

# HIST 130: The London Blitz

**Dr. Christine Myers**

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## Office Hours

Every weekday from 10:00-11:00  
Tuesday & Thursday from 2:00-3:00  
& any day by appointment



## Course Aims & Objectives

In this course students will learn what life was like for people living in London during Germany's blitzkrieg attacks that started in September 1940. Readings will include diaries, letters, and other recollections from Londoners, and we will listen to speeches and songs, and examine cartoons and illustrations from the era showing people's responses to the air strikes. Photographs and film footage of the effects of the bombing will also be considered as historical evidence to complete students' understanding of the impact of The Blitz. ~ CDM

## Required Reading

Readings need to be accessed by students at the course webpage – <http://cdmyers.info/Blitz.html>

## Evaluation & Class Participation

Map Assignment – 10% (due Tuesday 4 September)  
Paper Proposal – 10% (due Tuesday 11 September)  
First Draft – 20% (due Tuesday 18 September)  
Songs v. Speeches Assignment – 10% (due Thursday 27 September)  
In-class Artwork Assignment – 10% (Tuesday 2 October)  
Paper Presentation – 10% (Thursday 11 October)  
Final Draft – 30% (due Thursday 11 October)

Without question you should be in class every day, ready to learn. Should you fall ill, break your leg, or have another serious dilemma that prevents your attendance, you are responsible for politely asking a classmate if you can **HAND-COPY** their notes (do not forget to say thank you!). Additionally, you should set up a time to go over missed material with Dr. Myers at the earliest possible opportunity. Although no portion of your course grade is allotted to participation, the more you discuss the information you are learning, the better you will learn it. To encourage positive contributions to class discussions, you should know that I use participation to boost borderline grades at the end of the semester. *Also note: All assignments must be completed for you to earn a passing grade in this course.*

## Grading Scale

A = 100%-93%	B = 86.9%-83%	C = 76.9%-73%	D = 66.9%-63%
A- = 92.9%-90%	B- = 82.9%-80%	C- = 72.9%-70%	D- = 62.9%-60%
B+ = 89.9%-87%	C+ = 79.9%-77%	D+ = 69.9%-67%	F = below 60%

## !!! Important Notes !!!

Please silence all cell phones before class starts, and leave them in your bag/coat/purse...so no text messaging at any time either!

Students at Monmouth are all expected to read and abide by the Scots Guide Student Handbook (available online at <http://www.monmouthcollege.edu/life/residence-life/scots-guide>), and should pay special attention to the Academic Regulations dealing with Academic Honesty and violations thereof, listed below in bold (*with my comments following each*):

1. **Cheating on tests, labs, etc;** (*This includes bringing in cheat sheets in any form, looking at a neighbor's test, talking during the test, or accessing online materials during a test.*)
2. **Plagiarism, i.e., using the words, ideas, writing, or work of another without giving appropriate credit;** (*You will get a citation guide with your paper assignments that you should be able to follow easily. If you have any questions about how to cite a source at anytime, be sure to ask!*)
3. **Improper collaboration between students, i.e., not doing one's own work on outside assignments specified as group projects by the instructor;** (*If you have questions about when studying together becomes "improper collaboration" be sure to ask. As a general rule, you should make sure you separate yourself from your classmates before you start writing an assignment so that you can be certain it is in your own words and no one else's.*)
4. **Submitting work previously submitted in another course, without previous authorization by the instructor.** (*If you have done an assignment in another course that you think would work well for one in this course, it is not inconceivable that I would give you permission to reuse it...with revisions. Set up a time with me to discuss/negotiate the possibility.*)

All instructors at Monmouth are required to follow the procedures noted in the Student Handbook in regard to violations of the Academic Honesty Policy. It is incumbent upon you to remember the final portion of the Philosophical Statement regarding Academic Honesty: "Any breach of the academic honesty policy – either intentionally or unintentionally - will be taken seriously and may result not only in failure in the course, but in suspension or expulsion from the College. It is each student's responsibility to read, understand and comply with the general academic honesty policy at Monmouth College, as defined here in the Scots Guide, and to the specific guidelines for each course, as elaborated on the professor's syllabus."

