



**Northumbria
University**
NEWCASTLE

Northern Bridge Consortium Collaborative Doctoral Award

Fully-funded PhD opportunities

Project title: **Romantic Fame and the Metropolis 1760-1830**

Partner Organisation: **Museum of London**

Lead supervisor: **Dr Leigh Wetherall Dickson** (Northumbria University)

We are looking for outstanding candidates interested in undertaking a fully-funded doctoral project in collaboration with the Museum of London. .

The Museum of London (<https://www.museumoflondon.org>) is an award-winning, charitable institution funded by a variety of organisations including the City of London Corporation and the Greater London Authority. The remit of the Museum of London and the Museum of London Docklands is to connect a diverse range of audiences with the lived experience of London and to capture the capital's complexity and contrasts through its collections that date from prehistory right up to the present moment. The Museum of London boasts visitor numbers in excess of a million a year and is recognised as a centre of excellence with regards to its digital innovations and programme of events. The Museum of London is also a key partner in the 'Culture Mile', alongside the City of London Corporation, the Barbican Centre, the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and the London Symphony Orchestra. Culture Mile is an innovative union of the arts between cultural, educational and heritage organisations within the Square Mile that marks the boundaries of the City of London.

We are seeking candidates who will engage with the Museum of London's extensive ceramics collection which contains transfer-printed commemorative vessels (of special note being those produced for coronations and funerals), porcelain figures of notable celebrities, souvenir dishes and similar ephemera. The students will draw on this material to open lines of enquiry into the material culture of fame, commemoration and/or memorialisation in relation to literary engagement with, and cultural debates about, the meaning of fame in the Romantic period. It is anticipated that the PhD project should pose questions and engage with debates relating to the overlap between the

study of literature and the material culture of commemoration. Applicants will have an academic background in the relevant subject areas and period, but we also welcome applications from candidates with equivalent professional experience.

PROJECT PROPOSALS

Project proposals should describe how the applicant plans to draw on the collection of the Museum of London in relation to the literature of the period in order to interrogate the cultural practice of commemoration and memorialisation. They should also indicate a willingness to engage with the museum in a personal and practical way, be it through research undertaken on site, proposed collaborative activities or by working with particular teams within the museum. Projects should have the promise and ability to inform the agenda of the Museum of London, and the broader activities of the curatorial and learning teams.

Dr Wetherall Dickson will act as lead supervisor for the project, in conjunction with Dr Danielle Thom, the Curator of Making from the Museum of London. The selection of second supervisor will depend on the nature of the proposed doctoral project. For initial queries, please contact Dr Wetherall Dickson and she will be happy to act as a liaison with the Museum of London.

The applicant's project proposal may draw on any aspect of the study of the literary and material culture of fame in the Romantic period. The following areas may provide especially rich avenues for exploration as they relate to shared interests of the supervisor and the Museum of London collection:

- Change in meaning of fame
- Emergence of celebrity
- Material culture
- Commemoration
- Memorialisation
- Monarchy
- Aristocracy

Dr Leigh Wetherall Dickson (<https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/about-us/our-staff/d/dr-leigh-wetherall-dickson/>): Leigh's current research interrogates the point of intersection between fame, fashion and illness in relation to broader debates about aristocratic reform in the Regency period. She also acts as a consultant for the Churches Conservation Trust, for whom she worked for many years. She was co-director of a three-year research project funded by the Leverhulme Trust entitled *Fashionable Diseases: Medicine, Literature and Culture 1660-1832* and, as part of that same team, has just been awarded another three-year grant from the Leverhulme Trust for *Writing Doctors*.

HOW TO APPLY

To take advantage of this opportunity you will:

- Be a resident of the UK or EU
- Be seeking to begin a PhD in October 2019
- Have an outstanding academic record, including an undergraduate degree in a relevant subject and (in most cases) EITHER a master's degree either in hand or shortly to be completed OR relevant and equivalent work experience

Potential applicants should contact Dr Wetherall Dickson (leigh.wetherall-dickson@northumbria.ac.uk) by **Friday 14th December** for an initial discussion of their approach to the project. Candidates whose projects are approved to progress, should then apply via the Northumbria University online application form by **17:00 on Wednesday 9th January 2019**. Applicants should outline their proposed research, representing it as a CDA project, and quote NBC19 in the 'Project/Student Reference Number' field.

For further information, please see the following websites:

<https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/postgraduate-study/how-to-apply/>