

**Project Title****American Studies (RDF16/HUM/WARD)****Project - Description**

The American Studies programme at Northumbria wishes to support innovative multi- and interdisciplinary PhD dissertations relating to any aspect of US history, literature, politics and culture from the Early Republic to the Present Day.

With an internationally acclaimed team of scholars from a variety of disciplines working together under the umbrella of the newly established Institute for the Humanities and the associated Multidisciplinary Centre for Research in the Humanities, we are especially interested in applications for first-rate projects that cross traditional disciplinary boundaries.

In particular, applications are encouraged from students with interests in:

- the history, literature, and cultures of the US South and West, particularly projects that engage with the medical humanities;
- America and the Atlantic World;
- modernism in the US;
- US musical culture;
- the African American Experience;
- mobility in US history, literature and culture;
- periodical culture in the US.

Northumbria has a large and lively postgraduate community in the Humanities. Our students benefit from generous research space and resources in the recently expanded Glenamara Centre as well as the space and resources provided by the new Institute of the Humanities. PhD students develop a portfolio of skills and competencies through the Humanities Training Programme, the Teaching Shadowing Scheme, the annual PhD conference and the Graduate School's Professional Development and Research Training Programme. In addition, each student is provided with a research allowance for conference attendance and travel as well as funding to support the organisation and development of research networks, conferences and seminar series.

Major investment in resources to support research activities in the field means that Northumbria can boast a diverse range of important archival material and extensive subscriptions to relevant scholarly journals. Primary source materials include the Civil War America database; American Civil War: Letters and Diaries; US Consular Papers relating to Ireland and Slavery; America's Historical Newspapers (1799-1971); 19<sup>th</sup> Century US Newspapers; US Congressional Documents Online; the Michael O'Brien Collection; the Civil Rights Papers of the Johnson Administration; the Black Panther Party Papers; Ralph J. Bunche Oral Histories Collections on the Civil Rights Movement; The Nixon Years collection; Confidential Print-North America collection; The US Sixties: Primary Documents and Personal Narratives, 1960-1974; and Popular Culture in Britain and America, 1950-1975.

**Faculty**

Faculty of Arts, Design and Social Sciences

**Department**

Humanities

**Principal Supervisor**

Professor Brian Ward

Deadline for applications: 18 March 2016

Interview date (if known): w/c 2 May 2016

Start Date: 3 October 2016