



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome to American Studies at Northumbria	1
News and Events	3
Freedom City 2017	3
Transpacific America Symposium	4
“The American South” MOOC	4
Literature, History, and Culture Speakers, 2017-18	5
American Studies Staff News	5
Grant Bidding Success	8
Postgraduate News	9
Reetta Humalajoki, Early Career Visiting Scholar	9
Spotlight on American Studies Students	10
Spotlight on American Studies Modules	11
Why Study American Studies at Northumbria	12

## WELCOME TO AMERICAN STUDIES AT NORTHUMBRIA

Welcome to the latest issue of the Northumbria University American Studies newsletter. In it, you can see just how busy staff and students have been over the past year. A personal highlight for me was Freedom City 2017, the city-wide programme of events to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Martin Luther King’s 1967 visit to Newcastle. Given the strengths we have in the study of US race relations and our interests in the historical, political, and cultural connections between Britain and the US, Freedom City 2017 was a timely reminder of just how deep and complex those relationships are.

The staff also have much to celebrate in terms of the high-quality books and articles they have published, the external research funding they have won and, of course, the continued excellence and innovation they demonstrate in the classroom. It is no accident that students repeatedly applaud the passion and knowledge that Northumbria’s Americanists bring to their teaching, creating a lively, challenging, and rewarding learning experience. That was certainly the feeling among the latest cohort of American Studies students who graduated with their BAs this year. Among that group, it is worth reserving a special mention for Adam Sharp, whose first-class honours degree was among the very best awarded in the Faculty of Arts Design and Social Sciences. Congratulations also to Megan Hunt, now Dr. Hunt, who successfully defended her PhD on

depictions of southern religion in Hollywood feature films.

This year we said a fond farewell to our colleagues Mike Cullinane and Sylvia Ellis, who were instrumental in setting up American Studies at Northumbria, and who we wish well in their new posts at Roehampton University. Their loss was off-set by the appointment from Oxford University of Patrick Andelic, an expert on post-World War Two US politics and law and order. It is hard to imagine a more timely moment to be studying those topics and you can read all about Patrick's exciting new module "Law and Order USA" elsewhere in this Newsletter. Next year we will also welcome from the University of Vermont Frank Zelko, a very distinguished US environmental historian, whose research dovetails nicely with a growing strength in environmental history within the Humanities Department at Northumbria. Also arriving in 2018 will be James West, a historian of race, the media, urban culture and architecture. Thanks to a prestigious Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship, James will be working with us over the next three years on his second book, which explores the sites and significances of the black press in Chicago in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century. That these kinds of scholars, and these kinds of highly competitive grants are now coming to Northumbria, is testimony to the reputation we have established as a centre of research excellence in American Studies.

We have also been fortunate to have Sophie Cooper with us this year, fresh from her doctoral studies at Edinburgh University. Sophie's expertise on 19<sup>th</sup> Century US, Australian and Irish history speaks to our shared interest in the study of the United States in transnational contexts. This is a good reminder that American Studies at Northumbria is never about studying the American experience, its cultures, literatures, politics, and histories in isolation; it is always about studying how that experience fits in with, shapes, and is shaped by global, including

British, forces and trends. Moreover, in keeping with the commitment to employability skills that led to Northumbria University being shortlisted for the *Times Higher's* 2017 University of the Year Award, the American Studies programme is dedicated to ensuring that all our students are equipped with creative, analytical and communication skills that will serve them well in their future careers.



Professor Brian Ward

Finally, one of the most gratifying aspects of the year has been our increasing level of engagement with schools and other partners outside of academia. My own efforts in connection with Freedom City 2017, where I worked on some creative and documentary films, curated an exhibition about Dr. King's Newcastle visit, and even contributed to a comic book on Newcastle Radicals, as did my colleague Brycchan Carey, all showed me how our research expertise and teaching skills can make a real difference in the world. This is especially valuable in an era when cries of 'fake news' ring out so loudly, when ignorance and 'gut-feeling' is too often celebrated, and when informed opinion is casually denigrated. Similarly, our Future Learn MOOC on the American South has attracted more than 10,000 learners from around the globe, all of them eager to find out what Northumbria's crack team of Americanists make of that region of the United States. Closer to home, many of us have spent a lot of time visiting local schools, helping teachers and their

students with their studies and, hopefully, stimulating further interest in understanding the United States. Indeed, just before this Newsletter went to press, Henry Knight Lozano organised an American History-themed A Level Workshop, that brought over one hundred students and their teachers to campus. In troubling, if endlessly fascinating, times this kind of public service offers a significant contribution to efforts to preserve some measure of sanity and civility in our world.

