

Mission Statement

The Centre for the Study of International Slavery aims to contribute to greater understanding and informed debate about slavery and its many legacies. We promote an international, comparative, and interdisciplinary approach to examine the cultural and social effects of the slave trade, slavery, and resistance, on all societies involved. We also further the study of memorialisation, and of the interpretation of slavery as part of a wider public history agenda.

We aim to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and opinions between scholars based in Europe, Africa, the Caribbean, and North and South America. As a partnership between The University of Liverpool and **National Museums Liverpool**, the Centre will facilitate access to rich archival and material collections, while offering a strong focus on questions of culture and heritage.

While the Centre's primary focus will be on scholarly research, this activity is designed to contribute to learning and outreach programmes and events for local communities, schools, volunteers, lifelong learners, and the general public. These will raise awareness of the persistence of slavery and means of its eradication, as well as encourage debate about attitudes towards freedom, race, ethnicity, tolerance, respect, and citizenship.

To achieve its aims, the Centre will organise interdisciplinary academic conferences, seminars and workshops. We will network with other research institutions and scholars in Europe, Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America, and the USA. The School of Histories, Languages, and Cultures at the University of Liverpool offers an **MA in International Slavery Studies**, as well as postgraduate research programmes that are integrated with the Centre's activities and focus.

We are committed to providing facilities and support for visiting scholars, especially promising young researchers. We also strive to make the extensive archival and other resources available in

Liverpool more easily accessible to scholars and the interested public. We will disseminate research outcomes through public lectures and events, through the Centre's monograph series within **Liverpool University Press**, as well as through contributions to **National Museum Liverpool's** exhibits and outreach programmes.

The Centre was founded in May 2006. Based in Liverpool, one of Europe's main slave trading ports and a hub of international trade and migration for centuries, the Centre is in a unique position to develop an international and interdisciplinary understanding of the global impact of slavery. Its activities are developed in partnership with the **International Slavery Museum** opened in 2007, and in collaboration with other organisations in Liverpool and beyond. The Centre brings together a diverse group of resident researchers, curators, and educators and started developing facilities for visiting researchers and scholars.