Early in Civilization and its Discontents, Freud writes:

Let us, by a flight of imagination, suppose that Rome is not a human habitation, but a psychical entity with a similarly long and copious past—an entity, that is to say, in which nothing that has once come into existence will have passed away and all the earlier phases of development continue to exist alongside the latest one.

Freud’s vision of the city as an analogue for psychic space will be explored as a recurring motif in the modern British novel. We will focus on the city as “chronotope,” looking at how various writers map the city, and how they conceive of the relationship between characters and the city setting. The course will also include short critical readings from a variety of perspectives, including, Bakhtin, Freud, Peter Brooks, and Raymond Williams.

Requirements:
Oral presentation
Mid-term paper – 5pp.
Final paper – 15pp. (can continue midterm)