Sincerely,



Brian Ward  
Professor of American Studies

## NEWS & EVENTS

### Freedom City 2017: Brian Ward Helps Revive Memories of Martin Luther King's Time in Newcastle

In August 2017, I published *Martin Luther King in Newcastle upon Tyne: The African Freedom Struggle and Race Relations in the North East of England* (Newcastle: Tyne Bridge Publishing, 2017). The book tells the inside story of Martin Luther King's visit to Newcastle on November 13, 1967, puts it into the context of the many, often surprising connections between the North East and the African American Freedom Struggle, and uses those links to explore changes in North East race relations over the course of several centuries.

I was very fortunate that the book attracted pre-publication praise from the likes of Newcastle Central MP Chi Onwurah, Eric Burdon, former lead singer of the Animals -- one of Newcastle's most revered bands -- and legendary Newcastle, West Ham and Trinidad and Tobago goalkeeper Shaka Hislop, who was an early sponsor of Show Racism the Red

Card. After it appeared, there were favourable reviews in the *Observer* and the *Huffington Post*.



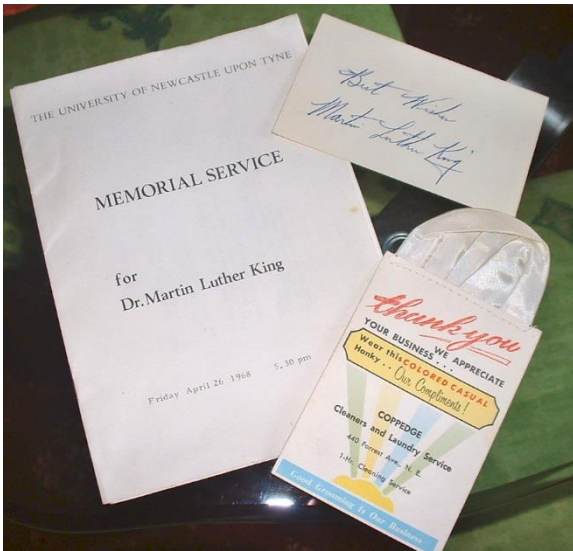
Andrew Young with Brian Ward

Most gratifying of all, however, was the role the book, and particularly my discovery of film of King's lost Newcastle speech, played in developing Freedom City 2017. This was a massive city-wide and ongoing series of public educational, cultural and artistic events to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of King's appearance on Tyneside, culminating in 8,000 people marching across the Tyne Bridge in support of social justice. I was genuinely touched when Linda Wright, the Lord Mayor of Newcastle, commented that, "The research [Brian] has done and the way it underpins many of the activities and goals of Freedom City, will have real impact on the community, bringing Dr King's legacy to life for a new generation."

In addition to serving on Freedom City 2017 steering committee, I also had the opportunity to co-curate an exhibition at Newcastle University's Philip Robinson Library. The exhibition showcased some of the original documents and artefacts that I had uncovered during my research. Among the most intriguing finds were the dress handkerchief



King gave to Mrs Edna Kane, the woman who made his breakfast in Newcastle, and a postcard from Coretta Scott King, Dr. King's widow, to a local Post Office worker who had written to her with condolences after King's assassination on April 4, 1968. I even got to work on a comic devoted to Tyneside's long history of progressive politics. On November 13, 2017, fifty years to the day after King visited Newcastle, I was thrilled to present a copy of my new book to Andrew Young, King's friend, fellow civil rights leader and a former Georgia Congressman and Mayor of Atlanta, who had accompanied Dr. King on his historic 1967 trip to Newcastle.



