History 1800: Trade and Empire in Maritime Asia, 1500-1900

Spring 2014
TTh 12:30-1:45 pm
201 HLMS
Instructor: Kwangmin Kim
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Office hours: TTh 11 am-12 pm, and by appointment

Course description: This course explores the history of Maritime Asia from Indian Ocean to East China Sea. Rather than exploring collective “national histories” of this region, this course explores the parallels and interconnections between local societies of maritime Asia since the year 1500. In so doing, this course shows how local societies of this maritime world interacted with one another as well as with the forces of global trade and European colonialism, giving rise to distinctive historical world. Specific topics to be covered in this course include, but not limited to, 1) early modern maritime exploration, 2) religious transformation, 3) colonialism, 4) transnational migration, and 5) nationalism.

Learning Objectives: This is a lower division course for majors. Through this course, students will not only familiarize themselves with basic facts about early modern history of the region, but will also learn to critically analyze the interconnections and parallels among local societies from global and transnational setting. To achieve this goal, this course will employ a combination of course readings, lectures, discussions, writing assignments, movies, and written exams.

Required Reading:
Edward Alpers, The Indian Ocean in World History, Oxford University Press, 2013
Amitav Ghosh, Sea of Poppies, Picador, 2009

These books are on sale at the CU Bookstore in the UMC. The other readings on the syllabus, marked with an asterisk (*) are also required. Unless otherwise stated, they will all be available as PDF files that you can download from the class webpage on D2L.

Grade:

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<td>Mid-term Exam 1</td>
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<td>Final Paper</td>
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<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
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Group Presentation: Students are required to do one group presentation. The topics of the group presentation are Zheng He (Feb. 4), Vasco da Gama (Feb. 13), Matteo Ricci, (Feb. 27), and Rabindranath Tagore (April 10.)

Final Paper: Students are expected to submit (an analytical paper) on Amitav Ghosh’s Sea of Poppies. Students are encouraged to be creative in their analysis and avoid a simple summary. The paper should be no less than five and no more than six pages. This paper is due on May 3. Late papers will be deducted one letter grade per day that they are late. Remember the papers will be graded on the basis of the originality of your analysis.

Attendance and participation: Attendance is mandatory and will be checked every time the class meets. In-class participation is worth ten percent of the final grade. Participation is defined as being prepared for class, contributing regularly to classroom discussions, and being an active member of the classroom environment with questions and comments.

Any student who misses more than three class meetings will have their final grade for the course lowered by one letter grade. Each additional absence will lower the grade by another full letter grade. Missing more than six class meetings will result in automatic failure of the course, regardless of performance in other graded areas.

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter from the Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class you are asked to contact the professor during the first week of classes. For campus policies on this, see: http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student’s legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See polices at:
http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html and at:
http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships apply to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at:
http://www.colorado.edu/odh

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aiding of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at:
http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html and at:
http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/

Course Schedule

I. Maritime Asia, 700 - 1500

Week 1 (Jan.14/16):
Jan. 14: Introduction
Jan. 16: What is Global History?
Reading: Edward Alpers, *The Indian Ocean in World History*, pp. 1-39

Week 2 (Jan.21/23):
Jan.21: Indian Ocean: foundation of its coherence and interconnections
Jan.23: Islamic Sea, ca. 700-1400; discussion: *Ibn Battuta's travel*
Reading: Edward Alpers, *The Indian Ocean in World History*, pp. 40-68
*Travels of Ibn Battuta, A.D. 1325-1354 (English Translation)*, Cambridge [Eng.]: Published for the Hakluyt Society at the University Press, 1958-2000 (selection)*

Week 3 (Jan.28/30): Mongols and Chinese
Jan.28: Mongol interlude
Jan.30: Chinese overture; discussion: The Star Raft and The Overall Survey
Reading: Philip Snow, The Star Raft, Grove Press, 1988, pp.1-36*

Week 4 (Feb.4/6): Group presentation and Mid-term 1
Feb. 4: Group Presentation 1: on Zheng He
Feb. 6: Mid-term 1

II. Age of Commerce in Maritime Asia, 1500-1750

Week 5 (Feb.11/13): European “Discovery” of Asia
Reading: Edward Alpers, The Indian Ocean in World History, pp. 69-97
Feb. 13: Group Presentation 2: on Vasco da Gama

Week 6 (Feb.18/20): Religious transformation: Southeast Asia
Reading: [TBA]

Week 7 (Feb.25/27): Religious transformation: China
Feb 27: Group Presentation 3: on Matteo Ricci
Reading: Eugenio Menegon, Ancestors, Virgins, and Friars: Christianity as a Local Religion in Late Imperial China, Harvard Asia Center, 2009 (selection)*

Week 8 (Mar.4/6): New States in Southeast Asia
Reading: Anthony Reid, Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce, pp.202-266*

Week 9 (Mar.11/13): Military Revolution in Japan

III. Empire and Nationalism in Maritime Asia, 1750-1900

Week 10 (Mar.18/20): British Empire and Opium
Mar. 20: Mid-term 2
Reading: Edward Alpers, The Indian Ocean in World History, pp. 98-127

Week 11 (Mar.25/27): Spring Break

Week 12 (April 1/3): Chinese Migrations
(selection)*

Week 13 (Apr.8/10): Indian and Muslim migrations
April 10: Group Presentation 4: on Tagore
Reading: Amitav Ghosh, *Sea of Poppies*

Week 14 (Apr.15/17): Nationalism in Southeast Asia
Reading: Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities*, (selection)*

**Paper due in class on April 17**

Week 15 (Apr.22/24): Diasporas and Chinese Nationalism
Reading: TBA

Week 16 (April 29/May 1): The Long Twentieth Century
Edward Alpers, *The Indian Ocean in World History*, pp. 128-146