



**Research Seminar**  
**Spring 2011**  
**Jorge Flores**  
**Thursdays, 13.00-15.00, Belvedere**

## **Travels, Books, Audiences and Empires, 1400-1800**

This seminar intends to analyse the complex relationship between early modern European empires and the world of travel and travel accounts in the same period. The main purpose is to discuss the ways in which the “travel-imperial experience” was interwoven with writing and reading practices, book-manuscript circulation and reception, library organization. etc. One will also focus on the role of images and the European status of non-Western knowledge.

The seminar integrates a workshop on “Islam and Europe in early modern books” (final programme and dates to be announced in due time). Each seminar session will be introduced by a brief presentation of the readings by one or two participants. The researchers are also expected to take actively part to the discussion based on the comment of these readings.

### **January 13: Introduction: approaching the subject - trends, historiography, bibliography**

#### **January 20: Early modern travels and travellers: the overseas-imperial context**

##### Readings:

- Peter Mancall, *Travel narratives from the age of discovery* (OUP, 2006), introduction, pp. 3-48.
- Muzaffar Alam and Sanjay Subrahmanyam, *Indo Persian Travels in the Age of Discoveries, 1400-1800* (CUP, 2007), ch. 8 (“on early modern travel”), pp. 331-361.
- Joan-Pau Rubies, *Travel and Ethnology in the Renaissance. South India through European Eyes, 1250-1625* (CUP, 2000), ch. 10 (“From humanism to scepticism: the independent traveller in the seventeenth century”), pp. 349-387.

#### **January 27: Print and manuscript, markets and publics**

##### Readings:

- Peter Burke, *A social History of Knowledge. From Gutenberg to Diderot* (Polity, 2008), ch 7 (“Selling knowledge: The market and the press”), pp. 149-176.
- Fernando Bouza Alvarez, *Communication, knowledge, and memory in early modern Spain* (Penn Press, 2004), ch. 1 (“Hearing, Seeing, Reading, and Writing: The Forms and Uses of Words, Images, and Writing”), pp.
- Paula Findlen, “A Jesuit’s Books in the New World. Athanasius Kircher and his American Readers”, in Paula Findlen, ed., *Athanasius Kircher. The Last Man who Knew Everything* (Routledge, 2004), pp. 329-364.

#### **February 3: Collections of voyages, reference books and overseas libraries**

##### Readings:

- Nicholas Dew, “Reading Travels in the Culture of Curiosity: Thevenot’s Collection of Voyages”, *Journal of Early Modern History*, 10:1-2 (2006), pp. 39-59.
- Anthony Payne, “Strange, remote, and farre distant countreys’: The Travel Books of Richard Hakluyt”, in Robin Myers and Michael Harris, eds., *Journeys through the market: Travels, Travellers, and the Book trade* (New Castle, Oak Knoll Press, 1999), pp. 1-37



- Jonathan Earl Carlyon, *Andres Gonzalez de Barcia and the Creation of Colonial Spanish American Library* (University of Toronto Press, 2005), ch. 4, pp. 118-164.

### **February 10: Images and Visual Culture**

#### Readings:

- Peter Mason, Peter Mason, *The Lives of Images* (Reaktion Books, 2001), ch. 4 (“The Purloined codex”), pp. 101-130.
- Lynn Hunt, Margaret C. Jacob & Wijnand Mijnhardt, *The Book that Changed Europe. Picart & Bernard’s Religious Ceremonies of the World* (2010), ch. 6 (“Picart Visual Politics”), pp. 135-165.

### **February 17: Native knowledge in European Clothes**

#### Readings:

- Jorge Canizares-Esguerra, *How to Write the History of the New World. Histories, Epistemologies in the Eighteenth Century Atlantic World*, ch.2, pp. 60-129.

**February 24: Workshop (1<sup>st</sup> session): “Islam and Europe in Early Modern Books” [speakers and readings TBA]**

**March 10: Workshop (2<sup>nd</sup> session): “Islam and Europe in Early Modern Books” [speakers and readings TBA]**

**March 17: Conclusions; Invited speaker - Professor Carlos Alberto Gonzalez Sanchez (Universidad de Sevilla / EUI Fernand Braudel Fellow) [topic and readings TBA]**