

Traveling and Travel-Writing from the Middle Ages to the Early Modern Period

HISD60H3

Mon, 3-5 pm, BV 361

Instructor	Prof. E. Natalie Rothman	Phone	(416) 287-7159
Office	H324	E-mail	rothman@utsc.utoronto.ca
Office Hours	Mon noon-1 pm & 2-3 pm and by appointment	Course Website	Blackboard: http://portal.utoronto.ca

Description:

This D-level seminar will explore the development of travel and travel narratives before 1800, and their relationship to trade, colonization, and curiosity in the Mediterranean and beyond. Topics include: pilgrimage and crusading; antiquarianism; geography, cartography, and ethnography; travelling diplomats, scholars, and missionaries; fictitious and vicarious travelling.

Goals:

- To learn about the history of travel and travel-writing;
- To explore the various approaches historians have taken to the study of travel;
- To develop analytical reading and writing skills;
- To plan and carry out independent research.

As a senior-year research seminar, this course aims to help you acquire the skills needed in order to carry out an independent research project in history, including critical reading of secondary literature, writing a critical book review, compiling an annotated bibliography, developing an original argument using evidence from primary documents, and writing a research statement, an outline, and, eventually, a research paper.

Readings:

All required readings will be available on Blackboard at least a week in advance. **You should print out your own copies and have them with you for class.**

Response papers: Every week, you should post on Blackboard a short (1 page max) response to the weekly readings **by Sunday at 3 PM** (i.e. 24 hours before class) to give everyone enough time to read each other's responses. Your response should not be a summary of the readings but rather a set of questions or comments that will serve as the basis for class discussion. For example, you may note in your response papers what you've found most striking about the readings, how they "speak" to one another or to readings from previous weeks, what else you'd like to know about these texts, their authors, or their readers, how they challenge you to think about travel in new ways, etc.

In-class presentations: Based on a schedule to be determined at the beginning of the semester, you will be in charge of presenting the weekly set of readings. Your presentation should consist of a 10-minute introduction that will situate the authors of both primary and secondary sources, summarize the texts, and clarify key terms and concepts. You may also prepare a handout with some questions for the discussion.

Assignments: All assignments should be submitted through Blackboard by the stated deadlines. Be prepared for computer outages and glitches—I will not accept late submissions due to technical

problems. If you foresee a medical/family emergency that will prevent you from submitting your assignment on time, it is your responsibility to contact me in advance in order to seek an extension.

Office hours & email etiquette: I highly recommend that you come to my office hours several times during the semester (Mon 12:30-2:30 pm @ H324 and by special appointment) to introduce yourself and to discuss your research interests and the progress of your research project. If you need to contact me outside office hours, it's best to use email, as I do not check my office voicemail regularly. **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.

Writing: The University offers a great range of services to help develop your writing skills. I strongly encourage you to visit the Writing Centre (AC 210)

<http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~tswweb/TWC/index.htm>

and/or the English Language Development <http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/%7Etswweb/ELD>.

For excellent advice on writing, including tips on reading, summarizing, citing sources, and **how not to plagiarize**, check out <http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/advise.html>.

If ever in doubt about plagiarism, please consult me or the excellent staff at the Writing Centre **before** submitting your assignments.

For a directory of electronic resources for historians, check out: <http://tinyurl.com/5cyzcv>

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.

Requirements:

Full attendance and active participation in class discussions, careful reading of all assigned texts, two in-class presentations, and timely submission of all assignments, including weekly one-page response papers.

Evaluation:

		Date due
Participation and attendance	10%	Weekly
Weekly response papers	10%	Sundays at 3 pm
First oral presentation	5%	To be determined
Assignment 1: Document analysis/book review	10%	June 6 at 5 pm
Assignment 2: Essay topic + annotated bibliography	10%	June 13 & 27 at 5 pm
Assignment 3: Proposal and outline for final paper	15%	July 18 at 5 pm
Second oral presentation	5%	July 21 or 28
Assignment 4: Final paper	35%	August 5 at 5 pm
<hr/> Total:	100%	