Items from Martin Luther King's 1967 visit to Newcastle

### Transpacific America Symposium

In May 2017, American Studies at Northumbria University hosted a symposium on the United States and Hawai'i. The event brought together a number of UK-based scholars whose work considers different elements in the historic relationship between America and the Hawaiian Islands. At the event, Seth Archer (Cambridge) explored the cultural and social impact of U.S. missionaries and the importation of new diseases to Hawaii in the early nineteenth century. Henry Knight Lozano (Northumbria) spoke about anti-Japanese movements in California and Hawai'i at the turn-of-the-twentieth century. Sarah

Miller-Davenport (Sheffield) delivered a paper on post-World War II U.S. consumption of Hawai'i in popular culture, including fashion and cuisine. The symposium highlighted not only the importance of the United States to Hawaiian history, but also how the mid-Pacific archipelago has shaped the United States, socially, politically, and culturally, in myriad ways.

### Northumbria University MOOC on the American South

In an exciting venture in digital history, Northumbria continues to run a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on the American South. The MOOC provides learners across the world with a virtual platform through which to study the fascinating history, culture, and politics of the U.S. South.

Encouraged to ponder all things southern – from Martin Luther King, Jr. to the mint julep – learners explore this most intriguing yet often maligned region of the United States, guided by experts from the Institute of Humanities at Northumbria University. Learners read articles, watch videos, participate in quizzes and group discussions, and even undertake some southern recipes in their own kitchens. Interacting with experts as well as each other, those enrolled on this free and distinctive course experience a truly interdisciplinary introduction to the history, climate, culture and politics of the former Confederacy, exploring its manifestations in literature, film, music, television and food. They consider the connections (and leaps) between ideas, stereotypes, and reality: how much of what we 'know' about the South is actually grounded in or relevant to the southern experience? Similarly, where and when does the South begin, end, and simply exist?

The course is the result of a Centre of Excellence Partnership between the Institute of the Humanities and [FutureLearn](#), the first UK-based platform for MOOCs. This

partnership offered a fantastic opportunity to highlight the interdisciplinary foundation at the very heart of the Institute to a truly global audience. American Studies is, of course, interdisciplinary by its very nature, and the focus on the American South fitted well with Northumbria's research and teaching strengths. The MOOC is already proving a great success, with pockets of learners based in every corner of the globe, making for an incredibly international experience. Students share ideas about the South's significance with people from a multitude of countries and cultures, reflecting upon the truly global importance of this most contested region. For more information, and to join the MOOC in 2018, see:

<https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/about-us/news-events/news/2016/09/discover-the-american-south-from-home-with-new-online-course/>

### Literature, History, and Culture Speakers, 2017-2018

#### Semester 1

27 September

Connie Schulz (South Carolina), "Pouring Old [Editorial] Wine into New [Digital] Bottles: Modern Scholarly Editing and the Pinckney Papers Projects" 4-30, Lip 121.

1 Nov

David Moon (York), "The Amerikan Steppes: The Unexpected Russian Roots of Great Plains Farming, 1870s-1930s" 4-30, Lip 121.

8 Nov

Patrick Andelic (Northumbria), "'We Came Here To Take the Bastille': The Watergate Babies, the U.S. Congress, and the Democratic Party, 1974-1992" 4-30, Lip 232