Any student eligible for and needing academic adjustments or accommodations because of a disability should speak with Dr. Myers during the first two weeks of class and get in touch with the Teaching and Learning Center on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Poling Hall, 309-457-2257.

If you have questions or concerns at any point during the course, please come to see me during office hours or make an appointment with me to have a discussion. I am better able to help you learn if I know what help you need.

## Class Schedule

Date	Topics to be covered	Readings & Assignments
Tuesday 28 Aug 12	Introduction – London in the 1930s	❖ Timeline of London, 1930-1939
Thursday 30 Aug 12	Logistics of London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 1930's Map of the London Underground</li> <li>❖ Children's Map of London</li> <li>❖ Map of Great Britain -- Her Natural &amp; Industrial Resources (1939)</li> </ul>
Tuesday 4 Sept 12	Evacuations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <i>Daily Telegraph</i> article from Sept. 2, 1939</li> <li>❖ Footage of children being evacuated (1939)</li> <li>❖ The National Gallery in Wartime</li> <li>❖ Map Assignment Due</li> </ul>
Thursday 6 Sept 12	Blitz Preparations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ London Goes to War, 1939</li> <li>❖ The Blitz on Clydeside</li> </ul>
Tuesday 11 Sept 12	Blitz Preparations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Worksheet on Blitz Preparations from the Metropolitan Police Office</li> <li>❖ Shop Windows in Soho</li> <li>❖ Paper Proposal Due</li> </ul>
Thursday 13 Sept 12	Attacks Begin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Day one timeline of where the bombs fell</li> <li>❖ The Blitz...in pictures</li> <li>❖ The first night: Black Saturday</li> </ul>
Tuesday 18 Sept 12	Life Underground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ School Radio: Sheltering in a London Tube Station</li> <li>❖ The Tube in the Blitz</li> <li>❖ Shelter Underground</li> <li>❖ "London tube station opens for blitz tours" (2010)</li> <li>❖ First Draft of Paper Due</li> </ul>
Thursday 20 Sept 12	Keeping spirits up – songs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ There'll Always Be An England and other War Music</li> <li>❖ Vera Lynn Songs on YouTube</li> </ul>

Tuesday 25 Sept 12	Keeping spirits up – speeches	❖ Speeches & Audio: Churchill on the Battle of France ❖ Winston Churchill Speech on The Blitz
Thursday 27 Sept 12	Role of the Royals	❖ Princess Elizabeth’s Broadcast to Children ❖ Buckingham Palace Bombed ❖ Queen Mother Blitz letter: in full ❖ Songs v. Speeches Assignment Due
Tuesday 2 Oct 12	In-class Artwork Assignment	❖ Exhibition of work by war artists of the London Blitz ❖ Museum of London: The Blitz
Thursday 4 Oct 12	Assessing the damage	❖ The Big Story (Facts & Figures) ❖ “Censored for days, this picture was finally published in the Mail...” ❖ The Blitz: Oxford Street’s store wars ❖ Corbis Images of Blitz damage
Tuesday 9 Oct 12	No Class...	...Fall Break
Thursday 11 Oct 12	Paper Presentations	❖ Final Draft of Paper Due by 10:00 p.m.

### Course work expectations for Monmouth’s new 4-4 Course System

Hours per week in class	= 2.5 hours
Hours per week accessing/reading/viewing/listening to sources	= 3 hours
Hours per week researching/writing papers	= 3 hours
Hours per week proofreading/editing assignments	= 2 hours
Total hours per week*	= 10.5 hours



\*Note: If you find that you are spending far more time on any of these areas than these estimates, be sure to set up a time to meet with Dr. Myers to discuss your time management.