

**CCSA LONDON ARTS PROGRAM 2018-2019**  
**HARRY POTTER ON THE PAGE AND ON THE SCREEN**

John Alberti  
Department of English  
Northern Kentucky University

Phone: (513) 614-5720  
Email: [alberti@nku.edu](mailto:alberti@nku.edu)  
Web: <http://johnalberti.net>

### **Course Description**

You've read the books and seen the movies. Now explore the process of turning novels into films and the place of the Harry Potter phenomenon in contemporary British culture. In our course, we will discuss the film adaptations of Harry Potter while experiencing the places that inspired the books and provided unforgettable locations for the movies.

John Alberti teaches writing, literature, and popular culture studies at Northern Kentucky University, where he directs the Graduate Program and Cinema Studies minor. He has published articles and textbooks on literature and cinema studies. This is the fifth course he has taught in London.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

During this course, you will

- Explore the significance of popular narratives by experiencing the specific social and artistic culture of London and Great Britain
- Develop your understanding of the importance and influence of place in the creation of literary and movie narratives
- Learn key terms and concepts in the analysis of movies and literature
- Practice writing critically about movie adaptation using these terms and concepts

### **Methods of Assessment**

In this course, you will build your skills by

- Maintaining a journal about your reading, viewing, and travel experiences (this includes both the journal entries you complete before the class begins and those you write in London) (15 points per entry)
- Leading a class discussion about the adaptation of a novel into a movie (15 points) **Upper division credit students only**
- Planning and writing about a personal field trip
- Writing a final paper about the adaptation of a scene from a Harry Potter novel into a movie informed by your scholarly research and your experiences traveling and studying in London (30 points)

Your final grade will be based on the percentage of points you earn out of the total possible number of points

**Required Reading and Viewing (to be completed before we arrive in London):**

All seven Harry Potter novels.

All eight Harry Potter movies.

You will need to bring copies of the books with you. Electronic and/or used versions of the books are perfectly acceptable (and electronic versions are easier to pack!)

Leitch, Thomas. "Twelve Fallacies in Contemporary Adaptation Theory" (available on the class Canvas site)

**Assignments**

**Journals:** You will need to bring a laptop, tablet, or notebook in which to keep a journal about your reading and viewing experiences as well as your experiences in London.

**Before you arrive in London:**

**Reading Assignments:** Write a typed, double-spaced journal entry (at least 500 words) for each of the novels and each of the movies, focusing on what you see as key ideas, themes, and issues. Think of these entries as notes to use when we discuss the novels and movies in class. As part of your journal entries, refer to and make use of ideas from the Leitch article on adaptation theory. One of these journal entries will form the basis of your class discussion assignment (see below). You should email these entries to me before December 22<sup>th</sup>.

**In London:**

While in London, I will ask you to write at least three weekly journal entries about your experiences and how they connect to the focus of the course. These journal entries will also inform your final paper. Each journal entry should be at least 300 words long. They may be handwritten or electronic.

**Class discussion:**

For each book/movie pairing, I will ask one or two students to lead class discussion about the novel and its film adaptation, making reference to Leitch's article on the theory of film adaptation. Expand your presentation on the book and movie by **incorporating at least three other reputable sources about the adaptation of the book into a movie**. These sources may be in print or electronic; the main criterion is that they should be from an established writer/critic/scholar. You will find a list of scholarly works on Harry Potter on the class Canvas site. Prepare at least three discussion questions to use in leading discussion.

**Independent Travel Day**

You will have one day to plan and take your own field trip. Your trip should have some relation to our class and to the culture of London and Great Britain. If you are unsure whether your idea fits, just ask me. You will then prepare a

journal entry that will be due two days after the Independent Travel Day. Handwritten or as an email message are both acceptable formats. (I will confirm the date once we have a completed itinerary.)

**Final Paper:** After we return to the United States, write a 5-7 page essay, double-spaced and typed, MLA format, in which you make an argument about the adaptation of a particular scene from a book into a movie based on our class discussions and your experiences traveling and studying in London as well as **at least three critical sources**. This essay is due on **March 9, 2019**.

### Grade Calculation

#### Journals

##### Before Leaving:

Novels (7 entries) 105 points

Movies (8 entries) 120 points

##### In London:

Three journals per week (6 entries) 90 points

(Includes personal field trip)

**Leading Class Discussion** 15 points

**Final Paper** 30 points

**Total** **360 points**

<b>A</b>	<b>324+</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>288-323</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>252-287</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>216-251</b>

**Out of Pocket Travel Expenses:** Plan on budgeting £50 for any incidental expenditures associated with class activities not covered by CCSA.

**Attendance:** Attendance at all classes and class field trips is required; failure to attend class meetings or field trips can result in a grade deduction per absence. In addition to our scheduled field trips and CCSA whole group trips, I hope to include some additional cultural events.

**Academic Honesty:** As with all college classes, we operate under the assumption that all work the work that you turn in for credit is your own and not copied or plagiarized from another. Instances of academic dishonesty may result in a significant lowering of your final grade or failure of the course.

**Physical Expectations:** Plan to engage in at least three to five miles of walking in a busy urban environment every day. Winters are moderate in London, but the weather can be chilly and rainy, and even snow is not impossible, so prepare to dress accordingly. It's a good idea to bring two pairs of sturdy, broken-in walking shoes with you. Open-toed shoes and flip flops are a bad idea for field trips.

**Disabilities:** Students with disabilities or special needs must contact the instructor and the CCSA office at least a month in advance of the program's beginning so that accommodations can be made, to the extent possible in a study abroad setting. Students seeking such accommodation must provide CCSA with a copy of the letter on file with their own Office of Disability Services, outlining what services they receive on their home campus.

**Tentative Schedule (activities are subject to change due to availability and scheduling)**

**Thursday December 27:** Arrive in London. Walking tour to Buckingham Palace and Trafalgar Square

**Friday December 28:** London City Tour.

**Saturday December 29:** *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's/Philosopher's Stone; Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets.* Harry Potter in London Tour I.

**Sunday December 30:** All day program trip to Statford-upon-Avon

**Monday December 31:** *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban; Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* Harry Potter in London Tour II. Tour of Globe Theatre.

**Tuesday January 1:** Independent Travel Day

**Wednesday January 2:** Harry Potter Studio trip

**Thursday January 3:** *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix; Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince.* Museum of London. Evening: Play

**Friday January 4:** Hampton Court

**Saturday January 5:** *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part One.* London Zoo.

**Sunday January 6:** Trip to Oxford

**Monday January 7:** *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part Two.* Class wrap-up. Afternoon: Play