organise excursions throughout the semester. Our co-curricular programming is designed to give students insight into British culture and make the most of their time abroad.

Town Hall Tuesday sessions feature student-led conversations about things that matter. Join the Syracuse London community for informal discussion about personal wellbeing, professional development, and political justice. Previous topics have included:

- Access to Heritage and (Dis)Ability in the Creative Industries
- Ethical Tourism
- Race, Gender, and Sexuality on Stage

Our **Wellbeing Wednesday** series invites students to invest in their physical, mental, individual, and collective health. Throughout the semester, we'll make the most of London's green spaces with park runs and gardening. We'll also volunteer at a river clean-up, try our hand at cricket, and more.

London's theatre scene regularly engages with pressing social and political issues. Join our **Theatre Thursdays** to see star-studded performances on the West End grappling with questions race, gender, class, and human nature. After each show, come along for a community conversation with special guests to reflect on the production. Previous shows have included:

- *Cabaret*
- *Hamilton*
- *Les Misérables*

And while London is undeniably an amazing city, don't forget that there is far more to the United Kingdom than England's capital. A collection of **day and overnight field trips** encourages students to explore the wonderful Welsh countryside, follow in the footsteps of the Romans and Vikings in York, and enjoy the beauty of the Scottish Highlands. Great Britain and Northern Ireland have more to offer than you might think – embrace it all! Previous trips have highlighted:

- a behind-the-scenes tour of the Wales Millennium Centre, featuring the National Opera and their scene shop;
- an archaeological investigation of the Roman Theatre of St Albans, built in 140 AD and still used for performances to this day;
- The Beatles Museum and Cavern Club in Liverpool; and
- a trip down a coal mine at the Big Pit National Coal Museum in Wales.