Course Schedule

Week & Topic	Date	Readings
1 Introduction	May 5	<p>Caumont, Nompars de. 1420. "List of the Presents Brought Home from Jerusalem." Fabri, Felix. ca. 1484. "Instructions for Christian Pilgrims to the Holy Land." Frontispieces of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ludovico di Varthema's <i>Itinerary</i> (Venice 1522 and Utrecht 1654). • Leonhart Rauwolf's <i>Description of a Journey</i> (Augsburg, 1582) • Thomas Fuller's <i>A Pisgah - Sight of Palestine...</i> (London, 1650). <p>In class discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is travel? What is travel-writing? • The early modern Mediterranean: an overview • Genres of travel-writing: pilgrimage, geography, cartography, ethnography, historiography • Reading early modern texts: frontispieces, dedications, and critical aids
2 What is Travel Writing?	May 12	<p>Weber, Elka. 2000. "Construction of Identity in Twelfth-Century Andalusia: the Case of Travel Writing." <i>Journal of North African Studies</i> 5 (2): 1-8. Howard, Deborah. 2005. "The Status of the Oriental Traveller in Renaissance Venice." In <i>Re-Orienting the Renaissance</i>. Ed. Gerald MacLean. Houndsmills: Palgrave, pp. 29-49. Mitsi, Evi. 2005. "'Nowhere Is a Place': Travel Writing in Sixteenth-Century England." <i>Literature Compass</i> 2 (1): 1-13. Sherman, William H. 2002. "Stirrings and Searchings (1500-1720)." In <i>The Cambridge Companion to Travel Writing</i>. Eds. Peter Hulme and Tim Youngs. Cambridge, New York: Cambridge University Press, pp. 17-36. Mandeville, John. <i>The Travels of Sir John Mandeville</i>. [Read: Prologue, chapters 1, 3-5, 7-8]</p> <p>Optional reading: Bosworth, Clifford E. 2005. "Three British Travellers to the Middle East and India in the Early Seventeenth Century."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In class discussion: How to analyse a document; how to write a book review.
	May 19	Victoria Day - University closed
3 The Pilgrim's Tale	May 26	<p>Benjamin of Tudela. [ca. 1172] Selection from the <i>Book of Travels</i>. [Read: table of contents; "Hebrew Introduction" + pp. 1-26, i.e. up to and including Jerusalem] Kempe, Margery. [Late 1430s] Selection from <i>The Book of Margery Kempe</i>. "Ludovico di Varthema," and "A Pilgrim with No Name." In <i>One Thousand Roads to Mecca</i>. Ed. Michael Wolfe. New York: Grove Press, 1997, pp. 79-101. Voaden, Rosalynn. 2004. "Travels with Margery: Pilgrimage in Context." In <i>Eastward Bound: Travels and Travellers 1050-1550</i>. Ed. Rosamund Allen. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004, pp. 177-195. Matar, Nabil. 2000. "Two Journeys to Seventeenth-Century Palestine." <i>Journal of Palestine Studies</i> 29 (4): 37-50. MacLean, Gerald. 2004. "Journey to Jerusalem." In <i>The Rise of Oriental Travel</i>. New York: Palgrave, pp. 100-114.</p>
4 Travellers as Antiquarians	June 2	<p>Wunder, Amanda. 2003. "Western Travelers, Eastern Antiquities, and the Image of the Turk in Early Modern Europe ." <i>Journal of Early Modern History</i> 7 (1-2): 89-119. Cyriaco of Ancona. Selections from his writings. Selections from "The Classical Heritage." In <i>The Fatal Gift of Beauty</i>. Ed. Manfred Pfister. Amsterdam: Rodopi, pp. 142-149. Manners, Ian R. 1997. "Constructing the Image of a City: The Representation of Constantinople in Christopher Buondelmonti's <i>Liber Insularum Archipelagi</i>." <i>Annals of the Association of American Geographers</i> 87 (1): 72-102. Gurney, J. D. 1986. "Pietro della Valle: The Limits of Perception." <i>Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies</i> 49 (1): 103-116. Shalev, Zur. 2002. "Measurer of All Things: John Greaves (1602-1652), the Great Pyramid, and Early Modern Metrology." <i>Journal of the History of Ideas</i> 63 (4): 555-75.</p> <p>Assignment 1: A 3-5 page text analysis/book review due on June 6 by 5 pm.</p>
5 Travellers as	June 9	<p>Wragge, Richard. 1999 [1598]. "A Description of a Voiage to Constantinople and Syria...." In <i>Early Modern Tales of Orient</i>, pp. 54-60.</p>

