

**Yearbook
2020**

AVA

MRes



University of
East London

MRes Architecture

Reading the neoliberal city

ANNA MINTON, DEBRA SHAW

Anna Minton, author of *Big Capital: Who is London for?* (Penguin 2017) and *Ground Control: Fear and happiness in the 21st century city* (Penguin 2009/12), is the Programme Leader on the MRes Architecture. This multi-disciplinary course, sited within the architecture department, welcomes applicants from a wide range of backgrounds. While situated in London's Docklands, the global impact of these processes, which are relevant across the world, provides the context. As this is a small seminar based course, focused on lectures and group discussion, we were able to transfer seamlessly online following lockdown. We will continue with blended learning this academic year and we will also continue with our programme of walks through the city.

The course is comprised of four modules: Reading the neoliberal city; Critical Writing and Professional Practice; Ethical Development and the Digital City. Topics for study include the housing crisis and the privatisation of cities, investigating the financialisation of the urban environment. The modules on Ethical Development and the Digital City investigate potential economic alternatives. The module on Critical Writing focuses on high level writing skills, through written assignments and the study of critical writing about the city, from Situationism to Psychogeography. The modules on Critical Writing and the Digital City are also offered to Diploma students choosing Critical Writing for their Theory component. Anna is joined on

the academic team by Debra Shaw, Reader in Cultural Theory, who teaches on the Digital City module.

Guest lecturers are a key component of the course and include politicians, leading industry figures and activists. This year speakers included James Murray, Deputy Mayor for Housing at the Greater London Authority and Daniel Moylan, former advisor to Boris Johnson when he was Mayor.

The MRes provides a pathway to PhD study, with two former MRes students currently doing PhDs with us. Martyn Holmes, who is the holder of the UEL PhD studentship, is investigating whether community-led housing might provide a solution to the housing crisis and Luke Okende is researching the impact of participatory processes to improve slum conditions in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo.

For more information contact:

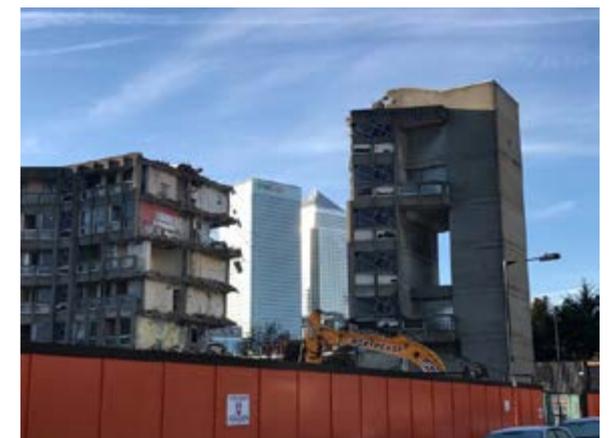
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Thanks to Visiting Speakers:

James Murray MP; Daniel Moylan; Adam Greenfield; Morag Rose



Visit to the House of Commons to meet Shadow Housing Minister James Murray MP



Still from a walk to document the changing nature of Docklands and Popla

