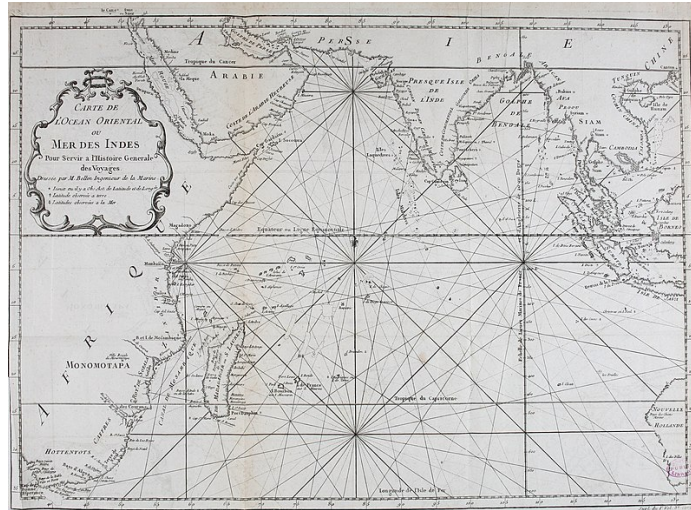


HIST 104 - 10: The Indian Ocean World

(3 credits)

2023 Summer Session I, June 5 - July 7, 2023



(*Histoire générale des voyages* [...], Abbé Prévost, 1746)

Instructor: Jakob Burnham

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Office Hours: TWR, 9-10:15 AM and by appointment

Meeting Times: MTWRF, 10:45am-12:25pm

Location: ICC 120

Course Description:

What might an “Indian Ocean World” mean? Just like the 'Atlantic Ocean World' and the 'Pacific Ocean World', the idea of an 'Indian Ocean World' has a complicated history and varied historical meanings. This course explores the place of the Indian Ocean in world history from its ancient roots through today moving within and between these definitions. Over the course of the semester, students will engage with primary and secondary sources to tease out the history of the space and the people who inhabit it to assess this region's influence on globalization and the modern world.

Course Goals:

Engaged students who come to class regularly, participate actively in discussions, and complete all readings and written assignments, will improve their ability to:

1. Appreciate places, peoples, and cultures of various eras and world regions as different from themselves, and to understand perspectives different from their own; to build empathy.

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2. Think critically about history, not as a collection of self-evident facts, but as the interpretation, based on evidence, of human experiences, interactions, and relationships as they change over time.
3. Identify and evaluate primary sources and use them critically as evidence to build historical interpretations.
4. Engage critically with the work of other historians, with their methods and analytical concepts.
5. Articulate ideas verbally and support them with evidence.
6. Write critically and thoughtfully: this includes understanding the purpose and practice of proper citation, and the ability to build an argument that integrates evidence and analysis.

Course Format:

The course meets for 100 minutes Monday through Friday on campus. Each class will consist of two lectures, of roughly 45 minutes each, with a 10-minute break in between. Classes mix traditional lecture with group discussion for an interactive and dynamic learning environment. Though lectures will provide context and additional information, students are expected to read daily assigned readings before class and add course content with their thoughts.

E-mail and Office Hours:

I try to answer email quickly during business hours (M-F, 8am – 5pm). I do answer emails on the weekend, but with generally longer delays. I communicate frequently through email and will expect students to check there regularly. Many email questions can be answered by reading the syllabus or looking at Canvas, so please double check those places before you reach out—you might save yourself sometime! See [here](#) for more on email etiquette and tips.

I welcome everyone to my “walk-in” office hours each week. These are times for you to come to talk with me about any number of things—whether they be related to the course or other aspects of your Georgetown experience. The times are listed above for in-person but with Zoom it is often easier to just make an appointment. [Click here](#) for available Zoom times.

Attendance:

This class will be on-campus, and in-person. *Lectures* offer critical information that contextualizes course content for the week and will help students to engage in the course content. Basic PowerPoints of lectures will be available through CANVAS, but lecture recordings will not be supplied.

Participation during in-class discussions is a major component of a student's grade, and therefore, daily attendance is expected and required. All students are permitted **TWO absences** over the course of the class; but, due to the accelerated pace of the course, any more absences will put the student at risk of falling behind on content.

