

Dr. Amy Woodson-Boulton

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OFFICE: University Hall 3434

OFFICE HOURS: Friday 10-12 & by [appointment](#)

**HIST 4900.01 Public History Topics: Britain, Ireland, and the British Empire**

MW 12:40 PM-2:10 PM

St. Robert's Hall 246

**Course Schedule**

**NB:**

- All reading assignments are **required** and are to be read **by the date listed**. All assignments are either in the Public History Reader, The British Imperial Century, or available on [Brightspace](#) ([brightspace.lmu.edu](#))
- This schedule is subject to change; changes will be announced in class and on [Brightspace](#)

**PART I. WHAT IS PUBLIC HISTORY AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?**

**WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION. WHAT IS PUBLIC HISTORY?**

**Mon, Aug 28** Introduction to Course and Public History; the recent Confederate Monuments controversy; some podcasts; the "Contested Representations" project

**Wed, Aug 30** Recent Debates Over the Empire, 1: "Must Rhodes Fall?"

**Preparation:**

- [Must Rhodes Fall? Full Oxford Student Union Debate](#) (January 19, 2016; 98 minutes)  
**BE READY TO VOTE and EXPLAIN YOUR VOTE!**
- [Rhodes Must Fall website](#)
- [Oxford Student report on the debate](#)
- [Oriental College's Official Statement on Rhodes Statue](#)
- [The Guardian report on Oriental College's decision](#)
- Rudyard Kipling, "The White Man's Burden" and "The Burial" in Barbara Harlow and Mia Carter, eds. [Archives of Empire: The Scramble for Africa](#) (Durham: Duke University Press, 2014).
- [Cecil Rhodes, "Confession of Faith"](#)
- Barbara Harlow, "Cecil Rhodes: Colossus or Caricature?" in Barbara Harlow and Mia Carter, eds. [Archives of Empire: The Scramble for Africa](#) (Durham: Duke University Press, 2014).

**WEEK 2: HOW DO WE KNOW ABOUT THE PAST?**

**Mon, Sept 4: NO CLASS (LABOR DAY)**

**Weds, Sept 6: Studying and Practicing Public History**

## GUEST SPEAKER: Digital Scholarship Librarian Melanie Hubbard

### Preparation:

- Hilda Kean, "Introduction," in *The Public History Reader* (hereafter PHR), xiii-xxxii
- Consider some representations of the British Empire online:
  - [BBC British History](#)
  - [British Library "Learning Texts in Context: Empire"](#)
  - Find at least one additional history website and/or podcast to share with the class, related to the history of Britain, Ireland, and/or the British Empire. ***Be ready to explain what you like about your find, any criticisms you might have, what works, and what doesn't work.***
- We will begin the discussion today about your interest in the website themes, so please start thinking about which group you would like to join. For themes and full description and timeline of the project, see "Research Project and Website" (on Brightspace).

\*Start [Timothy Parsons, \*The British Imperial Century, 1815-1914: A World History\*](#).

**PUBLIC HISTORY EVENT: "History in the Headlines," sponsored by the Departments of African American Studies and History: "Confederate Monuments: Whose History? What Heritage?"**

**WEDS, SEPT 6, 3PM, UNIVERSITY HALL SUITE 3500, VILLAGE 1**

### WEEK 3: HISTORY AND MEMORY

**Mon, Sept 11: History and Memory**

#### Preparation:

- Paul Martin, "The Past in the Present," PHR 1-10
- Raphael Samuel, "Theatres of Memory," PHR 11-29

\* Continue [Parsons, \*The British Imperial Century\*](#)

**Weds, Sept 13: GUEST SPEAKER: "#SaveMooreStreet: Heritage Activism and Historical Consciousness in Dublin 2016," Emily Lucitt, doctoral candidate, Department of Anthropology, UCLA**

**UNIVERSITY HALL SUITE 3500, VILLAGE 1**

#### Preparation:

- Watch "[Awakening](#)," Episode 1 of "1916: The Irish Rebellion" (dir. Pat Collins, Ruán Magan, 2016; 53 minutes) (you may need to sign in to Hannon Library to access this via Kanopy, LMU's documentary streaming service)

\* Continue [Parsons, \*The British Imperial Century\*](#)

### WEEK 4: PRESERVING THE PAST

**Mon, Sept 18: Museums and Archives**

#### Preparation:

- Hilda Kean, "Materials and Approaches to Making History," PHR 147-157
- Sherry Turkle, "Evocative Objects: The Things that Matter," PHR 157-172

\* Continue [Parsons, \*The British Imperial Century\*](#)

**PUBLIC HISTORY EVENT: "History Matters," Douglas Smith, "Rasputin and Revolution: On the Trail of a Siberian Mystic"**

**TUES, SEPT 19, 5PM, UNIVERSITY HALL SUITE 3500, VILLAGE 1**

**Weds, Sept 20: LMU FIELD TRIP: Visit to the Archives!**

**Meet at the DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, Hannon Library, Level 3**

*Please note that A&SC does not allow ANY food or drinks (including gum and water!). There are lockers inside the room for your backpacks, but all comestibles will be removed and left outside the room Please make sure your hands are clean (really!) because this will be a hands-on learning experience..*

