

HISC60H3

Old Worlds? Strangers and Foreigners in the Mediterranean, 1200-1700

Lectures: W 9-11, AA 208

Tutorial: M, 2-3, BV 355

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| Instructor | Prof. E. Natalie Rothman | Phone | (416) 287-7159 |
| Office | H324 | E-mail | rothman[at]utsc.utoronto.ca |
| Office Hours | Wed. noon-2pm and by special appointment | Course Website | http://portal.utoronto.ca |

Description: This c-level course will explore how medieval and early modern societies encountered foreigners and accounted for foreignness, as well as for religious, linguistic, and cultural difference more broadly.

Goals:

- ❖ To become familiar with major modern theories of social differentiation and their applicability to pre-modern societies;
- ❖ To understand the processes (social, cultural, legal) by which boundaries have been established between "local" and "foreign," "self" and "other" in a variety of historical contexts;
- ❖ To explore various types of historical evidence, and their multiple possible interpretations;
- ❖ To develop academic reading and writing skills.

Required readings: This course does not have a textbook. The lecture is the textbook.

2 required books are available at the UTSC bookstore:

- ❖ Cohen, Mark R. Ed. 1988. *The Autobiography of a Seventeenth-Century Venetian Rabbi: Leon Modena's Life of Judah*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.
- ❖ Davis, Natalie Zemon. 2006. *Trickster Travels: A Sixteenth-Century Muslim between Worlds*. New York: Hill and Wang.

All other required (and some optional) readings will be made available on Blackboard at least a week in advance. You are responsible for completing the reading and for bringing your own copy to class on the designated week.

Lectures and tutorials: In the absence of a textbook, regular attendance at both lectures and tutorials is required and vital for your success in this course.

Office hours & email etiquette: I strongly encourage you to come to my office hours to introduce yourselves, to discuss any aspect of the course, or your academic goals in general. This is the best way for me to get to know you and for you to solve any problems or concerns related to this course. If you need to contact me outside office hours, it's best to use email (I do not check my office voicemail). I also expect you to email me in advance if you must miss class due to medical/family emergency. Do understand that I cannot always respond promptly to your queries. Responsibility for making up materials covered in missed classes lies with you. I cannot provide you with notes and/or study guides for missed lectures/tutorials.

Essays: In addition to a final exam you are expected to write two essays in the course of the semester. As a rule, and to keep things fair, there will be no extensions on deadlines, which are clearly indicated on the syllabus. Essays should be submitted electronically via the assignment submission tool on the course website. **Be prepared for computer outages and glitches—late submissions due to any technical problems will not be accepted.** To protect your own privacy hard copies of your assignments cannot be accepted.

Essay 1 (due by Oct. 20 at 11pm): In 5 double-spaced, carefully written, edited, and proof-read pages, discuss the following question:

What does Simmel mean by arguing that the stranger is “an element of the group itself” and yet at the same time also a “person who comes today and stays tomorrow [...] He is fixed within a particular spatial group... but his position... is determined... by the fact that he does not belong to it from the beginning”? Do you agree? Does Leon Modena fit this definition? Do other cases discussed in the course so far? In your answer, you should be as specific as possible and exemplify your arguments with concrete evidence from the materials discussed in the lectures and readings. Be sure to provide complete references (including page numbers) whenever quoting, citing, or paraphrasing from any text.

Essay 2 (due by Nov. 24 at 11pm): In 5 double-spaced, carefully written, edited, and proof-read pages, compare and contrast two types of foreigners discussed in this course. Use specific examples from the lectures and readings. Be sure to provide complete references (including page numbers) whenever quoting, citing, or paraphrasing from any texts.

Both essays should include your name, date, and the title of your essay at the top of the first page. You need not include a title page. References and citations for all ideas taken from the readings should be carefully provided, either parenthetically (MLA/APA) or in footnotes, as well as in a bibliography at the end of your essay. Either citation style is fine, as long as you follow it systematically. For a primer on standard documentation formats, see: <http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/document.html> or follow the link from the course website.

Writing: The University offers a great range of services to help improve your writing skills. For excellent advice on writing, including tips on reading, summarizing, citing sources, and how not to plagiarize, see <http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/advise.html>. If ever in doubt about appropriate use of sources, citing, footnoting, etc., please consult me or the excellent staff at the Writing Centre before submitting your assignment.

You are strongly encouraged to take your essay drafts to the Writing Centre (AC 210) well in advance of the deadline. Also check out the English Language Development website at <http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/%7EtlswEB/ELD>.

AccessAbility: Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services Office as soon as possible. The UTSC AccessAbility Services staff (located in **S302**) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations (416) 287-7560 or ability@utsc.utoronto.ca. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Course requirements: Full attendance and regular, active, and informed participation in lectures and tutorials, careful reading of all assigned texts, and timely submission of all assignments.

Marking scheme:

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| Attendance & participation | 10% |
| Map quiz | 10% |
| Essay 1 | 20% |
| Essay 2 | 25% |
| Final | 35% |
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| Total: | 100% |

Course Schedule

All required readings as well as items for further reading marked with an asterisk are available on Blackboard.

