

HI5032 Land of Rivers, Land of Coal: Making and Breaking Industrial North-East England, 1770–1990

Joining Northumbria University as an exchange student this autumn?

Do you know where the light bulb was invented? What about the first steam locomotive, or hydroelectricity? They were all invented in the North East of England.

While you're living in Newcastle on Tyne, why not learn more about its dramatic rise and fall and its global contribution in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries as a bustling hub of industry, technological innovation and trade?



'Land of Rivers, Land of Coal' introduces you to the historical, technological and cultural connections between the people and places of the North East and the wider world.

In this module, you will follow the awe-inspiring story of how north-east England utilised its natural resources, notably its navigable rivers and voluminous coal deposits, to become a powerful and influential driver of wider industrialisation both nationally and internationally. You will analyse how a closer engagement with key elements of the natural environment enabled north-easterners to develop their trade and industry successfully and to make game-changing scientific and engineering innovations, exemplified by George Stephenson's locomotive (1814). Yet the module also looks beyond the North East's industrial heyday, and tackles deindustrialisation in the twentieth century as well recent regional regeneration.



The module is led by Dr Leona Skelton, author of *Tyne after Tyne: An Environmental History of a River's Battle for Protection 1529–2015* (Cambridge, 2017).