

SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS

Discipline: History/Religious Studies

Fall 2008

**SEMS 480-4, SEMS 480-5: Local Religious & Food Systems in World History
(2 sections)**

Upper or Lower Division: Upper

Faculty Name: Dr. John M. O'Sullivan

Suggested Pre-requisites: Lower level/introductory course in world history recommended but not required.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will focus on the way in which local systems have engaged in the historical expansion of a connected world system. Historically, they have responded in multiple ways; religiously, culturally, and in various forms of resistance, revolution, advocacy, education, engagement, entrepreneurship, withdrawal and rejection. We will track the story of these responses chronologically with special reference to religion and food in locations on our trip. We will reference major threads of this local/ global tension. We will track how local inspiration transformed the larger religion threads and how the production and consumption of food fit into the process of maintaining local identity and opened connections to the broader world. We will explore the roles of church leaders and communities, food markets, vendors and cooking ingredients in the various steps toward creating the global world of today. Because of our travel we will have the opportunity to visit sites that demonstrate broad ranges of connections of religions in agriculture, food, family and culture along the route we will be traveling in terms of the response of local systems to the broader historical trends.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

In taking this course, students will be able to:

- 1) understand the relationship of global and local cultural connections;
- 2) integrate key themes of global and local history;
- 3) observe local systems systematically
- 4) record and analyze field observations of human social processes in multiple settings with readings and group discussion;
- 5) gain skills in social research through fieldwork;
- 6) discuss the ethical considerations of development as they impact and draw local religious and cultural responses; and
- 7) through extensive use of site specific experiences, appreciate the richness and diversity of uses of human places around the world.

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

| Day | Topic | Assignments for the next meeting | Next port in Itinerary |
|-----|---|---|------------------------|
| 1 | <p>Introductions, Presentation and discussion of course requirements, fieldwork, reports.</p> <p>On Historical Reflection and Meaning Seen in History.</p> <p>Overview of course: Threads of Value: Religion, food and resistance. Christianity and Europe in 1500.</p> | <p>Introduction form (travel and personal interest form)</p> <p>Required Text (RT): Hinnells (chapters 1,2)</p> <p>Optional Reading (OR): Sells, <i>Approaching the Koran</i> (1-31, 145- 155)</p> <p>Petrini, <i>Slow Food</i> (1)</p> | |
| 2 | <p>Christianity, Islam, Traditional Religions</p> <p>Researching and writing local histories: Conducting local fieldwork.</p> | <p>RT: Hinnells (c.3)</p> <p>Rebora (43- 75)</p> <p>Sweet (1-86)</p> | |
| 3 | <p>Understanding place: Salvador Brazil. Race, food, rebellion and Identity.</p> | <p>Hinnells (c. 20)</p> <p>Sweet: (87- 161)</p> | →Salvador |
| 4 | <p>Discussion of observations from Salvador. Religion, food and resistance in Africa</p> | <p>Sweet: (161- 291)</p> <p>(OR): Tiemann, “American Farmers’ Markets”</p> <p>Reis, part III</p> <p>Film <i>Black Orpheus</i></p> | |
| 5 | <p>Religious aspects of the resistance in Africa to the Scramble for Africa</p> | <p>Hinnells (434- 454)</p> <p>(OR): Mills, “Millennial Christianity”</p> <p>Millard: “Bulhoek Tragedy”</p> <p>T.O. Ranger, “Religion in Africa” (2 articles)</p> | |
| 6 | <p>Environment, Game Reserves, Tourism and People, San, Khoi and Life</p> | <p>Rebora (97-129)</p> <p>Clark and Worger (1- 31)</p> <p>(OR): Feenstra, “Roles of Farmers Markets”</p> <p>Pynchon V. chapter 9</p> <p>Film <i>Gods must be crazy</i></p> | →Walvis Bay |

