N.U.in England Course Descriptions

The Global Experience
This course is an introduction to living and learning abroad. The main aim of this course is to help students prepare for, gain from and reflect upon their term abroad as a profound global experience. Through workshops, seminars, course readings, discussions, and local civic engagement, the course will challenge students to become global citizens and ambassadors by actively participating in their own learning, local team and community as well the greater study abroad community, Northeastern, and beyond. Ongoing, online reflection will help students to articulate their own experiences, respond to others’ experiences and ultimately make connections between global experiences around the world.

British Life and Cultures
The course serves as the anchor of a study program in London, offering students an opportunity to place what they are learning in their other courses into a larger, contemporary context. It also enables students to appreciate more of what they observe during their stay in Britain.

Calculus for Business and Economics
This course introduces students to the use of derivatives and integrals in solving problems in business and economics. On successful completion of this course, students will have developed an understanding of basic calculus techniques, such as calculations of derivatives and anti-derivatives of common functions.

College Writing: Britain as Text
This course offers students the opportunity to move across texts and genres, thus focusing on the basics of compositions and the use of metaphor, organization, selection, gaps and silences, tone, and point of view. Through a series of sequenced assignments, students read fiction and non-fiction texts of some complexity, make the critical interpretation of these texts the occasion for their own writing, write the expository prose that makes use of a variety of rhetorical strategies, conduct library research when appropriate, reflect on and assess their writing, and refine their documentation skills. Requires students to write multiple drafts and emphasizes the writing process as well as the quality of the finished product. Students keep a portfolio of their work.

Contemporary British Theatre
This course introduces students to a variety of texts, performances, and theatrical venues that reflect the vitality of contemporary British theatre. This course will sample various modes of production, and will offer a consideration of state subsidy for theatre within a critical framework. Students will be expected to analyze and comment critically upon various shows in performance.

Environmental Science: Our Role in Today’s World
This course offers a broad overview of physical, chemical, biological, and geological aspects associated with environmental science. Students are introduced to natural processes and interactions in the atmosphere, ocean, and on land. There is a focus on biogeochemical cycling of elements as well as changes of these natural cycles with time and with recent anthropogenic effects. Topics include population dynamics, climate change topics (ozone depletion, greenhouse effect), ecosystem interactions, etc.

Microeconomics
The focus of this course is microeconomics, which is concerned with the allocation of scarce resources between competing uses at the disaggregated level of individuals, households, and firms. We study topics such as how market economies develop and function and what causes market failure. We will also examine the underlying assumptions pertaining to rationality of an individual household in addition to firms.

Modern and Contemporary Fine Art in London
This course traces the development of modern and contemporary art. It is intended to introduce students to a variety of art forms and media as they consider the development of art from the traditional paint on canvas to video art and installations. Experiencing works of art first hand is an important element of the course, and to this end visits to a museum or art gallery will be made every week.

Music in 20th Century Britain
This course examines a wide range of important musical styles in twentieth century Britain. We will consider music-making in diverse settings: the national institutions of British classical music; the subcultures that emerged after the Second World War, such as Teddy Boys, Rockers and Mods; and the Do It Yourself culture of all-night dance music parties. We will examine the stylistic traits of different artists and genres (the forms, lyrics, instrumentation etc.) as well as the cultural, political and economic context in which each was created. As part of the class we will attend three live music events.
Transnational Studies: Global Diasporas
This course will examine the ethnic diversity of modern Britain in relation to the processes of immigration and emigration. The course will examine the imperial and post-colonial experiences of people from a diversity of ethnic and religious backgrounds (Jewish, Irish, Islamic, Black African, etc.) in order to understand their lives and experiences in this country and the way in which they view their own cultures and identities.

Understanding Civilisations: Islam and the West
This course focuses on the historical, political, and religious relationships between ‘Islam’ and the ‘West’. Islam has for centuries been Europe’s neighbour and cultural contestant with a history of conflict and co-existence. Since September 11, 2011, there has been increasing talk of a ‘clash of civilisations’, but globalisation has also created an interdependency of faiths that requires greater cooperation, understanding, and dialogue. A recurrent theme of this course is whether it is possible to separate the world into monolithic entities called ‘Islam’ and the ‘West’.