**Preparation:**

- Daniel Cohen, "The Future of Preserving the Past," PHR 214-223
- Paul Ashton and Paula Hamilton, "History at the Crossroads: Australians and the Past," PHR 233-242
- Sandra Prosalendis et al, "Recalling Community in Cape Town: Creating and Curating the District Six Museum," PHR 283-296

\* Continue [Parsons, \*The British Imperial Century\*](#)

**FRI, SEPT 22: RESEARCH ABSTRACT DUE**

**WEEK 5: PRESENTING THE PAST**

**Mon, Sept 25: Presenting and Re-presenting the British Empire**

**Preparation:**

- Finish [Parsons, \*The British Imperial Century\*](#)
- [Philippa Levine, "Decolonisation," from \*The British Empire: Sunrise to Sunset\* \(Routledge, 2013\), 180-205](#); this book is an excellent general resource, and you may wish to consult her very comprehensive "Chronology," 235-278
- ["British Empire: Heroes and Villains' review - a poignant reminder of how history gets written," \*The Guardian\* \(2 February 2017\)](#)
- ["The Art of Empire: Can Britain face its colonial past?"](#) (BBC Culture, 2 February 2016, 4 minutes)

IN CLASS: ["The British Empire: Heroes and Villains, A Timewatch Guide"](#) (David Olusoga, BBC, 2017; 59 minutes)

**Weds, Sept 27: The Uses and Abuses of History**

**Preparation:**

- Graeme Davison, "The Use and Abuse of Australian History," PHR 68-82
- Jorma Kalela, "Making History: The Historian and the Uses of the Past," PHR 104-128

**WEEK 6: STORIES**

**Mon, Oct 2: Oral History**

**Preparation:**

- Cahal McLaughlin, "Under the Same Roof: Separate Stories from Long Kesh/Maze," PHR 275-282
- Lawrence Scott, ed., "Golconda: Our Voices, Our Lives," PHR 297-310

**Weds, Oct 4: History and Fiction****Preparation:**

- Maria Margaronis, "The Anxiety of Authenticity: Writing Historical Fiction at the End of the Twentieth Century," *History Workshop Journal* 65 (Spring, 2008): 138-160
- [Hilary Mantel, "Why I became a historical novelist," \*The Guardian\*](#) (June 3, 2017) (you can also [listen](#) to this lecture, here titled "The Day is for the Living," 42 minutes)
- [Alistair Moffat, Jerome de Groot, Mariella Frostrup, "What is historical fiction?" from BBC Radio 4, "The Open Book," broadcast June 12, 2016](#) (3 minutes)
- Iain McEwan, *Atonement* (Talese, 2002), 232-235, 339-350, 350-351, acknowledgements

**IN CLASS:** excerpts from *Atonement* (dir. Wright, 2007)

## **PART II: PUBLIC HISTORY PROJECT**

### **WEEK 7: IMPERIAL NOSTALGIA**

**Mon, Oct 9: Discussion/Research proposal preparation/Web design**

**GUEST SPEAKER: Digital Scholarship Librarian Melanie Hubbard**

**Preparation:** Jonathan Swift, "A Modest Proposal," and podcast TBD; **be ready to submit questions today for Scott Pinkmountain meeting on October 18**

**Weds, Oct 11: Recent Debates, 2: What Have the Britons Ever Done for Us?**

**Preparation:**

- [Niall Ferguson, "Introduction," \*Empire: The Rise and Demise of the British World Order and the Lessons for Global Power\*](#) (London: Basic Books, 2008 [2003]), ix-xxvi
- [Pankaj Mishra, review of Niall Ferguson, \*Civilisation: The West and the Rest\* \(2011\), and exchange of letters with Ferguson, \*London Review of Books\* 33:21 \(Nov 3, 2011\)](#)
- [Interview with Shashi Tharoor, Sky News, Mar 17, 2017](#) (10 minutes)
- [Monty Python, "What Have the Romans Ever Done for Us?"](#) (excerpt from "The Life of Brian," dir. Terry Jones, 1979, 2 minutes)

**In class:** [Episode 5, "Maxim Force"](#) of Niall Ferguson, "Empire: How Britain Made the Modern World" (Channel 4, 2003; 49 minutes), and discussion

## **WEEK 8: IMPERIAL NOSTALGIA, CONTINUED: BREXIT, STAGE RIGHT**

**Mon, Oct 16: "Empire 2.0": Brexit as Historical Argument (referendum on whether to leave the European Union, held on June 23, 2017)**

