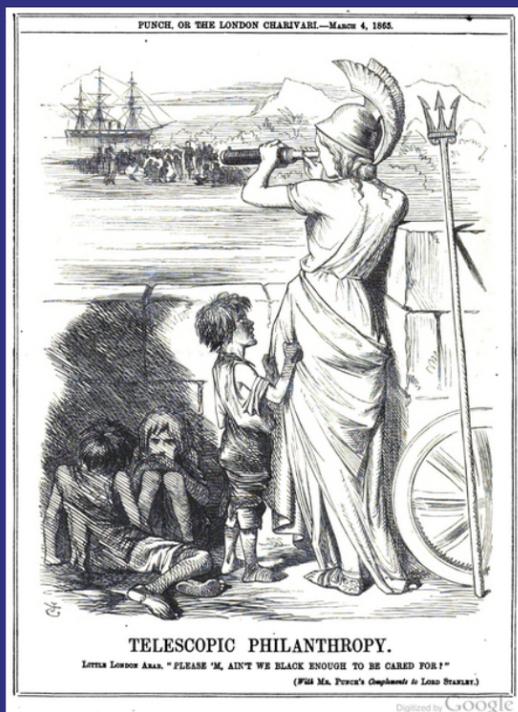


Humanitarianism and the British Empire: A Complicated Relationship

In recent years, popular television series and books about the British Empire by figures such as Niall Ferguson have shown renewed enthusiasm for the idea that the British Empire was a 'good thing'. Although this flies in the face of much of the academic work on imperialism, the idea is by no means new. Since the late eighteenth century Britain's national and imperial identity has been bound up with ideas about benevolence and humanitarianism. In this course, students will consider how the British thought about and acted on different kinds of responsibility for distant others; how humanitarian objectives complemented and competed with other dimensions of the imperial project; and how ideas of humanitarian responsibility came to define Britain's imperial identity.

Starting with the movement to abolish slavery in the late eighteenth century



and concluding with the birth of the modern international development movement at the end of Empire, the course looks at the key campaigns, images and debates of British humanitarianism, amongst these the Irish and Indian famines, the Congo Reform Movement, and the 1960s Freedom from Hunger Campaign. As well as studying specific case studies, students will learn more broadly about how domestic Britain was influenced by its empire, exploring the complex relationship between imperial and domestic humanitarian and reform activity. In order to consider how these issues changed over the course of two hundred years, students will work with a rich set of secondary literature alongside a wealth of archival material including pamphlets, speeches, visual campaign materials, autobiographical accounts, and government documents.

HIST 4383 / 6383

SUMMER SHORT SESSION II (July 3 - 31, 2014)

9:15 am - 11:30 pm DAILY

A SPECIAL COURSE BROUGHT TO UGA BY:

Dr. Anna Bocking-Welch

2014 Franklin-Morris International Scholar
FROM THE University of Liverpool

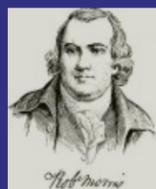
Dr Anna Bocking-Welch is Lecturer in British and Imperial history at the University of Liverpool. She has published on British humanitarianism and post-colonial travel experiences. She is currently writing a book about how education, humanitarianism and friendship functioned as conduits through which international and imperial issues became part of everyday life in 1960s Britain.



This course is made possible through the summer 2014

FRANKLIN-MORRIS INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Franklin-Morris International Scholars Program is a program for visiting faculty that encapsulates the strong academic ties between the University of Georgia and the University of Liverpool. Why Franklin-Morris? The Franklin component reflects the name of the college that houses the program: Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, named after Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790). Morris is the last name of Franklin's contemporary Robert Morris (1734-1806). Born in Liverpool, Robert Morris left England at the age of thirteen to join his father in what was at that time the British colony of America. Morris was given an apprenticeship with a shipping and banking firm in Pennsylvania where he became a partner and achieved wealth and influence. At the onset of the American War of Independence he found himself on the opposite side of his former countrymen, plowing a fortune into the fight against King George III. Victory saw Robert Morris become a leading figure in the new republic and one of only two men to sign the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and The United States Constitution. As both a Liverpoolian and a Founding Father he is a fitting complement to our own Ben Franklin. The Franklin-Morris program promotes an interdisciplinary learning environment on the UGA campus, as well as substantive faculty research collaborations with the University of Liverpool.



Support for the 2014 Franklin-Morris program has been provided by:

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