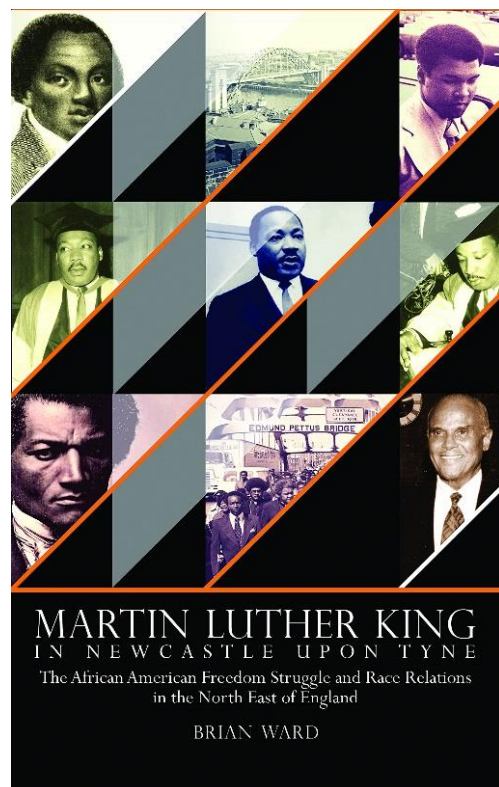
#### Semester 2

17 Jan

Sue Currell (Sussex), "Health and Hygiene and American Communist Magazines", 4-30, Room TBC

### American Studies Staff News

This year, **Brian Ward** published *Martin Luther King in Newcastle: The African American Freedom Struggle and Race Relations in the North East of England* (Tyne Bridge Publishing, 2017) and has given dozens of talks on the topic of King's visit and its contemporary and historical relevance to groups ranging from the North East of England African Communities Association to the Literary and Philosophical Society and from Virgin Money to the West End Refugee Service.



Brian Ward's new book on King and Newcastle

Brian continues to serve as Chair of the British Association for American Studies and gave the British Library's Eccles Centre for American Studies keynote lecture at the Association's annual conference in April 2017. He also gave keynote lectures at the Universities of Central Lancashire and Copenhagen.

**Clare Elliot** published a chapter on "William Blake's American Afterlives" in *Transatlantic Literature and Transitivity, 1780-1850: Subjects, Texts, and Print Culture* (2017); and an article entitled, "An Enemy Abroad: The

Transnational Politics of Francis Jeffrey in the War of 1812,” in *The Open Library of Humanities* (2017). She also co-edited *The Edinburgh Companion to Atlantic Literary Studies* (Edinburgh, 2016).

**Patrick Andelic** joined the Humanities department as Lecturer in American History in September. His research focuses on American party politics during the late twentieth century, and particularly on liberalism and political institutions. He is currently completing his first book, *Donkey Work: Congress, the Democratic Party, and the Endurance of Liberalism in Conservative America, 1974-2008*, which is under contract with the University Press of Kansas.

**Joe Street** recently signed a contract with University of Georgia Press to publish an interpretative history of the Black Panther Party. Based on more than ten years of research and teaching, it will offer a radical new interpretation of the BPP’s place in African American and American history, and will be published in 2020. In collaboration with Prof Martin Eve (Birkbeck, University of London) Joe will also publish an article entitled ‘The Silicon Valley Novel’ in *Literature and History* in 2018, a study of a sequence of recent novels that interrogate Silicon Valley’s impact on today’s society.

Joe also contributed to the ongoing controversy over gun control by co-editing *The Second Amendment and Gun Control: Freedom, Fear, and the American Constitution* (Routledge). The collection offers a balanced discussion of the role of guns in American politics, society, and culture. It includes contributions from some of the most important scholars of the issue, including Joyce Malcolm, David Kopel, Peter Squires, and Saul Cornell.

Associate Professor **Randall Stephens** is working on several projects that deal with religion, politics, and pop culture, as well as new work on religion and environmentalism. Harvard University Press will be publishing his third book in the spring of 2018, titled, *The*

*Devil’s Music: How Christians Inspired, Condemned, and Embraced Rock ‘n’ Roll*. He also published a number of articles on religion and the United States, including “Recent Developments in the Study of Religion in the US” for “Getting Religion: A Roundtable on the Study of Religion and the US,” *Journal of American Studies* (February 2017).