### **Preparation:**

- [History of the Commonwealth of Nations](#)
- [Vote Leave campaign site](#)
- [Remain campaign site](#)
- articles on Brexit:
  - [The Financial Times](#) (April 2016)
  - [The New Statesman](#) (May 2016)
  - [The Sun](#) (June 2016)
  - [The Express](#) (March 2017)
  - [The Guardian](#) (March 2017)

*Feel free to search out more articles!*

**Weds, Oct 18: GUEST SPEAKER: Skype with musician and podcaster Scott Pinkmountain; website project discussion**

## **FRI, OCT 20: RESEARCH PAPER DUE**

## **WEEK 9: THEME 1: IRELAND AND THE EMPIRE: THE STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE**

**Mon, Oct 23: 1916 IN 2016**

### **Preparation:**

- James Coohill, "War in Europe and War in Ireland, 1914-1922," from *Ireland: A Short History* (Oneworld Publications, 2014), 120-130
- Articles on Easter Rising commemorations:
  - ["Overwhelming' response to Easter Rising commemorations," The Irish Times 8 October 2015](#)
  - ["Over 1 million' attend Dublin Easter Rising commemorations," The Irish Times 31 March 2016](#)
  - OTHER ARTICLES TBD

### **OPTIONAL READING ON IRISH HISTORY:**

- [Philippa Levine, Chapter 1, "Uniting the Kingdom," from The British Empire: Sunrise to Sunset \(Routledge, 2013\), 1-14](#)

## **Weds, Oct 25: STUDENT PRESENTATION GROUP 1**

## **WEEK 10: THEME 2: THE BRITISH EMPIRE AND THE WORLD WARS**

**Mon, Oct 30: "Our Finest Hour"**

### **Preparation:**

- Geoff Eley, "Finding the People's War: Film, British Collective Memory, and World War II," *American Historical Review* 106:3 (June, 2001): 818-838

- Mary Ingham, "Using the War: Changing Memories of World War Two, Oral History Society Conference, London July 2005," *History Workshop Journal* 61 (Spring, 2006), 295-298
- ARTICLES TBA ON DUNKIRK

#### IN CLASS:

- ["Propaganda Minister – Clips" at National Archives](#)
- ["Listen to Britain" \(dir. Humphrey Jennings, 1942; 20 minutes\)](#)

#### **Weds, Nov 1: STUDENT PRESENTATION GROUP 2**

#### **WEEK 11: THEME 4: DECOLONIZATION AND IMPERIAL AMNESIA**

##### **Mon, Nov 6: History, Memory, and Justice**

##### **Preparation:**

- ["Mau Mau"](#) (Radiolab, 2015, 45 minutes)
- Ian Cobain, "Introduction" and "Sinning Quietly: Operation Legacy and the Theft of Colonial History," from *The History Thieves: Secrets, Lies and the Shaping of a Modern Nation*, ix-xix and 101-135
- Michael Belgrave, "Something Borrowed, Something New: History and the Waitangi Tribunal," PHR 311-321

#### **Weds, Nov 8: STUDENT PRESENTATIONS GROUPS 3 AND 4**

#### **WEEK 12: THEME 3: IRELAND AND THE EMPIRE: THE TROUBLES**

##### **Mon, Nov 13: Colonial Legacies: Borders and Identity**

##### **Preparation:**

- Joseph Coohill, "Troubles and Triumphs, 1966-1994," in *Ireland: A Short History*
- Farhat Manzoor, Greta Jones and James McKenna, "'How Could These People Do This Sort of Stuff and Then We Have to Look after Them?' Ethical Dilemmas of Nursing in the Northern Ireland Conflict," *Oral History*, Vol. 35, No. 2, Conflicts and Continuity (Autumn, 2007): 36-44
- Anna Bryson, "'Whatever You Say, Say Nothing': Researching Memory and Identity in Mid-Ulster, 1945-1969," *Oral History* Vol. 35, No. 2, Conflicts and Continuity (Autumn, 2007): 45-56

*NB: Students in GROUP 5 may wish to meet with me Monday after class or Tuesday in office hours (hours TBA) to get feedback on their presentations in advance of the website draft due on Friday.*

**Weds, Nov 15: NO CLASS (PROFESSOR @ CONFERENCE)**

#### **FRI, NOV 17: DRAFT WEBPAGES DUE**

#### **Week 13: THEME 4, DECOLONIZATION, CONTINUED**

**Mon, Nov 20: STUDENT PRESENTATION GROUP 5**

**Weds, Nov 22: NO CLASS (THANKSGIVING)**

**WEEK 14:**

**Mon, Nov 27: Project work/individual and group meetings**

**Weds, Nov 29: Project work/individual and group meetings**

**WEEK 15: RESEARCH, PROJECT WORK, DISCUSSION**

**Mon, Dec 4: Project work/individual and group meetings**

**Weds, Dec 6: Final discussion**

**FINALS WEEK: Weds, Dec 13, 11am-1pm: WEBSITE LAUNCH and PRESENTATIONS**