Gentrification and Complexity

A One-Day Workshop for A-Level Teachers

This one-day residential workshop is designed to introduce A-Level teachers to new ways of explaining changing places with a particular focus on connections between people, the economy, and the ways that infrastructure(s) link the local, national, and international scales. Led by academics based at the Bartlett Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis (CASA) at University College London we will explore topics including:

* How you can understand neighbourhoods and cities as complex systems, which gives you new ways to think about economic change and social inequality.
* How you can use fieldwork to ground these ideas in practical questions of past and present connections, and shifts in the flows of people, resources, money and investment.
* How you can put these two strands together to create simple simulations of residential gentrification and discrimination, and how simulations of urban phenomena can be used to generate hypotheses about how cities work.

The workshop will take place at UCL's new Stratford campus in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. On the day, you will be taken on a guided tour of the Park and nearby neighbourhoods including Stratford and Hackney Wick, exploring the history of the area and how and why it has changed over the past 150 years. This will be followed by a series of workshops introducing free software tools including NetLogo, QGIS, and Memory Mapper — a digital participatory mapping tool developed at CASA — to explore and explain what we encounter in the field.

The workshop includes access to online resources including: a talk on complexity science by Prof. Elsa Arcaute; a podcast about theories of gentrification by Prof. Adam Dennett and Prof. Jon Reades; and a set of materials demonstrating how to use QGIS to conduct quantitative analyses of gentrification using a range of data sources. The workshop and accompanying resources are designed to support teaching on the A-Level curriculum and could also be employed in the NEA.

# Programme

## Pre-Workshop

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| ***Activity*** | ***Related A-Level Core Content*** |
| *Video: Complexity Science and Gentrification*  Prof. Elsa Arcaute | *Changing place; changing places*  16. Understand how relationships between people, economy, society and the environment help explain why places are constantly changing.  18. Understand how past and present connections shape localities; how external forces shape places  *Geographical Skills*  19. Critically appraise data sources and methodologies |
| *Podcast: Theorising Gentrification*  Prof. Adam Dennett and Prof. Jon Reades | *Changing place; changing places*  16. Understand how relationships between people, economy, society and the environment help explain why places are constantly changing.  17. Study must move from a local place contrasting local, regional, international and global scales […] investigate the impact of changing demographic & cultural characteristics, economic change and social inequalities.  18. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how the characteristics of places are shaped by shifting flows of people, resources, money and investment […] how past and present connections shape localities; understand external forces that act on a place.  *Geographical skills*  19. Critically appraise data sources and methodologies. |

## On the Day

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| ***Activity*** | ***Related A-Level Core Content*** |
| *Field Trip: Hackney Wick and the Olympic Park*  Prof. Adam Dennett, Prof. Jon Reades and Dr. Duncan Hay | *Changing place; changing places*  16. Understand how relationships between people, economy, society and the environment help explain why places are constantly changing.  17. Study a local place and contrast moving from the local to regional, national and international scales; understand how meaning is attached to place through place making and marketing, cultural and artistic approaches to placemaking, and the lived experience of space.  18. Understand how demographic characteristics of places are shaped by shifting flows of people and resources; understand how past and present connections shape localities; understand how people form attachments to place. |
| *Workshop Memory Mapper*  Dr Duncan Hay and Dr Leah Lovett | *Changing place; changing places*  16. Understand how relationships between people, economy, society and the environment help explain why places are constantly changing.  17. Understand how meaning is attached to place through place making and marketing; cultural and artistic approaches; and the lived experience of space.  18. Understand how past and present connections shape localities.  *Geographical skills*  19. Understand different types of geographic information; collect, analyse and interpret data; critically appraise data sources and methodologies; communicate findings. |
| *Workshop: Simulating Gentrification*  Prof. Adam Dennett and Prof. Jon Reades | *Changing place; changing places*  17. Study a local place and contrast moving from the local to the regional, national and international scales; understand how the characteristics of places are shaped by shifting flows of people and resources; understand the external forces that act on place  *Geographical skills*  19. Understand different types of geographic information; collect, analyse and interpret data. |

### Post-Workshop

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| ***Activity*** | ***Related A-Level Core Content*** |
| *Tutorial: Analysing Gentrification with QGIS*  Prof. Adam Dennett | *Changing place; changing places*  16. Understand how relationships between people, economy, society and the environment help explain why places are constantly changing.  17. Study a local place and contrast moving from the local to regional, national and international scales; understand how changing demographic and cultural characteristics affect economic change and social inequality.  18. Understand how the characteristics of places are shaped by shifting flows of people and resources; understand the external forces that act on place.  *Geographical skills*  19. Understand different types of geographic information; communicate findings. |