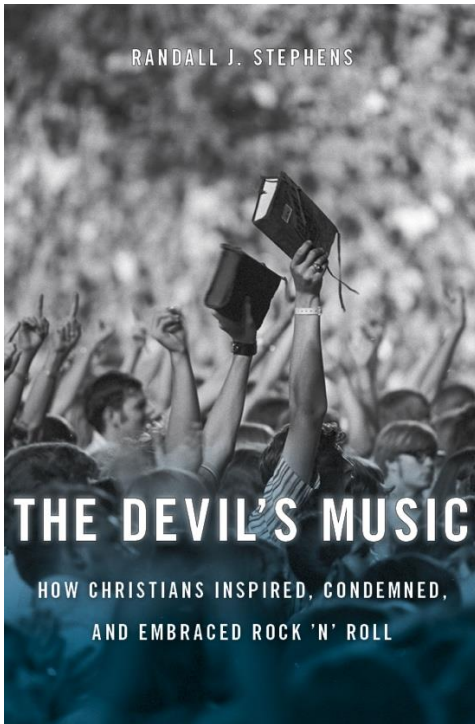
Randall speaking at Notre Dame University in April 2017

Randall also delivered lectures at conferences in Denmark, Norway and the United States. In February 2018, he will be the keynote speaker for the University of Mississippi’s Symposium on Southern Music hosted by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, University of Mississippi. Randall continues to write for the more general public, with essays and articles in the Religion and Culture Forum (University of Chicago), the Conversation; Raw Story, and Salon. During the 2016 US election, and the political tumult that followed, he was interviewed for segments on Al Jazeera, BBC 5, Agence France-Presse, Sky News, TRT, and Austrian Youth Radio.



Randall on Sky News speaking on Trump’s inaugural





Randall Stephens' new book on rock and religion

**Henry Knight Lozano** has a book under contract with University of Nebraska Press: *California/Hawai'i Bound: Promotion and Peril in an Americanizing Pacific, 1848-1945*. Based on archival research in California and Hawai'i, the book explores how U.S. promoters, settlers, and statesmen worked to bind California and Hawai'i as connected places on and in the Pacific Ocean from the 1840s to the 1940s; these links, however, fostered perils in the United States and in Hawai'i over a closer transpacific relationship. Henry also delivered a talk at the BRANCH Conference at Warwick University in October 2017, entitled "Climates for Americanization: Southern California, Hawai'i, and the Healthful Tropics in the Gilded Age." This formed part of a panel on the U.S.-Hawai'i relationship in the nineteenth century.

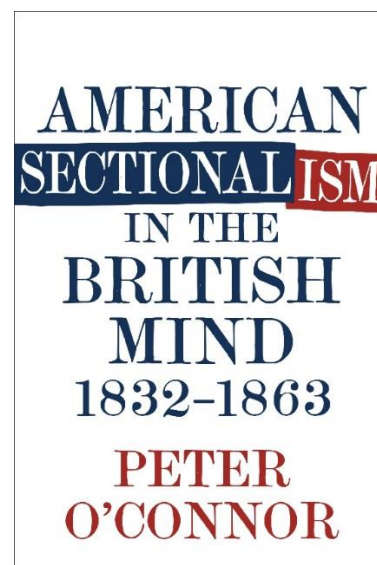
Henry also published an article in the *Journal of American Studies* on the tourist activity of "Afromobiling" in exclusive resorts like Palm Beach in Jim Crow Florida. Part of his interest in the racial, environmental, and promotional imageries that have shaped Florida in the American imagination, his article explored the

Afromobile as a vehicle that supported white fantasies of racial hierarchy and colonial-style tropical leisure.



Henry speaking at the BRANCH conference

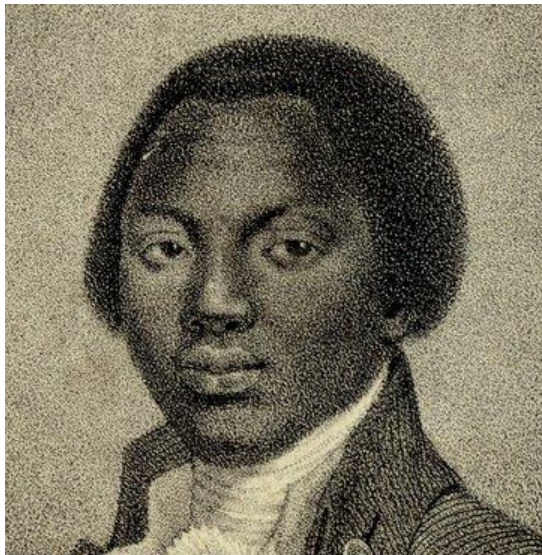
**Peter O'Connor** published *American Sectionalism in the British Mind, 1823-1863* (Louisiana State University Press). Peter's book uses an innovative interdisciplinary approach to provide a corrective to simplified interpretations of British attitudes towards the United States during the antebellum and early Civil War periods. Exploring the many complexities of transatlantic politics and culture, O'Connor examines developing British ideas about U.S. sectionalism, from the abolition of slavery in the British Empire and the Nullification Crisis in South Carolina to the Civil War.