Diplomats		Busbecq, Ogier Ghislain de. 1555-1562. Selection from <i>The Turkish Letters</i> . Göçek, Fatma Müge. 1987. <i>East encounters West: France and the Ottoman Empire in the Eighteenth Century</i> . New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 7-61.
6 Research Skills Workshop	June 16	Assignment 2a: A brief statement about your essay topic due on June 13 by 5 pm. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-class workshop on research skills, identifying and using electronic resources. • One-on-one consultations on research topic.
7 Travellers as Ethnographers	June 23	Rubiés, Joan Pau. "Travel Writing and Ethnography." In <i>The Cambridge Companion to Travel Writing</i> . Eds. Peter Hulme and Tim Youngs. Cambridge, New York: Cambridge University Press, pp. 242-260. Van Bruinessen, Martin. 2000. "Kurdistan in the 16th and 17th centuries, as reflected in Evliya Çelebi's <i>Seyahatname</i> ." <i>The Journal of Kurdish Studies</i> 3: 1-11. Evliya Çelebi. 1990. <i>Evliya Çelebi in Bitlis: The Relevant Section of the Seyahatname</i> . Ed. Robert Dankoff, pp. 49-93. [NB: this is a bilingual edition, read odd pages only] Fortis, Alberto. 1778. "Morlacchi." In <i>Travels into Dalmatia</i> . London: J. Robson, pp. 43-89. Leo Africanus. 2001 [1550]. "Excerpts from <i>Description of Africa</i> ." In <i>Travel Knowledge</i> . Eds. Ivo Kamps and Jyotsna G. Singh. New York: Palgrave, pp. 249-257. Zhiri, Oumelbanine. 2001. "Leo Africanus's <i>Description of Africa</i> ." In <i>Travel Knowledge</i> , pp. 258-266. Assignment 2b: A topic statement and a 3-5 page annotated bibliography towards your final paper due on June 27 by 5 pm.
	June 30	Canada Day - University closed
8 Travel and Orientalism	July 7	Said, Edward. 1986. "Orientalism Reconsidered." In <i>Literature, Politics, and Theory Papers From the Essex Conference, 1976-84</i> . ed. Francis Barker. London: Methuen, pp. 210-229. MacLean, Gerald. 2001. "Ottomanism Before Orientalism?" In <i>Travel Knowledge</i> , pp. 75-96. Chung, Rebecca. 2001. "A Woman Triumphs: From <i>Travels of an English Lady in Europe, Asia, and Africa</i> (1763) by Lady Mary Wortley Montagu." In <i>Travel Knowledge</i> . Eds. Ivo Kamps and Jyotsna G. Singh. New York: Palgrave, pp. 97-124. Armstrong, Christopher D. 2005. "Travel and Experience in the Mediterranean of Louis XV." In <i>Rethinking the Mediterranean</i> . Ed. William V. Harris. New York: Oxford University Press, p. 235-267.
9 Reversing the gaze	July 14	Matar, Nabil I. 2003. "Introduction: Arab Travelers and Early Modern Europeans." In <i>In the Lands of the Christians: Arabic Travel Writing in the Seventeenth Century</i> . New York: Routledge, pp. xiii-xlviii. Al-Hajari, Ahmad bin Qasim. 2003 [1611-1613]. "Selections from <i>Kitab Nasir al-Din ala al-Qawm al-Kafirin</i> ." In <i>Ibid.</i> , pp. 6-44. Fuess, Albrecht. 2002. "An Instructive Experience. Fakhr Al-Din's Journey to Italy (1613-1618)." In <i>Les européens vus par les libanais à l'époque ottomane</i> . Eds. Bernard Heyberger and Carsten-Michael Walbiner. Beirut: Ergon Verlag, pp. 23-42. Lehmann, Matthias B. 2007. "Levantine and Other Jews: Reading H. Y. D. Azulai's Travel Diary." <i>Jewish Social Studies</i> 13 (3): 1-34. Assignment 3: Proposal and outline for final paper due by 5 pm on July 18.
10 & 11	July 21-28	Student presentations
12 Travelling in the Republic of Letters	Tuesday, Aug. 5	Hamilton, Alastair. 1994. "An Egyptian Traveller in the Republic of Letters: Josephus Barbatus or Abudacnus the Copt." <i>Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes</i> 57: 123-50. Rietbergen, Peter. 1989. "A Maronite Mediator Between Seventeenth-Century Mediterranean Cultures: Ibrahim Al Hakilani, or Abraham Ecchellense (1605-1664)." <i>Lias</i> 16: 13-42. Shalev, Zur. 2005. "The Travel Notebooks of John Greaves." In <i>The Republic of Letters and the Levant</i> . Eds. Alastair Hamilton, Maurits H. van den Boogert and Bart Westerweel. Leiden, Boston: Brill, pp. 77-102. Aksan, Virginia H. 1994. "Is There a Turk in the Turkish Spy?" <i>Eighteenth Century Fiction</i> 6 (3): 201-14. Assignment 4: Final paper due by midnight on Tuesday, August 5