THE GRADUATE SCHOOL PRESENTS

A series of Doctoral Inaugural Lectures

COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND LAW

Wednesday 19 March 2014, 5.30 - 6.45pm
Bennett Lecture Theatre 2, Bennett Building

Dr B Tyr Fothergill
Department of Archaeology and Ancient History
A Tale of Two Turkeys

Dr Maribel Canto-Lopez
School of Law
Killing and Torturing: Not in the territory of countries parties to the European Convention

The lectures will be followed by a wine reception in the Bennett Building Foyer.

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About Dr B Tyr Fothergill

Tyr Fothergill received her Bachelor’s degree at the University of Colorado, Boulder and her Masters at Simon Fraser University (Canada). Tyr completed her PhD at the University of Leicester in 2012 and subsequently pursued independent research on gender and poultry-keeping, urban animal husbandry and human-avian relationships in post-medieval Plymouth and Belfast. In January 2014, Dr Tyr Fothergill was appointed a Research Associate at Leicester on the AHRC-funded project: “Cultural and Scientific Perceptions of Human-Chicken Interactions”. The aim of this project is to scrutinise archaeological and historical evidence and to create a fresh and nuanced understanding of past chicken husbandry, with a focus on disease (palaeopathology).

The Lecture

A Tale of Two Turkeys

Dr Tyr Fothergill’s research followed the disease and social history of the turkey, Meleagris gallopavo, over a thousand years (AD 900 - c. 1900), thereby illuminating the evolving nature of turkey-human relationships prior to and after translocation of the species to Europe. Interdependent analyses of zooarchaeological data and historical documentary sources from the American Southwest, UK and Éire were undertaken. These analyses included a review of other archaeological reports. Evidence from Spanish colonial sources, European literature and Pueblo ethnography was then used to contextualise the archaeological data and explore the contingent nature and impact of human perceptions of the turkey.

The zooarchaeological data from the American Southwest indicated variation in the purposes for which turkeys were kept and differences in their living conditions. Signs of injury present in wing bones suggested that live domestic turkeys were plucked, perhaps repeatedly, at some sites. Metrical data showed temporal variation in the size and proportions of domestic turkeys across assemblages and differing population dynamics, including male-female ratios and percentages of juveniles. Other evidence suggested that the turkey was perceived neither uniformly nor unidimensionally across the American Southwest.

Upon arrival in Europe the turkey was briefly perceived as an exotic poultry species, but retained primarily economic significance. Whilst investigating post-medieval turkey husbandry, an association between women and poultry-keeping was clear. Many UK poultry keepers were female, which could explain the near-absence of post-medieval poultry husbandry from contemporaneous agrarian histories. Diseased turkey bones from 19th-century London provide firm skeletal evidence for the health impact of ‘improvement’ upon the species. This research demonstrates that perception-driven translocation and transitions in husbandry methods have profoundly shaped the physical and conceptual transformation of the turkey over time.
About Dr Maribel Canto-Lopez

Maribel obtained her law degree from the University of Malaga (Spain). Subsequently she joined the Law School LLM programme in Human Rights, after which she was awarded an Anniversary Scholarship and began her PhD in 2008. Maribel was a founding member of Café Lexis, a gathering of PhD researchers who met to discuss their theses, and the joint initiative director of the successful student conference ‘Human Rights beyond Borders’. Maribel focused her doctoral work on ‘Jurisdiction and Liability under the European Convention of Contracting Parties Participating in Military Operations Abroad’ and completed her PhD under the supervision of Professor Robin White. Dr Canto-Lopez continues to work as a researcher and tutor at the University of Leicester.

The Lecture

**Killing and Torturing:**
Not in the territory of countries parties to the European Convention

The conduct of military forces is not limited to their territory. They are typically sent on missions that potentially affect civilians beyond the borders of the country sending them. Under the European Convention the linking factor bringing its protection in is jurisdiction. In the modern world the concept of jurisdiction has evolved and moved away from its territorial beginnings.

The European Court of Human Rights considered the connections the Contracting Parties have with a territory in the context of military missions abroad. By definition the prevention of abductions, indefinite detentions, torture and killings by Contracting Parties’ troops do not require territorial control. In the latest European Court of Human Rights landmark case of Al-Skeini it seemed that the court was finally bypassing the territorial control test but it did not. In reality, the personal control test used in the Al-Skeini case was still attached to the performance of some public powers in the area by the troops. Consequently, the expansion of jurisdiction is being devised to include ‘boots on the ground’ type military operations. Yet, currently there is an appetite in the world for more cautious military interventions in foreign lands, through aerial attacks and target killings.

This lecture will examine the reach of the European Convention in the context of participation by Contracting Parties in military operations abroad and how the European Court of Human Rights can further its protection of victims from the Contracting Parties’ troops conduct by using a more inclusive jurisdictional test. This test will increase investigations and compensations for victims and families affected and will improve the applicability of human rights in any future military operations. Following on a more coherent approach to jurisdiction, in order to replace the current uncertainty in the context of applicability of the European Convention in such cases, will be discussed.
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Leicester is ranked in the top 2% of universities in the world by the QS World University Rankings and THE World University Rankings. In 2013 Leicester was the highest climbing UK university in the THE World Rankings, moving up 35 places to 161st in the table - so it is no surprise that so many postgraduates from outside the UK choose us. Around 45% of our campus based postgraduates come from outside the EU and we have significant numbers of students from China, India, Nigeria, Malaysia, Pakistan, Taiwan, the USA, and Saudi Arabia. We also have a large distance learning community with postgraduates based all around the world.

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Learn more: www.le.ac.uk/gradschool

Forthcoming Events

**Doctoral Inaugural Lectures**

College of Social Science, 26 March 2014
College of Science and Engineering, Spring 2014

**Postgraduate Career Event**

Journalism Evening Career Event, 16 April 2014

The Doctoral Inaugural Lecture Series is organised by the Academic Practice Service on behalf of the Graduate School.