



Removal of the Statue of Cecil Rhodes from the campus of the University of Cape Town, 9 April 2015. By Desmond Bowles - Flickr Stream Desmond Bowles, CC BY-SA 2.0

**70<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Midwest Conference on British Studies  
October 13-14, 2023  
Bowling Green, OH  
Hosted by Bowling Green State  
University**

# **MWCBS 2023**

## **HOSTED BY BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY**

### **LOCAL GUIDE TO BOWLING GREEN**

#### **Welcome to Bowling Green!**

Bowling Green and its affiliated campuses are situated in the homelands of numerous Indigenous and Native tribal lands including the Wyandot, Kickapoo, Miami, Odawa, Powatomi, and others. We sit in the middle of the former Great Black Swamp and all around us are the remnants of interconnected, and often clashing, histories of Indigenous groups, Americans, French, and the British. Today we are a small college town with a vibrant campus and we hope you enjoy your time here.

#### **Getting Around:**

The best way to get to Bowling Green by plane is to fly into Detroit/Wayne County Airport (DTW) and either rent a car and drive or take a prearranged shuttle to Bowling Green. But once you arrive it is possible to explore our small city on foot.

Wooster and Main Street cut through town and visitors can find many places to eat, have a drink, and explore, all in a relatively short walk from campus.

If you would like to go a little farther afield from BG, Perrysburg and Toledo are short drives down either I-75 or Ohio State Route 25.

There are limited ride-share options to get around town and to Toledo as well.

#### **Restaurants:**

Bowling Green is a traditional college town, with a variety of restaurants close to campus. Below are some highlights, but we hope you'll enjoy a stroll down Wooster to Main street and discover some hidden treasures.

Everyday People Café (\$\$-\$\$\$ , 309 S. Main St. Suite D): Breakfast, American. Vegetarian and Vegan options.

Stone's Throw Tavern and Grill (\$\$-\$\$\$ , 176 E. Wooster St.): Americanized pub food. Full bar. Evening trivia.

South Side Six (\$, carry out only, 737 S. Main St.): Mediterranean. A local favorite.

Naslada Bistro (\$\$-\$\$\$ , 182 S. Main St.): Eastern European. Vegan options.

Porkbelly BBQ (\$\$-\$\$\$ , 1616 E. Wooster St.): Barbecue. Relaxed atmosphere.

### ***Local Breweries and Coffeeshops***

Juniper Brewing Company (\$\$, 145 S. Main St.): American Pub. Small Brewery. Small gastropub menu.

Brewing Green (\$, 322 N. Grove St. Suite C): Small local brewery. Often has small food trucks and live music outside. A little further away from campus, but a great atmosphere.

Flatlands Coffee (\$\$-\$\$\$ , 138 N. Main Street): Modern coffee shop with fresh baked goods from local establishments. Nice place for a good cup of coffee or to get a little work done before a busy day.

### **Local Attractions:**

Bowling Green and the surrounding areas are full of wonderful natural and artistic attractions. **The Ft. Meigs Historic Site** (29100 W. River Road, Perrysburg, OH), at the site of the War of 1812 battlefield, includes a museum, visitor center, and fully reconstructed fort that will be open at the time of the conference. General admission is \$10; seniors pay \$8; students pay \$5. The **Toledo Museum of Art** (2445 Monroe St, Toledo, OH) includes the museum and Glass Pavilion, which has glass blowing exhibitions most days. Admission is free.

For those interested in fresh air and natural scenery, consider a visit to the walking trails at the **Black Swamp Preserve** (1014 S. Maple Street, Bowling Green), and the **Toledo Botanical Garden Metropark** (5403 Elmer Dr. Toledo), which features walking paths and beautiful gardens. Admission to both sites is free.

Friday, October 13, 2023

**2023 Midwest Conference on British Studies  
October 13-14, Bowling Green, Ohio  
Hosted by Bowling Green State University**

**Thursday, October 12, 2023**

**5:00-7:00 pm          Early Registration outside of Bowen-Thompson Student Union 308**

**Friday, October 13, 2023**

**8:00 am-4:00 pm          Registration outside of Bowen-Thompson Student Union 308**

**Session 1**

**Panel 1**

**9:00-10:30 am**

**Panel 1 (Bowen-Thompson 314)      New Departures in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Literature**

Chair/Commentator: Ana Schnellmann, Lindenwood University

A Deficit in Character but a Credit to his Class: Melmotte Exposes Objective Violence in *The Way We Live Now*

Alex Long, Purdue University

The *H* Word: Britain's Influence in Relegating *Horror* to a Sub-literary Status

Justin J.J. Ness, Purdue University Northwest

Decolonizing Histories of Collecting: Robert Louis Stevenson and the Vailima Co-Collection of Tapa.

Sophia Merkin, Columbia University

**Session 2**

**Panels 2-3**

**10:45 am-12:15 pm**

**Panel 2 (Bowen-Thompson 314)      Print and Political Culture in Early Seventeenth-Century England**

Chair/Commentator: John Krenzke, Tidewater Community College

Godly Mercantilism? Projects, Providence, and Print in Early Stuart England

David Pennington, Webster University

"True Parallels": Royalist and Parliamentary Interpretations of Catalan Revolt, 1640-1649

Tiffany M. Bragg, University of California, Riverside

Friday, October 13, 2023

**Panel 3 (Bowen-Thompson 315)      Social Problems and Class Identities in 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Britain**

Chair/Commentator: Abby Lagemann, Drake University

Precarious Stability: Women's Work, Class, and Sheffield's Department Stores  
Marissa Knaak, Michigan State University

"Soldiers and Their Ammunition:" Suicides, Murders, "Murderous Manias" in the British Army, 1868-1890  
Nathan Runnels, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

**12:15-1:30**

**Lunch (On your own)**

**Session 3**

**Panels 4-5**

**1:45-3:15 pm**

**Panel 4 (Bowen-Thompson 314)      Stuart Era Sermonizing: Text and Context**

Chair/Commentator: Robert Bucholz, Loyola University

"True Patriots" and the Promotion of "Sedition by False News:" The Anatomy of a Conspiracy in the Rye House Plot Sermons of 1683  
Warren Johnston, Algoma University

Who Wants Yesterday's Sermons?: Text Mining a Jacobite Sermon Collection from Dublin, 1690  
Newton Key, Eastern Illinois University

Exploring Sermons from the EEBO TCP Corpus Using Text Mining Methods  
Trevor Burrows, Eastern Illinois University

**Panel 5 (Bowen-Thompson 315)      Popular Culture, Knowledge, and Policicing**

Chair/Commentator: Jennifer McNabb, University of Northern Iowa

Policing the Crystal Palace  
David Strittmatter, Ohio Northern University

Domesticating the Lecture Platform: The Mid-Victorian "Gossip" as Public Speech  
Anne Rodrick, Wofford College

Friday, October 13, 2023

**Session 4**  
**Panels 6-7**  
**3:30-5:00 pm**

**Panel 6 (Bowen-Thompson 314) Philosophical Identities and Networks**

Chair/Commentator: Robert Butler, Emerson University

Whatever Happened to the British Moralists?  
David E. White, Saint John Fisher University

“The Woman Question” in Victorian Britain: On Comtean Positivism, Women Philosophers,  
and the Origins of Feminism  
Matthew Wilson, Ball State University

**Panel 7 (Bowen Thompson 315) Legal Legacies and the Making of American Law**

Chair: David Pennington, Webster University

Lynch Law and the American Project: How White Colonists Adapted European Precedent to  
Structure Racial Citizenship  
Kathryn E. Robinson, University of Kansas

Imperial Laws of Nineteenth Century Britain and America: The Division Between Class and  
Expertise  
Joseph P. Garske, Independent scholar

**5:00-7:30 pm**

**MWCBS Reception and Plenary Address in Bowen-  
Thompson 308**

**Plenary Address**

“Turning Point: The British Invasion of Ohio,  
1813”  
Ashley Philipot, Executive Director of the Fort  
Meigs Battlefield Site and scholar at Bowling Green  
State University

Saturday, October 14, 2023

**Saturday, October 14, 2023**

**Session 5**

**Panels 8-9**

**8:30-10:00 am**

**Panel 8 (Bowen-Thompson 314) Aspects of English Poetry**

Chair/Commentator: Justin J.J. Ness, Purdue University Northwest

An Italian Ryme Called Soneto: The Sonnet in English Before Tottel  
Daniel Bennet Page, Independent scholar

Is English Poetry in Major or Minor Key? Constance Naden's "Evolutional Erotics" and 19<sup>th</sup>-  
Century British Prosody  
Kayla Carden, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Painting and Prosody: Robert Browning's (Re)presentation of Fra Lippo Lippi and Andrea Del  
Sarto  
Ana Schnellmann, Lindenwood University