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| 7 | Cape Town and Environs, local food systems and cultural diversity there and beyond the Drakensberg | Clark and Worger (32- 154) (OR): Ross: (parts 1-4 & 8) | →Cape Town |
| 8 | Review of field experiences in Africa. Demographics, food production and consumption, diseases, education in Southern and East Africa. Development and Modern Africa. | Hinnells (13, 14) Film <i>Waters of Ayolé</i> (OR): T.O. Ranger (2 articles) | |
| 9 | The appeal and spread of Islam in Africa; trade, culture, religion and identity. | Living Religions 15 (OR): Levtzion, (c 12) | |
| 10 | India, mega-center for diversity of religious, cultural, food practices. | Hinnells (c.5, 6, 17) Rebora (13) (OR): Petrini (part 3) | |
| 11 | Indian Agriculture- Modern and Traditional, International food research centers and “The Green Revolution”. | Hinnells (8, 18) Rebora (15) | |
| 12 | The Region of Chennai | Hinnells (8) Rebora (16) | →Chennai |
| 13 | The global Commodity Food System, Transportation, Safety and Security. | Hinnells (22, 23) Rebora (17) (OR): Petrini (4) | |
| 14 | The Emergence of Local Food Systems, Attributes, Economics and Values. | Hinnells (24) Rebora (18) (OR): Mauzy, “Malay Nationalism” | →Penang |
| 15 | Vietnam; Broad brush, Fine Shading? | Hinnells (25) (OR): Hue-Tam ‘Religion in Vietnam’ | →Ho Chi Minh |
| 16 | Many Chinas: Food, Culture and Place | Hinnells (9) (OR): Chang “Food in Chinese” Grant “Teaching Chinese” | →Hong Kong, Shanghai |

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| 17 | Japan; Religion and Culture; Food and Culture. | Hinnells (10) (OR): Fukuoka (part 1-3) | →Kobe, Yokohama |
| 18 | Review of Field Experiences in Asia Asian Directions in the Integration of Food, Religion and Resistance Themes. | Journal entries from Asia due | |
| 19 | Meso- America; Food Sources, Religion and Reaction to Globalism | Rebora (14) (OR): Petrini (5) | |
| 20 | Global Themes Revisited; Local Food Systems and Globalism, Sustainability | Rebora (15) | |
| 21 | Course presentations | Presentations | →Honolulu |
| 22 | Course presentations | Presentations | |
| 23 | Final exam essay | Final exam essay (due) | →Puntarenas |

Required Texts (RT)

Clark N. & Worger, W.L. (2004). *South Africa: The Rise and Fall of Apartheid*. Harlow U.K: Pearson/ Longman.

Hinnells, J. R. (1998), *New Handbook of Living Religions*. London: Penguin Books.

Morton, W.S. & Olenik, J.K. (2005). *Japan: Its History and Culture*. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Rebora, G. (2001). *Culture of the Fork, a Brief History of Food in Europe*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Sweet, J.H. (2003). *Recreating Africa; Culture, Kinship and Religion in the African-Portuguese World, 1441-1770*. Chapel Hill NC: University of North Carolina Press.

Reserved Articles and Books (Optional Readings -OR)

Chang, K.C. (1977). *Food in Chinese Culture*.

[HTTP://WWW.ASKASIA.ORG/TEACHERS/ESSAYS/ESSAY.PHP?NO=39](http://www.askasia.org/teachers/essays/essay.php?no=39)

Feenstra, G. (2007). *The Role of Farmers' Markets in Fueling Local Economics*.
www.unisgjournal.it/eng/012007/dibattito/feenstra.asp

Fukuoka, M. (1985). *The Natural Way of Farming: the Theory and Practice of Green Philosophy*. Tokyo and New York: Japan Publications.

Gascoigne, B. (2003). *Christianity: a History*. New York: Carroll & Graf.

Grant, D. (1998). *Teaching Chinese Culture through Literature and Food*. DeAnza Middle School, DeAnza, CA. <http://www.intranet.csupomona.edu/~inch/group4/literature.pdf>

Hue-Tam Ho Tai (1985). *Religion in Vietnam*
<http://www.askasia.org/teachers/essays/essay.php?no=5>

Mauzy, D.K. (2006). From Malay Nationalism to a Malaysian Nation? From *After Independence Making and Protecting the Nation in Postcolonial and Postcommunist States*, Lowell Barrington, ed. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.
<http://www.press.umich.edu/pdf/0472098985-ch3.pdf>

Millard, J. (n.d.). *The Bulhoek Tragedy*.
<http://www.geocities.com/missionalia/bulhoek.htm>

Mills, W.G. *Millennial Christianity, British Imperialism and African Nationalism*.
http://husky1.smu.ca/~wmills/course322/Millennial_Christianity.pdf

Petrini, C. (2007). *Slow Food Nation; Why our Food Should Be Good, Clean and Fair*. New York: Rizoli ex libris.

