<table>
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<th>Class title</th>
<th>London in the Literature of the Fantastic</th>
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<td>Course number(s)</td>
<td>ENGL 24107</td>
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<td>Semester</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>Dr Tony Keen</td>
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**Course Overview:**
Throughout the 2,000 years of its history London has been a place of myths and legends, from Boadicea being buried under the platforms of King’s Cross station to Harry Potter using those same platforms to reach Hogwarts. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that writers of science fiction and fantasy have turned to the city as a setting and character in their works, from Victorian Gothic novels to the latest episodes of *Doctor Who*.

This course introduces students to a number of 20th and 21st Century works of the fantastic that are set entirely or primarily in London, including:

- E. Nesbit, *The Phoenix and the Carpet*
- P.L. Travers, *Mary Poppins*
- John Wyndham, *The Day of The Triffids*
- Doctor Who: *The Web of Fear*
- Neil Gaiman, *Neverwhere*
- Kate Griffin, *The Madness of Angels*
- Paul Cornell, *London Falling*
- Stephanie Saulter, *Gemsigns*
- Kieron Gillen and Jamie McKelvie, *The Wicked and the Divine, vol. I*

Classes will discuss how these texts engage with the city, and what it is in London that attracts the interest of writers. Additionally, there will be three walks through areas of London, picking out key locations in the works discussed.

**Learning objectives**
At the end of the course, students should have
- a working knowledge of the relationship between the city of London and the fantastic.
- an increased appreciation for the interrelationships between texts and locations.
- developed their ability to gain a deep appreciation of the aesthetic complexity and pleasures of texts in a range of genres.
- developed their capacity to articulate their opinions and contribute intelligently in discussions of texts.
| Assessment structure: | Class Participation: 5%  
Online journal entries (two 500 word entries, one by week 4 and one by week 8): 5%  
Class Presentation (10 minute presentation to be delivered in class, spread throughout semester): 10%  
Essay (2,500 words on a text about London, from a predetermined list, to be delivered by end of Week 10): 40%  
Exam (closed book): 40% |
|---|---|
| Required resources | E. Nesbit, *The Phoenix and the Carpet*  
P.L. Travers, *Mary Poppins*  
John Wyndham, *The Day of The Triffids*  
Doctor Who: *The Web of Fear*  
Neil Gaiman, *Neverwhere*  
Kate Griffin, *The Madness of Angels*  
Paul Cornell, *London Falling*  
Stephanie Saulter, *Gemsigns*  
Kieron Gillen and Jamie McKelvie, *The Wicked and the Divine, vol. I*  
Additional reading will be provided in photocopy or via the VLE. |
| Classroom policies | Standard London Undergraduate Program attendance policies apply.  
The Notre Dame Academic Code of Honor Pledge is observed in this course: “As a member of the Notre Dame community, I will not participate in or tolerate academic dishonesty.”  
[http://nd.edu/~hnrcode/docs/handbook.htm](http://nd.edu/~hnrcode/docs/handbook.htm) |
| Course fees | Student accounts will be charged no more than £20 for performances, required field trips and/or travel for this course. |