Peter's new book on Britain and the US

The book is based on his PhD thesis which he worked on at Northumbria between 2010 and 2014, under the supervision of David Gleeson and James McConnel.

**Brycchan Carey** has a forthcoming book with Oxford University Press, *Olaudah Equiano: The Interesting Narrative* (2018). Carey introduces Equiano's personal account of the horrors of slavery and his adventures on the high seas, as an explorer and merchant in the Caribbean, the Arctic, and America. His introduction surveys Equiano's role in the abolition debate, the book's style and structure, recent debates about Equiano's birthplace and identity, and the book's increasingly central position among the great works of eighteenth-century literature.



**Olaudah Equiano**  
The Interesting Narrative

OXFORD WORLD'S CLASSICS



Brycchan Carey's new book

This past June **David Gleeson** was among ten historians of the Civil War era, though the only one from outside the United States, invited to participate in a symposium based on original research in the newly digitized Civil War Governors' Collection. Sponsored by the

Kentucky Historical Society, the symposium took place in the Old Capitol building in the state capital, Frankfort, where the Kentucky State Legislature had voted to stay in the Union in 1861 but also opposed ratifications of 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment four years later. Gleeson's research in the governors' collection focused on Irish immigrants and he presented a paper on their role on the Kentucky homefront during the Civil War. All participants will publish extended versions of their papers in a special edition of the *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* in 2018.



David (third from left) at the Civil War event in Kentucky

### Grant Bidding Success

American Studies staff continue to put in major group and individual bids to support research, teaching, and public engagement.

**Randall Stephens** received grants from the Luce Foundation and St Anselm College (£670) to attend and present research at a conference on "Jimmy Carter and the 'Year of the Evangelicals' Reconsidered." An edited volume on the proceedings is in the works. He also received a small travel grant of £400 from the Congregational Library and Archives, Boston, MA, for work on a project titled "The Dust Bowl and Conservation in the American Religious Imagination."

**Sophie Cooper** received a Hibernian Award from the Cushwa Center at the University of Notre Dame (IN) in order to carry out research at the Sisters of Mercy Archives in



Belmont, North Carolina. This research into the Sisters of Mercy Catholic schools in nineteenth-century Chicago was completed in September 2017 and will inform a future article into religious schooling and Irish ethnicity.

### Postgraduate News

On 4 December 2017, **Megan Hunt** attended graduation for her PhD; she was also invited to the Vice-Chancellor's Congregation Dinner. The Dinner celebrated the success and contribution of members of the University community and her invitation recognised Megan's outstanding academic achievements as the first PhD student to graduate in American Studies at Northumbria University as well as her involvement in setting up the MOOC on the American South. She also played an active role in the Freedom City project.



Megan with Brian at her graduation

Megan's PhD thesis was entitled, '*Southern by the Grace of God: Religion and Race in Hollywood's South since the 1960s*'. She was supervised by Brian Ward and Randall Stephens.

Earlier this year, **Natasha Neary** was invited to present her research at the Heidelberg Centre for American Studies (HCA). The annual event, the Spring Academy, is a week-long interdisciplinary conference aimed at PhD candidates in American history, culture, and politics. Every year, the HCA invites twenty students from a variety of disciplines to discuss their dissertation projects.

The aim of the Spring Academy is to create a unique international network of young and aspiring researchers. As such, the structure of the event is crafted to encourage participant interaction and foster debate. The presentations were thematically arranged into ten two-person panels across the week. Each presentation was twenty minutes long, followed by forty minutes of discussion. There were also a couple of workshops held throughout the week with useful information on topics such as academic writing and publishing. As with the participant panels, scholars were given time to discuss the topics further and encouraged to ask questions or share our own experiences.