Pouwels, R. (2000). East African Coast c. 780 to 1900 c.e. In *The History of Islam in Africa*, edited by Nehemia Levtzion and Randal Pouwels. Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press.

Pynchon, T. (1961). *V. A novel*. (chapter 9, “Monddagen’s story”). New York: Harper Row.

Ranger, T.O. (2005). *Religion in Africa*. Lecture to OCMS, August 30, 2005.
http://www.ocms.ac.uk/docs/20050830_Ranger.pdf

Ranger, T.O. (2005). *Religion in Africa*. Lecture to OCMS, October 4, 2005.
www.ocms.ac.uk/docs/20051004_Ranger.pdf

Reis, J.J. (1993). *Slave Rebellion in Brazil: The Muslim Uprising of 1835 in Bahia*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Ross, R. (1999). *A Concise History of South Africa*. Cambridge, U.K. & New York: Cambridge University Press.

Sells, M. (1999). *Approaching the Qur’an; the Early Revelations*. Ashland, Oregon: White Cloud Press.

Tiemann, T. K. (2004). American Farmers’ Markets: Two Types of Informality. *International Journal of Sociology and Policy*. 24, (6), 44-57.

Videos

Black Orpheus (Orfeu Negro) (1959) directed by Marcel Camus based on the work of Vinicus de Moraes, starring Breno Mello, Lourdes de Oliveira and Mapessa Dawn.

Gandhi (1982), written and directed by Richard Attenborough, starring Ben Kingsley.

Gods Must Be Crazy! (1980) written and directed by Jamie Uys, starring N!xam.

FIELD COMPONENT

The purpose of this course is to gain a greater understanding of the historical context of the issues of today as they are emerging in terms of economic development, world trade and cultural expression. The purpose of the field trips is to develop your own perspectives based on observation of the ports and sites we will be visiting over the course of our trip. The fundamental questions to be considered in the field practica for this course are:

To what extent have local religious and agricultural systems created space useful for local entrepreneurs and non-mainstream people in the expanded global market and cultural system that emerged from European empires?

SPECIFIC FIELD REQUIREMENTS

All students will be required to submit a TENTATIVE FIELD STUDY PLAN by the third class meeting, listing the expected port visits, key area of interest and expected sources of information. The planning process will be discussed in class. Students can use a combination of Faculty Directed Practica (FDP), Non-Faculty Directed Practica (n-FDP), and Independent Practica (IND). Each student is required to complete THREE practica (either Faculty Directed or Independent). At least TWO of these should be faculty-directed field trips led by me (see list below). You are required to participate in one of the FDPs under my direction in Salvador, Cape Town, or Kobe (and are required to choose two from among the entire set of FDPs I am leading), since they are central to the material covered in this class. The third practica can be an Independent Practicum developed as part of a regularly-offered SAS trip, or it may stand alone. If an Independent Practicum is selected, then the student must meet with the instructor prior to arriving in the port-of-call to discuss his or her approach and objectives.

Steps of Field Work:

1. Observation- Main theme: Examine evidence of local response to the historical context of the way in which at this site there was a reaction to becoming part of the world system we presently experience. Identify the effects of the arrival of a global connection (colonizing power or such),
2. Observation- Secondary Theme: Identify and describe the key components of the European colonial system,
3. Assessment: Look at the way in which new syntheses are occurring in terms of religious expressions and local agricultural production of food in the presence of lingering effects of global system imperialism in dress, manners, language,

architecture, food, religion and other such attributes. Be sure to consider modern syntheses in terms of the above themes and how they are providing opportunity of value to women and other potentially marginalized people.

4. Data Collection and Analysis: Keep a travel diary of your visits. After returning to the ship from your field work, write a description of your impression of the role of local religious expression or local food production in that country in terms of the historical context, the local response models and possible future directions. Include pictures that document your observations. Relate these observations to at least two reading references supplied with this course. Cite locations and other details to document your field observations. Present your data collection and analysis in class as part of the requirement the field study grade for this course. A written report of at least 15 pages length will be required.

