

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Tales of the City
Status: Definitive
Code: **7003MCCC** (120508)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2015

Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science
Teaching School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science

Team	Leader
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Academic Level: FHEQ7 **Credit Value:** 30.00 **Total Delivered Hours:** 48.00
Total Learning Hours: 300 **Private Study:** 252

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	24.000
Seminar	12.000
Workshop	12.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1		50.0	
Portfolio	AS2		50.0	

Aims

1. To introduce students to key debates about cities using a range of historical and literary examples
2. To identify significant historical, cultural, literary, social and political contexts that

have shaped cities from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries.

3. To encourage interdisciplinary approaches and to develop skills in critical historical and textual analysis.

4. To provide historical and literary context to aid students understanding of contemporary cities.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 To develop skills in evaluation, synthesis and presentation of scholarly arguments.
- 2 To interpret and engage with key themes in the interdisciplinary scholarship relating to the study of cities.
- 3 To think critically about problems, challenges and opportunities of studying a topic across a significant period of time and within a comparative framework.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Essay	1	
Portfolio	2	3

Outline Syllabus

Topics covered may include:

What is a city?

The Growth of Cities

Urban Migration

Sacred Spaces

The Dangerous City

Planned Cities

Political Centres

Port Cities

Public space

Communities and Mobility

Urban Space

The Radicalised City

The City and its Subcultures

The Colonial City

The Modern City

Imagined Cities

Learning Activities

Essay (50%)

Portfolio (50%)

Notes

Tales of the City' will explore changing representations of the city in a variety of contexts. It will consider the city from a historical perspective; examine how the city has been perceived, represented and created in literature; and consider to what degree cities have, in turn, been shaped by culture and history. The history and literature of cities is the primary focus of this module but it also engages with photographic, musical, artistic and filmic interpretations of the city.

Cities have always been divisive places, for some they are places of great opportunity and freedom, of modernity and dynamism, for others they symbolise dissolution and social degradation, of greed and selfishness. Accordingly, students will examine both the positives and negatives associated with urban developments.

The module provides a framework within which students can explore the ways in which the critical and analytical perspectives of the disciplines of English and History can be used in conjunction with each other