| Lecture & Date | Topic | Readings |
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| 1 Sept. 12 | Introduction | Monday, Sept. 17: Map quiz |
| 2 Sept. 19 | Some Concepts: Foreigners, Strangers, and Locals | Simmel, Georg. 1950 [1908]. "The Stranger." In <i>The Sociology of Georg Simmel</i> . Trans. Kurt Wolff. New York: Free Press, pp. 402-408. Mehmed II. 1453. "Privilege granted to the Genoese colony of Galata by Mehmed II the Conqueror, 1453." Trans. Eldem Edhem. "House Rules for the New Fondaco dei Turchi, 1621." In <i>Venice: A Documentary History</i> . Eds. David Chambers and Brian S. Pullan. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, pp. 350-352. |
| 3 Sept. 26 | Foreign Objects: From Monsters through Relics to the Exotic | "A Curious Collection of Paintings and Several Other Curiosities. By the Best Masters." London, 1691. Park, Katharine and Lorraine J. Daston. 1981. "Unnatural Conceptions: The Study of Monsters in Sixteenth- and Seventeenth-Century France and England." <i>Past and Present</i> 92: 20-54. Findlen, Paula. 2002. "Inventing Nature: Commerce, Art, and Science in the Early Modern Cabinet of Curiosities." In <i>Merchants & Marvels: Commerce, Science, and Art in Early Modern Europe</i> . Eds. Pamela H. Smith and Paula Findlen. New York: Routledge, pp. 297-323. |
| 4 Oct. 3 | Being Local in Pre-Modern Societies | Film viewing and discussion: <i>The Return of Martin Guerre</i> (1982) Davis, Natalie Zemon. 2003. "Movie or Monograph? A Historian/Filmmaker's Perspective." <i>The Public Historian</i> 25 (3): 45-48. |
| 5 Oct. 10 | Encountering Others: Crusaders and Crusading Societies | Said, Edward W. 1978. "Introduction." In <i>Orientalism</i> . New York: Vintage Books, pp. 1-28. Ibn-Munqidh, Usamah. 2000 [ca. 1213]. "An Appreciation of the Frankish Character." In <i>An Arab-Syrian Gentleman and Warrior in the Period of the Crusades: Memoirs of Usamah Ibn-Munqidh</i> . Ed. Philip K. Hitti. New York: Columbia University Press, pp. 161-170. Murray, Alan V. 1995. "Ethnic Identity in the Crusader States: The Frankish Race and the Settlement of Outremer." In <i>Concepts of National Identity in the Middle Ages</i> . Eds. Simon Forde et al. Leeds: University of Leeds, pp. 59-73. |
| 6 Oct. 17 | Religious Others (I): Jews and Muslims in Christian Lands | Modena, Leon. 1988. <i>The Autobiography of a Seventeenth-Century Venetian Rabbi: Leon Modena's Life of Judah</i> . Ed. Mark R. Cohen. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press. First essay due on Blackboard by 11pm, Oct. 20 |
| 7 Oct. 24 | Religious Others (II): converts, heretics, witches and missionaries | Nirenberg, David. 2002. "Conversion, Sex and Segregation: Jews and Christians in Medieval Spain." <i>The American Historical Review</i> 107 (4): 1065-93. Ruggiero, Guido. 2001. "The Strange Death of Margarita Marcellini: <i>Male</i> , Signs, and the Everyday World of Pre-Modern Medicine." <i>American Historical Review</i> 106 (4): 1141-58. |
| 8 Oct. 31 | National Citizenship and its (Juridical) Others | Riesenberg, Peter. 1992. "The Bonds, Language, and Emotion" and "Citizenship in the Renaissance." In <i>Citizenship in the Western Tradition</i> . Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, pp. 118-139 and 187-199. Wells, Charlotte C. 2004. "New Views on Citizenship and National Identity in Early Modern France." <i>History Compass</i> 2: 1-4. |
| 9 Nov. 7 | Foreigners and the City | Cowan, Alexander. 2000. "Foreigners and the City. The Case of the Immigrant Merchant." In <i>Mediterranean Urban Culture 1400-1700</i> . Exeter: University of Exeter Press, pp. 45-55. Selwood, Jacob. 2005. "'English-Born Reputed Strangers': Birth and Descent in Seventeenth-Century London." <i>Journal of British Studies</i> 44 (4): 728-53. |

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| 10 | Nov. 14 | Itinerant Foreigners; Diplomats and Political Exiles; Students and Scholars | Davis, Natalie Z. 2006. <i>Trickster Travels: A Sixteenth-Century Muslim Between Worlds</i> . New York: Hill and Wang. |
| 11 | Nov. 21 | Captives and Slaves | Hasleton, Richard. 2001 [1595]. "Strange and Wonderful Things Happened to Richard Hasleton . . . in His Ten Years' Travails in Many Foreign Countries." In <i>Piracy, Slavery, and Redemption: Barbary Captivity Narratives from Early Modern England</i> . Ed. Daniel Vitkus. New York: Columbia University Press, pp. 71-95. Colley, Linda. 2000. "Going Native, Telling Tales: Captivity, Collaborations and Empire." <i>Past and Present</i> 168: 170-93. |
| Second essay due on Blackboard by 11pm, Nov. 24 | | | |
| 12 | Nov. 28 | Pilgrims and Tourists | Pitts, Joseph. 1997 [1685]. "From <i>A True and Faithful Account</i> ." In <i>One Thousand Roads to Mecca</i> . Ed. Michael Wolfe. New York: Grove Press, pp. 106-125. Pfister, Manfred (ed.). 1996. "Social and Sexual Manners" and "National Character." In <i>The Fatal Gift of Beauty: The Italies of British Travellers : An Annotated Anthology</i> . Atlanta: Rodopi, pp. 256-309. Matar, Nabil. 2000. "Two Journeys to Seventeenth-Century Palestine." <i>Journal of Palestine Studies</i> 29 (4): 37-50. Dew, Nicholas. 2006. "Reading Travels in the Culture of Curiosity: Thévenot's Collection of Voyages." <i>Journal of Early Modern History</i> 10 (1/2): 39-59. |
| Final exam (date TBA) | | 2 hours: 4 identifications out of 8 (40%), 1 essay question out of 2 (60%) | |