**Panel 9 (Bowen-Thompson 315) Imperial Spaces and Stereotypes**

Chair/Commentator: Anne Rodrick, Wofford College

Why did the Chinese portrayals in early British and French Political Cartoons Not Match the  
Facial and Physical Characteristics?  
Harry Jiandang Tan, University of New England, Australia

Hello From Heligoland: A Case Study of British Imperialism  
Dan Lewis, University of Kentucky

Saturday, October 14, 2023

**Session 6**

**Panels 10-11**

**10:15-11:45 am**

**Panel 10 (Bowen-Thompson 314) Imperial Identities, Indigeneity, and Decolonization**

Chair/Commentator: Chet DeFonso, Northern Michigan University

Unmaking Scots, and Making New Zealanders: Failed Scottish Colonizations of the South Island and the Decolonization of New Zealand in the 1880s

Timothy S. Forest, University of Cincinnati

War is Peace, Freedom is Slavery, Ignorance is Strength: Revisiting Orwell's "Shooting an Elephant" in the Light of Imperialism

Amrita Basu Roy Chowdhury, Lady Brabourne College, Kolkata

**Panel 11 (Bowen-Thompson 315) Trouble in the Archives: Obstacles to Historical Research**

Chair/Commentator: Martin Greig, Toronto Metropolitan University

Marriage in the Archives: Relationships on Trial in Early Modern England

Jennifer McNabb, University of Northern Iowa

Tracking Untraceable Men: Early Modern English Soldiers and the County Pension System

Abby Lagemann, Drake University

Nude in the Archives

Lisa Z. Sigel, DePaul University

**12:00-12:45 pm**

**Luncheon, Business Meeting in Bowen-Thompson 308**

**12:45-2:00 pm**

**Graduate Student Award(s) and Keynote Address in Bowen-Thompson 308**

**Keynote Address:** "Diet for an Unhealthy Planet: The Victorian Origins of the World Food Crisis."

Christopher Otter, The Ohio State University



Saturday, October 14, 2023

**Session 7**

**Panel 12**

**2:15-3:45 pm**

**Panel 12 (Bowen-Thompson 314) Sexual Values in British Culture in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries**

Chair/Commentator: Lisa Sigel, DePaul University

Pathologizing Sex and Queering Medicine in the Victorian Era

Ariel Fried, University of Missouri

“Sentiment or Venereal Prejudice:” Contested Authority, Venereal Disease and the Demobilization of the Canadian Expedition Force, 1917 - 1919

Cheyenne Petit, University of Michigan

Consenting Adults: The BBC and the Sexual Offences Act of 1967

Chet DeFonso, Northern Michigan University

**Session 8**

**Panels 13-14**

**4:00-5:30 pm**

**Panel 13 (Bowen-Thompson 314) Scandal, Print, and Popular Politics in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries**

Chair/Commentator: Newton Key, Eastern Illinois University

A Champion of Libertines or Liberties? Sir Francis Dashwood & Eighteenth-Century Conspiracy Theories

Madeline Duntley, Bowling Green State University

Sodomy, Celibacy, and the Cabal: Politicizing Sexuality in Satirical Depictions of William Pitt the Younger, 1784-1791

Mary Louise Sanderson, University of Dayton

Reading the *Northern Star*: Print and Oral Culture in Chartist Politics, 1838-1848

Robert G. Hall, Ball State University

Saturday, October 14, 2023

**Panel 14 (Bowen-Thompson 315) Abolitionism and Citizenship in the British empire**

Chair/Commentator: Apollos Nwauwa, Bowling Green State University

Slavery, Abolition, and the American Civil War: A Perspective of the London Emancipation Society, 1860 - 1865

Oge Samuel Okonkwo, University of Ghana-Accra

“Slaves of the Government:” British Abolition and Liberated Children in Northern Nigeria, 1900 - 1926

Ajibola A. Abdulrahman, Mount Holyoke College

The Midwest Conference on British Studies would like to thank the following for their generous support of this year's conference:

The North American Conference on British Studies

Bowling Green State University

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Martin Greig  
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Robert Bucholz  
David Pennington  
Steven Catania  
Lisa Sigel  
Jennifer McNabb  
Robert Butler  
John Krenzke

The Conference was organized by the following:

Local Organizer: Nicole Jackson, Bowling Green State University

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Program Committee: Celeste Chamberland, Roosevelt University; Mary McCain, DePaul University; Valerie Schutte, independent scholar; Phyllis Soybel, College of Lake County; Emily Wicktor, Valley City State University

Technology Master: Steven Cantania, University of Wisconsin-Madison

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