SUGGESTED PRACTICA:

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|---------------|---|
| BRAZIL: | Cachoeira (FDP); Tour of Historical Salvador; Afro-Brazilian Museum and Candomblé House |
| NAMIBIA: | Colonial Context of Modern Namibia: Walvis Bay and Swakopmund |
| SOUTH AFRICA: | Historical Aspects of African Land Use in the Cape Area (FDP); District 6 Museum; Robben Island; Race and Race Classification before and during apartheid |
| INDIA: | Memories of India and Gandhian Movement; Islam in south India |
| MALAYSIA: | Visit to a primitive Malay village |
| VIET NAM: | Historical geography of HCMC (FDP) |
| HONG KONG: | Hong Kong: New Territories |
| SHANGHAI: | Suzhou |
| JAPAN: | Historical roots of Community Supported Agriculture (FDP) |

METHODS OF EVALUATION

| | | |
|---|--------------------|-----------|
| Socio-economic histories (written and final presentations) | 2 (20 points each) | 40 points |
| Field journal entries | 3 (5 points each) | 15 points |
| Reading summary/commentary (selected from among the optional readings or other readings as agreed upon) | 3 (5 points each) | 15 points |
| Class participation (attendance, posing and answering questions, coordinating a class session, and feedback to other students) | | 15 points |
| Final essay (exam) | | 15 points |

Total=100 points

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

AUTHOR: Clark, Nancy & William L. Worger.
TITLE: *South Africa: The Rise and Fall of Apartheid.*
PUBLISHER: Pearson/ Longman
ISBN# 0-582-41437-7
DATE/EDITION: 2004
COST: \$20.00 (new), \$13.13 (used)

AUTHOR: Hinnells, J. R.
TITLE: *New Handbook of Living Religions.*
PUBLISHER: Penguin Books.
ISBN# 9780140514803
DATE/EDITION: 2003, 2nd edition
COST: \$14.96

AUTHOR: Morton, W.S. & J.K. Olenik
TITLE: *Japan: Its History and Culture.*
PUBLISHER; New York, McGraw-Hill.
ISBN# 0-07-141280-8
DATE/EDITION: 2004
COST: \$12.89 (new), \$5.30 (used)

AUTHOR: Rebora, G.
TITLE: *Culture of the Fork, a Brief History of Food in Europe.*
PUBLISHER: New York, Columbia University Press.
ISBN# 0-231-12150-4
DATE/EDITION: 2001
COST: \$31.50 (new), \$9.94 (used)

AUTHOR: Sweet, James.H.
TITLE: *Recreating Africa; Culture, Kinship and Religion in the African-Portuguese World, 1441-1770.*
PUBLISHER; University of North Carolina Press.
ISBN# 0-8078-5482-4
DATE/EDITION: 2003
COST: \$21.95 (new), \$14.95 (used)

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS

PDF Files sent as Attachment

Chang, K.C. (1977). *Food in Chinese Culture.*

[HTTP://WWW.ASKASIA.ORG/TEACHERS/ESSAYS/ESSAY.PHP?NO=39](http://www.askasia.org/teachers/essays/essay.php?no=39)

Feenstra, G. (2007). *The Role of Farmers' Markets in Fueling Local Economies.*

www.unisgjournal.it/eng/012007/dibattito/feenstra.asp

Grant, D. (1998). *Teaching Chinese Culture through Literature and Food*, DeAnza Middle School. <http://www.intranet.csupomona.edu/~inch/group4/literature.pdf>

Hue-Tam Ho Tai (1985). "Religion in Vietnam"

<http://www.askasia.org/teachers/essays/essay.php?no=5>

Mauzy, D.K. (2006) *From Malay Nationalism to a Malaysian Nation? From After Independence*

Making and Protecting the Nation in Postcolonial and Postcommunist States, Lowell Barrington, ed. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.

<http://www.press.umich.edu/pdf/0472098985-ch3.pdf>

Millard, J. (n.d.). *The Bulhoek Tragedy.*

<http://www.geocities.com/missionalia/bulhoek.htm>

Mills, W.G. The Taylor revival of 1866 and the roots of African nationalism in the Cape Colony. *Journal of Religion in Africa*, Vol. VIII, 2; 105-122.

Ranger, T.O. (2005). *Religion in Africa*. Lecture to OCMS, October 4, 2005.

www.ocms.ac.uk/docs/20051004_Ranger.pdf

Ranger, T.O. (2005). *Religion in Africa*. Lecture to OCMS, August 30, 2005.

http://www.ocms.ac.uk/docs/20050830_Ranger.pdf

Tiemann, T. K. (2004). American Farmers' markets: Two Types of Informality. *International Journal of Sociology and Policy*. 24.6, 44-57.