

# OFF-CAMPUS STUDY - SPRING 2022

## COLGATE IN LONDON (ENGLISH)

**Director:**

Linck Johnson, Department of English

**Tentative Program Dates:**

late-January to May, 2022

**Learn about the 2021-22 Colgate Study Groups and Talk With the Faculty Directors at the Study Group Fair on Wednesday, October 7th, 2020, 4:00–5:00:**

<https://www.colgate.edu/academics/off-campus-study/campus-opportunities/virtual-study-group-fair>

**For more information about the program:** Please contact Prof. Johnson at [ljohnson@colgate.edu](mailto:ljohnson@colgate.edu)

**Information Sessions will be held on:**

Tuesday, October 13 at 11:45am - <https://colgate.zoom.us/j/93559856268>  
and

Thursday, October 15 at 4:00pm - <https://colgate.zoom.us/j/99724391841>

## Colgate University's

London English Study Group offers students the opportunity to live and study for a full semester in one of the world's great cities. In fact, London will be a central "text" of the study group, which is designed to immerse students in the culture, history, and life of the city. Through a study of London novels, including several focusing on immigrants experiencing the dizzying complexity of the city for the first time, students will develop a sense of the physical and historical contexts of British fiction. The impact of World War I on all aspects of English life and culture will be the special topic of a course in modern British literature, in which students will study a wide range of materials and visit museums, monuments, and other memorial sites in London. In a course on the contemporary London theater, students will study with an acclaimed playwright and attend a play each week. Finally, through a course on the history of London, which will include walking tours of all parts of the city, students will gain a further appreciation of its central place in Britain and its former empire, a magnet for immigrants who have transformed it into one of the most vibrant and multicultural cities in the world.

**Course of Study and Calendar:**

All students accepted into the group will take English 290, an introduction to study in London, 0.25-credit on-campus course in the fall of 2021; and four courses in London. Three of those courses will offer credit in the English Department: English 324Y and English 331Y, both taught by the director; and English 332Y, taught by a resident theater specialist in London. The fourth course will be History 249, taught by another resident specialist in London. In addition to the four required courses, there will be a series of day and overnight trips, as described below under Field Trips. With minor adjustments, the program will hew to Colgate's academic calendar for the spring semester of 2022, during which both Economics and History will also have study groups in London.

*Students participating in the English study group will satisfy the Core Global Engagements requirement by taking English 324Y (see course description below).*

**Required Courses:****English 324Y: Periods in British Literature: London in Fiction (L. Johnson)**

In this course, we will explore the ways in which the city and urban life have been represented by fiction writers from Charles Dickens in the 1830s through the works of immigrant authors in “postcolonial” London. Together, we will examine a series of interrelated topics, including the nature of the modern urban experience and its challenges to traditional modes of literary representation; the relation between the “real” and the imagined or invented city; the role of wealth, class, ethnicity, and race in the social dynamics of urban life; the impact of immigration and consequent development of diverse, hybrid communities; and evolving ideas of national character and identity, of “Englishness” and “England.”

**English 331Y: Modern British Literature: The Great War and British Culture (L. Johnson)**

In this course we will focus on the impact and legacy of World War I, 1914-1918, in all areas of British culture, from works produced during and immediately after the conflict to more recent works such as Pat Barker’s powerful novel *Regeneration*. What was known as the “Great War” ushered in the modern era and radically altered the ways in which writers and other artists viewed the world. In addition to novels and stories, poetry, and memoirs, the “texts” for the course will include plays and films; war monuments and memorials, in both England and Belgium; and paintings and exhibitions at institutions such as the Imperial War Museum in London.

**English 332Y: Contemporary London Theater and Culture (M. Punter)**

A study of drama, both classic and modern, as represented by plays in production in London during the spring of 2022. Students will see and study roughly ten plays, focusing on theoretical and technical aspects of drama, as well as on what specific productions reveal about British culture or contemporary London.

**History 249: History of the City of London (K. Layton-Jones)**

A course in the social and cultural history of England’s greatest city. Every week, students will meet for one session in the classroom and one session in the form of a walking tour of London.

**Excursions:**

The group will take two overnight trips and several day trips. Early in the semester we will travel by coach and ferry across the English Channel to explore the military cemeteries, war memorials, and the In Flanders Fields Museum in Ypres (now formally Ieper), Belgium, where three major battles took place during World War I. In the spring we will tour and spend the night in Bath, named a World Heritage site in recognition of its beautifully preserved architectural history, with stops at the ancient megaliths at Stonehenge and the world-famous landscape garden at Stourhead.

In addition to the visits to sites in and around London, we will also take day trips to other sites of cultural and historical importance, including Battle (site of the Battle of Hastings), Cambridge, Oxford, and Winchester, including a tour of the nearby Sandham Memorial Chapel, often described as “Britain’s answer to the Sistine Chapel.”

**Facilities:**

Classes will be held at the ACCENT London Study Center in the heart of Bloomsbury, just a few blocks from the British Museum. The complex houses a modest library and computer facility, which will be available to students. Students will become members of the University College London Student Union. Students will reside in five- to six-person furnished flats in Bloomsbury, a five-minute walk from ACCENT. Each flat has a bathroom, kitchen, and common room. Students share kitchen space and are expected to provide their own meals.

**Costs in London:**

For details of student expenses on this study group, please see the student cost estimate sheet on the Off-Campus Study website.

**Prerequisites and Selection Criteria:**

Priority will go to prospective English and English/Creative Writing concentrators in the class of 2023. But there are no formal prerequisites for the program, and all Colgate students may apply, regardless of their concentration.

**Passports and Visas**

You must confirm that your passport is valid through December 2022. All students participating on the spring 2022 London English Study Group will be required to obtain a U.K. student visa. With participation on this study group comes the responsibility of understanding and complying with U.K. visa requirements. If you will not be traveling on a U.S. passport it is imperative that you contact an adviser in Off-Campus Study and International Student Services, 101 McGregory, to learn as much as you can about the visa requirements. For some students there are significant requirements to be met that take time, advance planning, and incur costs.

**Calendar and Deadline**

The study group application will open on Wednesday, October 7, 2020, and will close on Wednesday, November 4, 2020. All applications are on the Colgate University Off-Campus Study website and are submitted online at [offcampusstudy.colgate.edu](http://offcampusstudy.colgate.edu). Only finalists in the selection process will be interviewed. Interviews will be arranged by e-mail in November/December, and admissions decisions will take place late December/early January.