From an academic position, it was a chance to discuss research and receive positive criticism from students who can offer fresh perspectives from different disciplines. There was also plenty of time to connect with others and explore the amazing city of Heidelberg through tours, planned dinners, and even an unexpected trip to the John Deere tractor factory (which funds the Spring Academy). Additionally, the HCA provides an online networking space for all those who have taken part so you can keep in touch with your peers and follow their research. The call for papers is usually released from August - November with the event itself taking place around March.

### Reett Humalajoki, Early Career Visiting Scholar, 2016-17

Reetta Humalajoki was the Early Career Visiting Scholar in American Studies at Northumbria for 2016-17. Reetta's PhD thesis, which was completed at Durham University in 2016, investigated debates surrounding Native Americans during era of United States Termination policy, c. 1950-1970. During her fruitful visit at Northumbria, Reetta gave a research seminar on 'Cold War Settler Colonialism in the United States: Federal American Indian Policy, 1953-1970'. She also

delivered a workshop with American Studies postgraduate students on 'Decolonizing American Studies: What can we achieve with indigenous research methodologies?' In addition, Reetta worked with the first-year American Studies undergraduates in a session focused on Native American history and perspectives.

An annual appointment, Northumbria's American Studies Early Career Visiting Scholarship is an exciting, funded opportunity for early career American Studies scholars to share their research at Northumbria while also developing their teaching experience with both American Studies postgraduate and undergraduate students.

**Spotlight on American Studies Students:  
Hannah Leightell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year  
Alex McGuire, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year**

*Hannah and Alex are both Second Year students in American Studies. They are currently studying for the year at Georgia State University in Atlanta, as part of the American Studies Exchange.*

**Q: Could you tell us a little about how you became interested in American Studies?**

H: I've always loved the United States since I was a child. Since the age of 5 I've travelled to Orlando, Florida on holiday and visited Walt Disney World and Universal Studios. I think it was those experiences that ignited my passion for America. My parents have watched the TV show *The West Wing* ever since I can remember and seeing that while growing up made me interested in American politics too. I remember one day when I was about 12 I started looking on Northumbria's website with my Mam just to see what type of courses they offered and as soon as I saw American Studies my mind was made up that I was going to do that degree.

A: I first became interested in American Studies when I was studying American history

in sixth form. History had always been a topic I was interested in but American history particularly appealed to me. Aside from the significance of history, I've always been fascinated by American culture and saw American Studies as an opportunity to learn more about what American culture is really like and to see how it has become the country we see today.

**Q: What research and writing have you undertaken in your American Studies modules that have sparked your interest?**

H: In the first-year module *From Sea to Shining Sea* I learnt a lot of American history, and from those lectures came an interest in the Civil War and The New Deal. For the essay at the end of that semester, I wrote an essay on FDR and the New Deal and have since read 5 books about Franklin D. Roosevelt and his time in office. During my time in the states I have made a documentary about the Confederate monuments that are located across the South. I'm also incredibly interested in American politics and follow it quite closely. In one of my classes in the states I've had to write essays on a variety of books exploring issues of race, conservatism, and the 2016 election.



Hannah in Atlanta, Georgia

A: For me personally, the *From Sea To Shining Sea* module was the most interesting module for me. One of the areas that particularly sparked my interest was my research into the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's. The course provided me with a lot of freedom to do my own research and write an essay based on an area that I wanted to study.

**Q: How have you found studying in the US for your second year? What have been the highlights so far?**

H: I'm really enjoying studying in the US! It's a completely different experience than studying in the US compared to the UK. The college experience is so different here compared to going to university back home. I've really enjoyed all of my classes this semester, they've all been incredibly interesting. The highlights so far have probably been white water rafting in North Carolina, and the trip to Stone Mountain!

A: Studying in the US has been a fantastic experience so far. After doing so much work studying the culture in first year, it has been really interesting to experience it and be a part of it for myself. Being immersed in the culture I spend so much time studying really motivates me to want to learn more about the history of the nation. Obviously, studying in the US has provided me with the opportunity to travel and experience new things in a different culture, but it has also allowed me to become a lot more independent. The independence you get from studying in the US is a really significant factor.

