London as part of our Campus: an example from Dutch Studies (Talk)

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Did you know that the oldest Dutch Protestant church in the world (1550) is located in the City of London, and a Belgian Catholic Church, founded for refugees in WWI, in Camden Town? That famous Dutch architect H.P. Berlage in 1916 built a modern office building right next to the contemporary 'Guerkin', and its interior was designed by Belgian art-deco-master Henry van de Velde? That a historic Dutch pub from 1890 is located right in the middle of Chinatown? These and many other hidden Dutch and Flemish histories of London have been researched by staff and students of UCL Dutch and turned into an open learning resource for everybody interested in Anglo-Dutch encounters over the centuries.

Starting from the suggestion to regard "London as part of our campus" (Provost's Green Paper 2011–2021), this combined Learning and Public Engagement project started in 2013 with the dual intention to engage students as co-producers of knowledge, and to raise awareness of the manifold connections and exchanges between London and the Low Countries in the wider public. The results have been released in form of a GIS-driven website and a smartphone-app, developed in collaboration with UCL Computer Science students.

The talk will not only introduce the newly available resource, which also demonstrates the intensity and density of Dutch and Belgian influences in the British capital, but also reflect on its development process and use in the classroom, as well as reflect on how teaching and learning and public engagement can be combined with other.