What is radical history?
A postgraduate led interdisciplinary conference
24 March 2015

Birkbeck, University of London
Malet Street,
London, WC1E 7HX

9.00 - 9.30 Registration (Room 153)

9.30 – 11.00 Session 1

Radical historiographies (Room 153)

David Convery (NUI Galway), 'What is radical history? Some thoughts based on a comparison of British and Irish historiographical trends'

Amy Tobin (York) and Hannah Proctor (Birkbeck), 'Looking Back: the Histories of Radical History'

Rob Waters (Queen Mary and Birkbeck), 'Thinking black: Peter Fryer's Staying Power (1984)'

Urban and rural workers (Room G16)

Pablo L. Álvarez (King's College London), 'Where is my grandmother in the History of Art?'

Duncan Money (Oxford), 'Who is a radical in history? Problems of definition on the Zambian Copperbelt'

Paul Griffin (Glasgow), 'Assembling a Working Class Presence: Clydeside’s Usable Pasts'

11.00 - 11.30 Break

11.30 – 13.00 Session 2

Political commitment (Room 153)

George Stevenson (Durham), 'The politics of defeat and the crisis of purpose in history'

Dominic Davies (Oxford), 'Criticism as Resistance: A Methodology for the Activist-Academic'

Ben Bethell, Barbara Warnock and Guy Beckett (Birkbeck), 'History Acts'

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The state and authority (Room G16)

Michael Weatherburn (Imperial), 'Writing the managerial revolution back in: the rise of big management in Britain, 1916-2015'

Ben Taylor (King's College London), 'TechnoCops and Radical Scientists: Towards a Radical History of a British Surveillance State?'

Jacob Smith (Queen Mary), 'In search of “complete victory”: Victorian Imperial case studies for the modern “War on Terror”'

13.00 - 14.00 Lunch

14.00 - 15.30 Session 3

Social movements and protest (Room 153)

Miranda Iossifidis (Goldsmiths), 'The pamphlets of the "We Want to Riot, Not To Work Collective": the relationship between radical history and political myth'

Garikoitz Gómez Alfaro (Brighton), 'What time is radical history? A rough guide to critical time'


Radical education (Room G16)

Alison Ronan (Independent Researcher), 'The Riverside Village 1916-1917 and Fairby Grange 1921-1922: two radical and forgotten examples of self-governing colonies for the young “delinquent”'

Victoria Russell (Birkbeck), 'Radical Education and the Platonic Androgyne: The Challenge to Socio-Political Hegemony in England between 1790 and 1840.'

Ruth Mather (Queen Mary), 'Moving Beyond Boundaries: Feminists Teaching History'

15.30 - 16.00 Break

16.00 - 18.00 Roundtable discussion (Room 153)

Becky Taylor (Lecturer in History, Birkbeck, University of London)

Robbie Shilliam (Reader in International Relations, Queen Mary, University of London)

Mike Jackson (Secretary, Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners)

For more information see http://radicalhistoryconference.wordpress.com or email radicalhistoryconference@gmail.com. Register to attend at https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/event/15643334635

Supported by the Department of History, Classics and Archaeology at Birkbeck, University of London; and the Raphael Samuel History Centre.

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