**Q: Do you have any advice for someone who is considering choosing American Studies at Northumbria?**

H: My advice to someone considering choosing American Studies is to do it!!! It's such an interesting course and all of the professors are so friendly and helpful. The opportunity to study abroad for a year has

changed my life so it's definitely worth going to Northumbria!

A: American Studies is different from a lot of other degrees because it isn't just focusing on one area. It is the study of multiple different areas. For example, studying American literature allows you to gain a lot of skills you might expect to gain studying a literature based course but at the same time studying the history of the US allows you to gain a lot of skills you'd gain from a history course. You have to be prepared to study various different elements of American culture and history.



Alex at Stone Mountain, Georgia

**Spotlight on new American Studies Modules: “Law and Order USA: Police, Prisons, and Protest in Modern America”**

How does America police itself? And who polices America's police? This module explores the history of 'law and order' politics, broadly defined, in the United States of America since 1900. Students will learn about the creation of the law enforcement, judicial, and penal state at the federal, state, and local level (including, for instance, the establishment of the FBI and the rise of the carceral state), and about the social movements that resisted and challenged that state.

The module will cover such diverse topics as Prohibition, the Stonewall riot and the early LGBTQ movement, the prison reform and prisoners' rights movements, the War on



Drugs, anti-death penalty activism, and Black Lives Matter. This module will deal with fundamental questions of order and justice, how they have been contested in American society, and how they have intersected with questions of race, class, and gender.

### **Why Study American Studies at Northumbria?**

Intellectually challenging and hugely enjoyable, American Studies is an ideal subject to study at university if you want to learn more about American life and culture, wish to develop your critical, imaginative and communication skills, and have an interest in multi- and inter-disciplinary approaches to studying the American experience and its global significance. In American Studies at Northumbria University you will receive an excellent education in a friendly environment, in partnership with an exceptional collection of internationally acclaimed scholar-teachers. Through a variety of lectures, smaller group seminars, and guided individual study, our staff will help you develop your skills, work towards a successful degree and prepare yourself for life beyond the university. Our commitment to teaching excellence was recognized at the Northumbria Student Union's Student-Led Teaching Awards for 2015-16, where many members of the American Studies staff were commended for their engaging teaching and overall commitment to their students' education.

### **Employment and Study Abroad**

Many careers require self-motivated, creative, and ambitious individuals with a dynamic skill set. American Studies graduates are especially valued because of their excellent communication skills and ability to think intelligently, critically, and laterally as they draw on a wide range of disciplinary perspectives and skills to analyze and interpret the American experience. The American Studies programme at Northumbria University will

enable you to develop into this type of graduate. American Studies graduates are attractive to employers in such fields as teaching, publishing, journalism, cultural administration, advertising, public relations, the civil service, heritage management, social research, non-governmental organizations, public history, and the Foreign Office. As part of an innovative, new "Your Graduate Future" module many of our students will hone their employability potential. Here students will build resumes, refine experience for future careers, and link their work in American Studies to the job market.

Students also have the opportunity to spend a period of time studying abroad during their second year. American Studies has established links with a large number of institutions in North America, including Florida Atlantic University, Georgia State University, the University of Arkansas, Middle Tennessee State University, and Montclair State University (near to New York City). This exchange programme is covered within the existing tuition fee structure.

**TEACHERS – WE NEED YOU AND YOUR STUDENTS!** If you or your students would like to learn more about American Studies, or to participate in events at Northumbria University that offer you and your students the latest insights into US history, literature, and politics in preparation for GCSE, A-Level or International Baccalaureate Exams, please contact: Dr. Henry Knight Lozano ([henry.knight-lozano@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:henry.knight-lozano@northumbria.ac.uk)) or Dr. Julie Taylor ([julie.taylor@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:julie.taylor@northumbria.ac.uk))

For more information on American Studies at Northumbria, please visit us at:

<http://northumbria.ac.uk/americanstudies>