

Cambridge History for Schools

2020-2021 Programme

Do you like to crack myths and find out what really happened in the past?

Do you like to imagine how it would feel to live in a different time or place?

Do you wonder how the world came to be the way it is?

Then we need you!

Cambridge History for Schools is an exciting outreach initiative from one of the world's leading History Faculties. Workshops are hands-on and designed to stimulate a passion for asking questions about the past and trying out new ideas. You can investigate the real cowboys, uncover colonial Kenya, find out what clothing people wore and what jobs they did in the past, and design your own Roman coin.

Cost: Free

We are doing things a little differently this year. Normally, we love nothing more than inviting you to come and see us in the History Faculty at the University of Cambridge. This year, to keep everyone safe, we have moved online.

Teachers or Parents: The workshops will be available from the History Faculty website, after their release date until the end of the academic year, for you to use at your convenience in the classroom, as homework, or at home.

If it is safe to do so, the last session held at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington St, Cambridge CB2 1RB. Details on how to book will be released closer to the time.

Michaelmas: Available from 16 November

Extreme Fashion in Early Modern Europe

Abigail Gomulkiewicz

Early modern ‘extreme’ fashions, even today, are familiar and recognizable. We remember the large white ruffs around the neck, endless strands of pearls, wide skirts, pale faces, swords, and slashed clothing of both men and women. Portraits of monarchs and courtiers reinforce these images of ‘extreme’ fashion. While the choice of these clothes and accessories can appear luxurious, it also simultaneously seems frivolous, outrageous, and even, at times, comical.

This workshop will investigate the ‘extreme’ clothing worn by monarchs and their subjects and probe what these choices reveal about the society in which these individuals lived. It will consider what men and women wore and how this is different or similar to what portraits show us. This workshop will help challenge what we perceive as extreme, fashionable, and mainstream.

Key Stage 2 (ages 7-11)



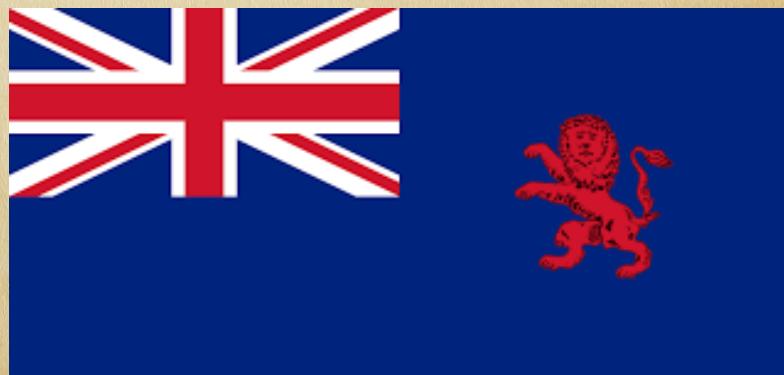
Living in the Shadow of Colonial Kenya

Thomas Bailey

Recently, the Me Too and Black Lives Matter movements have highlighted extensive discrimination in modern society. If we are the change the way we behave, we must understand the structures which sustain prejudice and inequality. In the United Kingdom, many of these structures are rooted in Britain’s neglected imperial past.

Using colonial Kenya as our example, in this workshop we will study how discrimination was embedded in imperial society. Why was discrimination established in Kenya? How did people’s race, class, and gender change their experience of colonial inequality? How did these prejudices perpetuate themselves? By trying to answer these questions, we will learn about our past, our present, and possibly how to change our future.

Key Stage 3 (ages 11-14)



Lent: Available from 1 February 2021

Yee-Haw! The True History of the American Cowboy

Savannah Pine

Thanks to Western novels, films, and television shows, people envision cowboys as John Wayne or Clint Eastwood —in short, as white men. However, cowboys were way more diverse than that. In the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, most cowboys were Mexican; in the Gulf Coast of Texas, most were Black; and, in Oklahoma and North and South Dakota, most were Native American. Additionally, cowgirls also had a part to play in the history of the Wild West, predominately as stunt women.

In this workshop, we will learn about the history of the American cowboy and cowgirl from their origins in America with Mexican vaqueros, to cattle drives, to Black cowboy associations who try to teach Black Texans about this history.

Key Stage 2 (ages 7-11)



Women's Work in Wartime Britain

Grace Whorrall-Campbell

150 years ago, work looked very different. Many people in Britain worked in noisy, dangerous factories, and offices didn't have computers or photocopiers! Women's work has also changed a lot since then: more women work, and more jobs are available to women than in the past. In this workshop we will discover what kinds of jobs women did, and how those jobs changed over the past 150 years. This period saw two World Wars which disrupted ordinary life and work for many people.

After World War Two, women migrants from the Commonwealth were also looking to make a living and a new life in Britain. More importantly, huge developments in technology impacted the kinds of work women did. We will also think about how women felt about the jobs that they did, and the changing world in which they did them. Did they see new opportunities or the same old hardships? Did they face new challenges at work, and if so, how did they respond?

Key Stage 3 (ages 11-14)



Easter: On Thursday 3 June 2021

Meet the Romans at The Fitzwilliam Museum*

Jennie Thornber

Come along to The Fitzwilliam Museum, the principal museum of the University of Cambridge, to join us for a special workshop in our Greek and Roman galleries. We'll learn all about the ancient Romans and just how useful museum objects can be as sources for studying history.

Explore the collection with us to find out what we can learn about how the Romans lived from the objects they left behind. In this session, we'll look at a range of fascinating artefacts including the objects they used in their everyday lives, the artwork they used to decorate their homes and cities, and the portraits emperors had made to circulate their image.

After investigating artefacts in the gallery, we'll take inspiration from the objects we've discovered to get creative by designing our own Roman coins.

10.30-12.00 Key Stage 2 (ages 7-11)

13.00-14.30 Key Stage 3 (ages 11-14)

*This event will be held in-person provided that it is safe to do so. If the situation remains unsuitable for a physical event, then this will be run as a virtual session. More details to follow



Images: © Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge.