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

Fall 2015  
Professor: Kwangmin Kim  
MWF 2:00-2:50 pm  
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HUMN 125  
Email: kwangmin.kim@colorado.edu  
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:**


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>Group Presentation</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, Vasco da Gama, Matteo Ricci, and Rabindranath Tagore.

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 April 24. 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. If you miss 0 – 3 class meetings, you will receive full points for attendance (10 out of 10 points). If you miss 4 class meetings, you will receive 8 out of 10 points. If you miss 5 class meetings, you will receive 5 out of 10 points. If you miss more than 6 class meetings, you will receive not point for attendance. If you make active contribution to the classroom discussion, you will receive extra points for the participation (1-5 points.)

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: Introduction**
Aug. 24: Introduction
Aug. 26: What is Global History?
Aug. 28: Discussion
Reading: Edward Alpers, *The Indian Ocean in World History*, pp. 1-39

**Week 2: Islamic Sea, ca. 700-1400**
Aug 31: Indian Ocean: foundation of its coherence and interconnections
Sep. 2: Muslim traders in Indian Ocean, 700-1400
Sep. 4: 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: Mongols and Chinese**
Sep. 7: No class (Labor Day)
Sep. 9 Mongol interlude
Sep. 11: Group presentation 1 (Zheng He); discussion
Reading: Philip Snow, The Star Raft, Grove Press, 1988, pp.1-36 *

**Week 4: Chinese and Maritime Asia**
Sep. 14: Chinese overseas exploration, 1400 – 1450
Sep. 16: Ming Tribute trade and Indian Ocean
Sep. 18: Discussion

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

**Week 5: Europeans in Indian Ocean**
Sep. 21: Group presentation 2 (Vasco da Gama)
Sep. 23: European “Discovery” of Asia I
Sep. 25: European “Discovery” of Asia II

**Week 6: Sultanate of Melaka**
Sep. 28: Mid-term 1
Sep. 30: Sultanate of Melaka
Oct. 2: Discussion
Reading: Edward Alpers, The Indian Ocean in World History, pp. 69-97

**Week 7: Religious transformation: Southeast Asia**
Oct. 5: Christianity and Islam in Southeast Asia I
Oct. 7: Christianity and Islam in Southeast Asia II
Oct. 9: Discussion: ”Malacca” and “Protocol at the Malaccan Court”

**Week 8: Religious transformation: China**
Oct. 12: Group presentation 3 (Matteo Ricci)
Oct. 14: Christianity in China
Oct. 16: Islam in China; discussion
Reading: Jonathan Spence, The Memory Palace of Matteo Ricci, pp.162-200 *

**Week 9: State formation in Indian Ocean**
Oct. 19: New states in Southeast Asia
Oct. 21: Tokugawa state in Japan
Oct. 23: Discussion
Reading: Anthony Reid, Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce, pp.202-266*
Week 10: Dutch and Environmental Change in Indian Ocean
Oct. 26: The Dutch Expansion in Indian Ocean
Oct. 28: Dutch and Environment
Oct. 30: Discussion
Reading: John F. Richards, *The Unending Frontier: An Environmental History of the Early Modern World*

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

Week 11: British Empire
Nov. 2: Mid-term 2
Nov. 4: British empire in Indian Ocean: overview
Nov. 6: discussion
Reading: Edward Alpers, *The Indian Ocean in World History*, pp. 98-127

Week 12: British Empire and Opium
Nov. 9: British Opium trade
Nov. 11: Opium War, 1839-1843
Nov. 13: Group presentation 4 (Rabindranath Tagore); discussion
Reading: Carl A. Trocki, *Opium, Empire and the Global Political Economy: A Study of the Asian Opium Trade, 1750-1950*

Week 13: Indian migration
Nov. 16: Discussion
Nov. 18: Asian migration in the world, 1800-1950: overview
Nov. 20: Indian migration in the world
Reading: Amitav Ghosh, *Sea of Poppies*

**Paper due in class on Nov. 20, in class**

Week 14: Fall Break
Nov. 23: No class
Nov. 25: No class
Nov. 27: No class

Week 15: Chinese Migrations
Nov. 30: Chinese migration in the world I
Dec. 2: Chinese migration in the world II
Dec. 4: Discussion: *Chinese among Others* (selection)*
Week 16: Nationalism in Indian Ocean
Dec. 7: Nationalism in Southeast Asia
Dec. 9: Nationalism in China
Dec. 11: Discussion: *Imagined Communities*
Reading: Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities*, pp.47-65*

**Final Exam: Dec. 13 (Sun.), 4:30-7:00pm**