

Project Title**US History, Politics and Culture in Local, Regional, National and Transnational Contexts (RDF16/HUM/STEPHENS)****Project Description**

We are seeking applications from first-rate PhD candidates with innovative projects relating to any aspect of US history from the Early Republic to the 21st Century.

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

- comparative and transnational perspectives on US history (especially Anglo-US and Irish-US links);
- the US South and West;
- the Civil War Era;
- the Gilded Age and Progressive Eras;
- US history and politics between the World Wars;
- US religious history;
- US foreign policy and presidential politics;
- the African American Freedom Struggle since 1945;
- media and popular culture.

The successful applicant(s) will be affiliated with a large and vibrant US History research group comprised of staff and postgraduate students. Northumbria currently has seven American historians, three of whom have been appointed distinguished lecturers by the Organization of American Historians, making it one of the most important centres for the study of US history in Europe. Students will also be able to take advantage of Northumbria's newly established Institute for the Humanities and its associated Multidisciplinary Research Centre. Indeed, while it is expected that the successful project(s) will be rooted in historical methods, we actively encourage proposals that embrace multidisciplinary approaches.

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); 19th 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

Arts, Design and Social Sciences

Department

Humanities

<https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/about-us/academic-departments/humanities/research/history-research/history/us-history/>

See also: <https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/about-us/academic-departments/humanities/research/american-studies-research/>

Principal Supervisor

Dr. Randall Stephens

Deadline for applications: 18 March 2016

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

Start Date: 3 October 2016