

# LONDON HIGH AND LOW

## Literature, Theatre, and Popular Culture

(English 395, May 31-June 20, 2022)

This three-credit course meets Humanities and Experiential Learning GenEd requirements.

### Read London. Walk London. Know London.

Starting from your lodgings in **Marylebone**, walk in the footsteps of famous writers and their characters. Discuss detective stories in the Sherlock Holmes Museum outside **Regent's Park**. Look for Harry Potter on King's Cross Station platform 9  $\frac{3}{4}$  in **St. Pancras**. Join intellectual conversations in **Bloomsbury**. Imagine Charles Dickens at work while visiting his former home in **Clerkenwell**. Haunt the labyrinthine allies of **Soho** with Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde. Stroll down the stately streets of **Westminster** with Virginia Woolf's Mrs. Dalloway. Be a groundling in Shakespeare's Globe in **Southwark**. Mingle with artists and bohemians of **Shoreditch**, and with the business crowd of **the City**. Take in the views from **Hampstead Heath**. And more. (Find the highlighted neighborhoods on the other side of this flyer ~~backside map~~ to see where our walking tours will take you.)

**Fly high and low!** Visit museums and pubs, theaters and back alleys. Experience both the great art and the cutting-edge fads of London. Savor its grand historical beauty as well as its electrifying modern diversity. Investigate the porous boundaries and mutual influences between literature and popular culture. Seeing the places you will read about will help you understand how London itself is a "character" in these diverse texts.

#### Readings:

- J. K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*
- Robert Louis Stevenson, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*
- Virginia Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*
- William Shakespeare (a play performed at the Globe during our stay)
- Course package with short texts or excerpts by Jane Austen, William Blake, John Keats  
Charles Dickens, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Zadie Smith, and a few others

#### Visits:

- Performance of a Shakespeare play at the Globe and a contemporary play
- Sherlock Holmes Museum, Charles Dickens Museum, John Keats House, Tate Britain
- Walks through London neighborhoods with stops at various places of interest
- Possible day trips to the Harry Potter World and Bath

#### Requirements:

- Participation in all class meetings, including performances and walks
- Weekly quizzes and travel/literary journal entries
- One short essay & a related oral presentation

#### Program Leaders:

Dejan Kuzmanovic ([dkuzmano@uwsp.edu](mailto:dkuzmano@uwsp.edu)) grew up in Europe and lived in London for six months in 2014. He is a passionate traveler, specializing in late-19<sup>th</sup> and early-20<sup>th</sup>-century British literature.

Robert Sirabian ([rsirabia@uwsp.edu](mailto:rsirabia@uwsp.edu)) specializes in 19<sup>th</sup>-century British Romantic and Victorian literature. He has visited London several times and enjoys sharing his passion for literature and London with students.