Monday, 4:15 – 6:15PM

Clare Carroll, Professor, Comparative Literature and History:
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Office hours: Friday, 3:00-4:00 PM and by appointment:

Description: Transculturaiton in the Atlantic world will be the focus of our study of encounters between Europeans and Africans, peoples of the Caribbean, and the Americas in texts from Portuguese, Spanish, Nahuatl, French and English authors. Topics to be discussed include political versus economic interpretations of the encounter, slavery, and colonization; the geography of empire; visual narration in Meso-American codices; the intersection of gender, class and race in the creation of mestizo cultures; monsters and cannibals in maps and ethnographic writing; the construction of race before race (the pseudo-science of the 18th and 19th centuries).

Assignments:

- An oral report of no more than 20 minutes based on the reading for one of our class meetings.
- A six to eight-page paper based on your oral report, due one week after your report
- An annotated bibliography for your research paper, due Monday, November 28.
- A rough draft of the final 16-page paper (including the list of sources), due Monday, December 5.
Final draft of the paper, due Monday, December 19.

Schedule of Readings and Reports:

Week 1, August 29, 2021: Introduction
Guest Speaker: Herman Bennett (History, GC)
*Asia de of João de Barros:*
https://archive.org/details/asia00barr/page/n29/mode/2up
(from the University of Toronto Library)
Excerpts from *The Asia of João de Barros* can be read in English in: *The voyages of Cadamosto and other documents on Western Africa in the second half of the fifteenth century* (Hakluyt Society, Second Series Book 80). Available as an e-book through the GC library, pp. 103-147; focus on pp. 114-122


**September 5: Labor Day: No Class**

**Week 2, September 12: Christopher Columbus: Letters, documents, and the Diario**


Early modern editions to be consulted:
The Diario of Christopher Columbus's first voyage to America, 1492-1493
Columbus, Christopher.; Casas, Bartolomé de las, 1484-1566. Translated and edited by Oliver C. Dunn, and James E. Kelley, James E. (James Edward). Digital version of the Introduction: http://www.ems.kcl.ac.uk/print/b001.html

**Week 3, Sept. 19: Sahagun and Indigenous Artisans: Book Twelve of the Florentine Codex**
Reading: from Book Twelve of the Florentine Codex. In We People Here: Nahuatl Accounts of the Conquest of Mexico. Edited and Translated by James Lockhart. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 1993, pp. 48-254. {You only must read ¼ of this which is the English translation of the Nahuatl text, but you will want to at times compare the translation of the Nahuatl with the Spanish or the translation of the Spanish on the opposite page.}
Digital version of the manuscript from the Medicea Laurenziana Library in the World Digital Library: https://www.wdl.org/en/item/10623/ 

**September 26: No Class. Rosh Hashanah**

**Week 4, September 29 (Monday class held on Thursday): Second Letter of Hernán Cortés**
**Guest Speaker: Ricardo Padrón (Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, U Virginia)**


Contains the first published plan of the Aztec city of Tenochtitlán (present-day Mexico City, labeled Temixtitlan on the map). From the Newberry Library

Many Things Worthy of Knowledge and Admiration About the Excellent Cities of Their Provinces…Above All About the Famous City Temixtitan and Its Diverse Wonders, Which Will Wondrously Please the Reader) https://www.wdl.org/en/item/2831/

**Week 5: October 3: Bartolomé de Las Casas, *A Brief Account, Much Abbreviated, of the Destruction of the Indies***

**Guest Speaker:** José Miguel Martínez Torréjon (Hispanic, GC and Queens)


**October 10: Columbus Day. No Class.**

**Week 6, October 17:** Garcilaso de la Vega El Inca, *Royal Commentaries on the Incas and General History of Peru,* pp. 1-21; 32-38; 44-48; 74-98 (especially Book 9, chapter 31) and pp. 99-137 (especially pp. 124-128).

**Guest Speaker: Amanda Wunder (GC, Art History and History; Lehman, History)**


Recommended: Race in Colonial Latin America: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lFTXr0iWi5Q&fbclid=IwAR21TqNHS6lVcu2a2NLAhTQUve88DYwcqF_fklPdKkmPmJYn_N4FadHOMs

**Week 7, October 24:** Sor Juana, selections from her poetry and prose
Reading: Sor Juana: selected poems from *A Sor Juana Anthology*, “Replying to a gentleman from Peru who had sent her some small clay vessels, telling her she should become a man,” pp. 26-33; “In which the poet with her show of wit, answers the Count of La Granja,” pp. 32-35; “A Pure Love, however distant, eschewing all unseemliness, may feel whatever the most profane might feel,” pp. 36-41; “Which contains a fantasy satisfied with a love befitting it,” pp. 80-81; “She condemns the bloatedness of much learning, which she considers useless even as knowledge and harmful for living” pp. 90-95; “She ponders the choice of a way of life binding until death” and “She shows distress as being abused for the applause her talent brings,” pp. 96-99; “She demonstrates the inconsistency of men’s wishes in blaming women for what they themselves have caused, pp. 110-113, The Villancios, pp. 122-145


**Week 8, October 31:** Jean de Léry, *Voyage to the Land of Brazil*, “Preface,” pp. xlv-lxii, Chapter 1, pp. 3-6; Chapters VI-IX, pp. 33-77; Chapters XVI-XX, pp. 134-195.

**Guest Speaker: Surekha Davies (Utrecht University)**


**Week 9, Nov. 7:** Montaigne’s skeptical view of the Americas and the colonial project
Reading: from Montaigne *Essays*: “On Cannibals”


**Week 10, Nov. 14: Ireland as a Training Ground for English Colonization**  
**Guest Speaker: Sarah Covington (History GC and Queens)**  
*From Spenser, A View of the Present State of Ireland*


**Week 11, Nov. 21: Early Modern Race and Shakespeare**  
Shakespeare, *The Tempest*  
*Reading: Kim Hall and Peter Erickson, “‘A New Scholarly Song’: Reading Early Modern Race,” Shakespeare Quarterly 67 (2016), 14-29.*


Reading: Shakespeare, *The Tempest* (Folger edition recommended)  

Urvashi Chakravarty, "'I Had Peopled Else': Shakespeare's Queer Natalities and the Reproduction of Race." In Queering Childhood in Early Modern English Drama and

**Week 12: Nov. 28:** Early Modern Race, Gender and Slavery
Richard Hakluyt, “The Voyage made by Mr. John Hawkins to the Coast of Guinea and Nova Hispania, 1564.” *Voyages and Discoveries*, pp. 105-116.

Cassander Smith, “Candy No Witch in Her Country”: What One Enslaved Woman’s Testimony During the Salem With Trial Tells Us about Early American Literature,” in *Early Modern Black Diaspora Studies*, edited by Cassander Smith, Nicholas Jones, and Miles P. Grier (Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018), 175-196.


**Week 13: Dec. 5: Intersections of Race, Gender, Slavery**


**Week 14: December 12: Reflections on the Seminar**

**List of Primary Texts**
All readings for the course are available on Blackboard or as e-books through the GC Library. If you want to purchase your own hard copies, here is the book list:


