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## Vassar London Program on Media and Culture

Interested in media, culture, and society? The Vassar London Program may be for you! Take the chance to study in an English-speaking country and explore the vastness of a deeply historic city and culture.

For more information, please email:

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## VASSAR LONDON PROGRAM, FALL 2024

IN COLLABORATION WITH GOLDSMITHS UNIVERSITY

## Diasporic London: Movements, Media, Monuments

As a result of its dual role as imperial transnational capital and postcolonial global magnet, London is both a real and an imaginary space, marked by diaspora as a material condition of individual, social, and political experience. We will approach this most ethnically diverse world-city, where nearly 40% of today's residents were born outside the UK, as a constellation of "dislocated localities," where "roots", for many centuries now, have been grafted onto "routes" of decolonial expression, media innovation, and everyday cohabitation. We will meet with academics, writers, activists, and artists, who will enrich our discussions of a number of theoretical, fictional, and cinematic texts, illuminating the uniquely textured fabric of Diasporic London.

Our work in the classroom will be complemented by weekly onsite explorations of archives, museums, collectives, and public art. Inside and outside the classroom, our attention will be focused on how historical narratives spooled by these institutions make the diasporic element of the cultures generated on the banks of the Thames both visible and invisible. While we will travel to the four corners of the metropolitan area, we will analyze six areas of London in greater detail that have endured, and sometimes resisted, especially intensive processes of capitalization and neoliberal gentrification: Canary Wharf, Notting Hill, Hackney, Brixton, Elephant and Castle, and Lewisham, where the Goldsmiths University campus is located.