

Fall 2010

Discipline: History

HIST 3559-501: Travelers and Frontiers (Section 1)

HIST 3559-502: Travelers and Frontiers (Section 2)

Upper Division

Faculty Name: Fernando Operé

Pre-requisites: none

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class will study the major travelers and explorers from the Western world, who crossed physical and cultural frontiers in order to expand the limits of civilization. The class will deal with frontiers and encounters, and the outreach of ambitions, imaginations, struggles, and routes that made all their trips possible, from Marco Polo, Christopher Columbus, Bernal Díaz del Castillo, to Charles Darwin, Alexander von Humboldt, and Paul Theroux. The class will study the encounter of people and cultures and its consequences (war, assimilation, acculturation), and the vital importance that through writing the travelers had in shaping the images of the discovered territories. Frontiers and Otherness will be a main focus of study.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

To familiarize students with the writings of western travelers in the and how their travels and writings had in impact in shaping the western world.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

AUTHOR: Felipe Fernández-Armesto

TITLE: Pathfinders. A Global History of Exploration.

PUBLISHER: W.W. Norton % Company

ISBN #: 978-0-393-06259-5

DATE/EDITION: 2007

COST: \$14.21

AUTHOR: Jorge Cañizares-Esquerro and Erik R. Seeman

TITLE: The Atlantic in Global History 1500-2000

PUBLISHER: Pearson

ISBN #: 0-130192714-0

DATE/EDITION: 2006

COST: \$33.42

AUTHOR: Mary Louise Pratt

TITLE: Imperial Eyes. Travel Writing and Transculturation

PUBLISHER: Routledge

ISBN #: 0-415-06095-8

DATE/EDITION: 1992

COST: \$26.92

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

- 1- Travel. The Mind of the Traveler. For a History of Travel. Exploring the world.
Reading: Fernandez-Armesto Ch. 1
- 2- Exploring the world. Crossing oceans and lands. The first great travelers Chinese and Europeans of the Middle Ages. Far beyond their borders.
Reading: Fernández-Armesto Ch. 3
- 3- The first great travelers Chinese and Europeans of the Middle Ages. Far beyond their borders. The Travels of Marco Polo in Asia.
Reading: *The Travels of Marco Polo*
- 4- The age of maritime penetrations. Exploring Africa and Asia by the Portugueses.
Reading: Fernández-Armesto Ch 4
- 5- Christopher Columbus and the age of discovery. New continents and new frontiers.
Reading: Fernández-Armesto Ch. 5
First paper
- 6- The Diary of Columbus and his four voyages.
Reading: Christopher Columbus
- 7- The American world and their people. Conquest, acculturation, and resistance.
Reading: Cañizares-Esquerria Part I
- 8- The Atlantic, the great frontier
Reading: Walter Prescott Webb, “The Great Frontier”
- 9- The Spanish American frontiers. Travelers in search of myths.
Reading: Todorov Ch. 1 and 2
- 10- The conquest of Tenochtitlan.
Second paper
Reading: Bernal Díaz del Castillo, *The Conquest of New Spain*
- 11- Discussion. In the Aztec world
Reading: Restall, *Seven Myths of the Conquest.*
- 12- The native Americans, from Araucanians to Seminoles
- 13- Beyond the Atlantic. African diasporas.
Reading: Cañizares-Esquerria Part II
- 14- Travelers in the age of Enlightenment. Science and planetary consciousness.
Pratt Ch. 2, 3 and 4
- 15- Alexander von Humboldt and the reinvention of America
Pratt Ch. 6
Third paper
- 16- Ordering the world from a new paradigm. From imperial policy to capitalist order
Reading: Pratt Ch. 7
- 17- Charles Darwin and his trip on board of the Beagle
Reading. *Journal of Researches*
- 18- Lucio Mansilla a dandy in the Pampas.
Reading: Mansilla, *A visit to the Ranquel Indians*
- 19- Captives: travelers who didn't want to travel. Catch up between cultures.
Reading: Operé, *Indian Captivity in Spanish America.*
- 20- Modernization, modernity and the transformation of the Atlantic world.
Reading: Cañizares-Esquerria, Part III

- Four paper
21- Travelers in the 20th Century.
 Reading: Fernández-Armesto Ch. 9
22- The intellectual travel
23- Final exam

FIELD ASSIGNMENTS (*Twenty percent of the contact hours for each course is provided by field work.*)

Each student will be responsible for writing a dossier in which they will include information about travelers who traveled to the different countries and cities that we will visit during our journey around the world. This accumulative dossier will be turn in at the end of the semester. The first assignment will in Seville, Spain, where we will visit the Torre del Oro, constructed in the first third of the 13th century, the tower served as a prison during the Middle Ages and as a secure enclosure for the protection of precious metals periodically brought by the fleet of the Indies; and the Archivo de las Indias ("General Archive of the Indies") the document repository, where a great deal of documents dealing with hundred of travels to America are held.

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Grading system: Final exam 25%; Papers (10% each) 30%; Field work (20%) Participation and presentation 10%.

RESERVE LIBRARY LIST

AUTHOR: Felipe Fernández-Armesto
TITLE: Pathfinders. A Global History of Exploration
PUBLISHER: W.W. Norton & Company
ISBN #: 978-0-393-33091-5
DATE/EDITION: 2007
COST: \$12.98

AUTHOR: Mary Louise Pratt
TITLE: Imperial Eyes. Travel Writing and Transculturation
PUBLISHER: Routledge
ISBN #: 0-415-06095-8
DATE/EDITION: 1997
COST: \$30.95

AUTHOR: Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra and Erik R. Seeman
TITLE: The Atlantic in global History 1500-2000
PUBLISHER: Pearson. Prentice Hall
ISBN #: 978-0-13-192714-8
DATE/EDITION: 2006
COST: \$27.45

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS

AUTHOR: Lucio V. Mansilla
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Ch. I, II, and XX to XXXVI
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: A Visit to the Ranquel Indians
VOLUME:
DATE:
PAGES:

AUTHOR: Christopher Columbus
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE:
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: The Four Voyages
VOLUME:
DATE:
PAGES:

AUTHOR: Marco Polo
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE:
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: The Travels
VOLUME:
DATE:
PAGES: 113-162

AUTHOR: Fernando Opere
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Ch. 4
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Indian Captivity in Hispanic America: Frontier Narratives
VOLUME:
DATE:
PAGES: 96-135

AUTHOR: Walter Prescott Webb
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: "The Great Frontier"
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Where Cultures Meet
VOLUME:
DATE:
PAGES: 51-63

AUTHOR: Todorov, Tzvetan
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: 1 and 2
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: *The Conquest of America*.

VOLUME:
DATE:
PAGES:

AUTHOR: Todorov, Tzvetan
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: 1 and 2
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: *The Conquest of America.*

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

DVD's that I will provide.