Requirements:

- I. Attendance/Participation (30%):** Students are expected to arrive on time and prepared to class everyday. During class, students will be given the opportunity to participate in discussion on lecture content and primary sources. Students will be evaluated on their engagement and contributions to class discussions.
- II. Map Quiz (10%):** At the end of the first week, students will have a quiz requiring them to designate important sites of the Indian Ocean World throughout its history. Information and content will be given in advance for adequate time to study.
- III. Primary Source Analysis (20%, 10% each):** Over the course of the semester, students will select two primary sources from daily readings and write a short (~500 word) analysis of the source. Each analysis should place the source into the particular historical context to craft a simple but grounded argument.
- IV. Mid-Term Exam (15%):** An in-class, blue-book midterm will be held. The exam will consist of short answer questions, as well as two open-ended essay questions covering the content from the first half of the semester.
- V. Final Exam (25%):** An in-class, blue book final exam will be held on the last day of the course. The exam will cover content from the entirety of the course. The format will consist of short answer questions, as well as two open-ended essay questions (one of which will address content from the second half of the semester, and the second will span the entire semester’s material).

Grading system:

A = 100-94

A- = 93-90

B+ = 89-87

B = 86-83

B- = 82-80

C+ = 79-77

C = 76-73

C- = 72-70

D+ = 69-67

Students with Disabilities:

I recognize that the decision to disclose a disability is a very personal one. I encourage students with disabilities to contact me by the end of the second week, partly so I make all arrangements right from the outset, and partly so you know how glad I am that you are here. The perspectives you bring make the class better for everyone, including the instructor. I will do everything I can to accommodate whatever needs you may have and as advised by the Academic Resource Center.

Gender Inclusiveness:

All people have the right to be addressed and referred to in accordance with their personal identity. In this class, you will have the chance to indicate the name that you prefer to be called and, if you choose, to identify pronouns with which you would like to be addressed. We will do our best to address and refer to all students accordingly and support classmates in doing so as well.

Sexual Misconduct and Harassment:

Georgetown University and its faculty are committed to supporting survivors of sexual misconduct, harassment, or assault. University policy requires faculty members to report any disclosures about sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator (though this is currently under review), whose role it is to coordinate the University's response to sexual misconduct. If you need to talk to someone or want more information, see [here](#).

Use of Evidence & Honor Code:

History is a discipline that is dependent on the use of evidence. Historians are in the business of persuasion. Historians write interpretations and arguments. Their job is to muster evidence to persuade people of the authority and wisdom of their interpretation. The use of evidence is inseparable from any other aspect of historical writing: form, content, and evidence are interconnected. Thus, the misuse of evidence will sabotage your entire paper. Quotations must be used fairly: that is, they must reflect the sentiment of the source you quote. Misquoting by omitting crucial words undermines your whole argument. Likewise, you must present all the important evidence that pertains to your argument. If you ignore evidence that contradicts your argument, your paper is similarly weakened. It is your job to consider such evidence and to explain why it fails to negate your larger interpretation.

All students are required to familiarize themselves with the [University Honor Code](#) and abide by it fully. Any kind of plagiarism or other form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be reported to the Honor Council for due process. Please remember that this includes any unreferenced use of Internet sources as well. Look [here](#) for what constitutes plagiarism.

NB: Wikipedia (or any encyclopedia, which are considered [tertiary sources](#)) should not be used as a source for any assignment or written work for this class. You can use it to find other sources, but nothing else. (See [further](#)) Any *uncited* use of Wikipedia (or anything else) will result in an immediate zero and a trip to the honor council. Please make sure to cite everything!

TEXTBOOKS:

There are no textbooks or materials to be purchased for this course. All reading material will be provided via the course Canvas site or accessible through Lauinger Library.

Course Lecture Schedule:

Unless otherwise noted, all readings are available on course Canvas

Week 1: The Ancient Indian Ocean, 350 BCE to 1000 CE

Monday, June 5, 2023

Lecture One: Introduction to HIST 104

Lecture Two: Situation the Indian Ocean in the World

Readings: “Syllabus”; *Vink*, “Indian Ocean Studies and the ‘new thalassology’”

Tuesday, June 6, 2023

Lecture One: An Ancient Indian Ocean (I)

Lecture Two: An Ancient Indian Ocean (II)

Readings: Selections from *Trading Encounters*

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Lecture One: Early European Encounters

Readings: Selections from Book 6 of *The Anabasis of Alexander* (20p)

Lecture Two: Early Afro-Asian Encounters

Readings: Roger Blench, “The Ethnographic Evidence for Long-Distances Contacts between Oceania and East Africa,” in J. Reade, ed. *The Indian Ocean in Antiquity* (London, 1996): 417-38.

