



**MACQUARIE**  
University

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**CENTRE FOR MEDIA HISTORY**

**Masterclass with Dr Kate Murphy (University of Bournemouth, UK)**

**Writing media history: an insider/outsider view**

**Tuesday 23 February 2016 3:00 – 5.00pm**  
**Room 211, Building Y3A, Macquarie University**

In this masterclass, Dr Kate Murphy will share her experience and knowledge of writing media history, both as an insider (as a former BBC producer) and as an outsider (she is now a media academic). Of all media institutions, the BBC is possibly the most widely written about, with a vast historiography, so how do you approach territory that is supposedly so well-trodden? And how does familiarity enhance/hinder your research? Dr Murphy's area of expertise is early BBC history and gender history, and she has recently written a history of women at the early BBC. She is also the unofficial historian of *Woman's Hour*, the world's longest running radio programme for women, which celebrates its 70th anniversary in 2016. One of the areas that the masterclass will cover is the issue of 'invisible' histories: the reconstruction of lives, programmes and working practices that have largely been omitted from conventional studies. It will also consider issues of empathy, accessibility and subjectivity.

We welcome the participation of research higher degree students and early career researchers working on questions of media history from any discipline including modern history, sociology, gender studies and media and cultural studies. Participants from outside Macquarie are welcome.

Interested participants should email an expression of interest **by Wednesday 17 February**, including:

1. full contact details
2. a short biography (50–100 words) and
3. an outline of current research, including any research question or problem that has arisen in their research project/s (half to one page). This will help Dr Murphy frame the overall discussion.

Please email expressions of interest and enquiries to Dr Jeannine Baker: [jeannine.baker@mq.edu.au](mailto:jeannine.baker@mq.edu.au)

**Dr Kate Murphy** is a Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Bournemouth. Kate previously worked at the BBC for 24 years, predominantly as a Senior Producer on the long-running BBC Radio 4 programme *Woman's Hour*. In 2011 she completed a part-time PhD on women's work in the inter-war BBC and this is the topic of her forthcoming book *Behind the Wireless: A History of Early Women at the BBC* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016). Kate is currently researching women broadcasters in the 1920s and 30s, in particular the relationship between broadcaster and producer. For more information, see Dr Murphy's profile at Bournemouth: <http://staffprofiles.bournemouth.ac.uk/display/kmurphy>

**Suggested reading:** Murphy, K., 2014. 'From Woman's Hour to Other Women's Lives: BBC Talks for Women and the Women who Made Them, 1923-1939', in Andrews, M. and McNamara, S., eds. *Women and the Media. Feminism and Femininity in Britain, 1900 to the Present*. London: Routledge, 31–46 (to be provided to participants on request).

How to get to Macquarie University: [http://www.mq.edu.au/on\\_campus/getting\\_to\\_macquarie/](http://www.mq.edu.au/on_campus/getting_to_macquarie/)  
Map showing building location: <http://myatlas.com/map/?id=61&mrklid=28627>