Thursday, June 8, 2023

Lecture One: Crossing the Seas

Lecture Two: Early Civilizations in Contact

Readings: Tansen Sen, “The Travel Records of Chinese Pilgrims Faxian, Xuanzang, and Yijing,” *Education about Asia* 11 (2006): 24-33. (10p)

Friday, June 9, 2023

Lecture One: Consolidating Early Polities

Readings: TBD

Lecture Two: Map Quiz

Week 2: The Medieval Indian Ocean, 1000-1500 CE

Monday, June 12, 2023

Lecture One: An Ocean of Storms

Lecture Two: A Ocean of Religions

Readings: B.G. Martin, “Arab Migrations to East Africa in Medieval Times,” *International Journal of African Historical Studies* 7 (1974): 367-390

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Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Lecture One: Networks of Labor (I)

Lecture Two: Networks of Labor (II)

Readings: TBD

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Lecture One: Ocean of Trade

Readings: S.D. Goiten, “Portrait of a Medieval Indian Trader: Three Letters from the Cairo Genzia,” *Bull. School of Oriental and African studies* 50 (1987):449-64

Lecture Two: Ocean of Tongues

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Lecture One: Trading Knowledge

Readings: *Women’s Devotional Work Songs*

Lecture Two: Beyond the Bay of Bengal

Readings: *Ma Huan. Ying-Yai Sheng Lan: The Overall Survey of the Ocean’s Shores’ [1433], edited by J.V.G Mills (London: Cambridge University Press, 1970), 130-145. (15p)*

Friday, June 16, 2023

Lecture One: A “World” Economy?

Readings: Selections of *The Travels of Ibn-Battuta and The Travels of John Mandeville on the societies of 14th century South Asia. (20p)*

Lecture Two: MIDTERM EXAM REVIEW

Week 3: The Early Modern Indian Ocean, 1500-1815 CE

Monday, June 19, 2023

No Class, University Closed in Observance of Juneteenth

Tuesday, June 20, 2023

In-class Midterm Exam, 75 minutes

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

Lecture One: The Coming of Europe

Lecture Two: Luso-Dutch Encounters across the Indian Ocean

Readings: *Da Gama in the IOW*

<https://legacy.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1497degama.asp>

Thursday, June 22, 2023

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Lecture One: East Asia and the IOW

Readings: Letters to the Jesuits from Japan (5), the Dutch in Batavia

Lecture Two: Competing Oceans

Readings: Edward Alpers, “the Other Middle Passage: The African Slave Trade in the Indian Ocean, in E. Christopher et al, eds, Many Middle Passages: Forced Migration and the Make of the Modern World (Berkeley, 2007), 20-38 (19 p)

Friday, June 23, 2023

Lecture One: The Battle for India

Readings: Selections from The English East India Company at the Height of Mughal Expansion (15p)

Lecture Two: The Rise of the British in the IOW

Readings: Thomas Babington Macaulay’s Minute on Education (1835); Rammohan Roy, "A defense of Hindu theism" (1817) and "Remarks on settlement in India by Europeans"(1832)

Week 4: The Colonial Indian Ocean, 1815-1950 CE

Monday, June 26, 2023

Lecture One: Networks of Labor (III)

Lecture Two: Networks of Labor (IV)

Readings: Emily Ruete, Memoirs of an Arabian Princess from Zanzibar, <http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/ruete/arabian/arabian.html> (Ch. I, XIII and XVI)

Tuesday, June 27, 2023

Lecture One: Bridging the Gulf

Readings: “Chapter VII: The Interoceanic Canal” in Recollections of Forty Years, by Ferdinand de Lesseps, (172-202)

Lecture Two: Waves of Industry

Wednesday, June 28, 2023

Lecture One: Colonial Ports

Readings: Colette DuBois, “Chapter 3: The Red Sea Ports During the Revolution in Transportation, 1800-1914” in Modernity and Culture. (58-74)

Lecture Two: Global Commodities

Readings: M.R. Fernando, “Chapter 6: Coffee Cultivation in Java, 1830-1917” in The Global Coffee Economy in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, 1500-1989 (157-172)

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Thursday, June 29, 2023

Lecture One: Immigrants and Cosmopolitans

Lecture Two: The World Wars in the Indian Ocean

Readings: Various Primary Source Readings on Soliders and Empire during WWI and WWII, found on Canvas.

Friday, June 30, 2023

Lecture One: Growing Unrest

Lecture Two: Revolutions!

Readings: TBD

Week 5: The Decolonizing Indian Ocean World, 1950 CE to Present

Monday, July 3, 2023

Lecture One: Emerging Nations in South and Southeast Asia

Readings: “Treaty Establishing De Jure Cession of French Establishments in India, 28 May 1956” (14 pages).

Lecture Two: Decolonization in Africa and the Middle East

Readings: “Final Communiqué of the Asian-African Conference of Bandung (24 April 1955)” (7); Declaration of 1 November 1954 (2)

Tuesday, July 4, 2023

No Class, University Closed in observance of Independence Day

Wednesday, July 5, 2023

Lecture One: The Indian Ocean World Today

Readings: Selections from Newspapers, Political Speeches.

Lecture Two: Final Exam Review

Thursday, July 6, 2023

In-class final exam, 75 minutes

Friday, July 7, 2023

No Class