

To learn more about the Newberry Library Undergraduate Seminar, or to apply, please get in touch with the contact person on your campus. Applicants are required to submit an application form, an up-to-date college transcript, an essay (500 words, maximum) explaining why they want to take the course and what they hope to gain from it, and a recent research paper completed for a college course (preferably with the instructor's comments and grade). Individual universities may have additional requirements.

DePaul

Professor Glen Carman,
Department of Modern Languages
773-325-1869 | gcarman@depaul.edu

Loyola

Professor Elizabeth Tandy Shermer,
Department of History
773-508-2221 | esherner@luc.edu

Roosevelt

Professor Priscilla Archibald,
Department of Literature and Languages
312-341-6453 | parchibald@roosevelt.edu

UIC

Professor Lisa Freeman,
Department of English
312-355-2530 | lfreeman@uic.edu

The Newberry Library, an independent research library located on Chicago's near north side, has been free and open to the public since its founding in 1887. The Newberry's holdings number more than 1.5 million volumes, 15,000 linear feet of manuscript pages, and 600,000 maps. The collections concern the civilizations of Western Europe and the Americas from the late Middle Ages to the early twentieth century. For more information on the Newberry's holdings, visit www.newberry.org/core-collections.



Newberry Library Undergraduate Seminar 2017



From Jan van Huygen Linschoten, *Historie de la Navigation*
Newberry call number: Case folio C 131 .509

The Newberry Library

Research and Academic Programs
60 West Walton Street, Chicago, IL 60610

www.newberry.org
phone: 312.255.3602

EXCHANGE BEFORE ORIENTALISM Asia and Europe 1500-1800

The Newberry Library Undergraduate Seminar

This seminar is a unique opportunity for Chicago-area undergraduates to explore the humanities at one of America's foremost research libraries. Taught by a team of instructors from sponsoring universities, the seminar is offered each year from January to May and carries the credit of two courses. Seminar topics change each year, but all are related to the Newberry's holdings. Each class is limited to 20 participants who pursue common assignments and individual research projects.

About the Instructors

ELLEN MCCLURE is the author of *Sunspots and the Sun King: Sovereignty and Mediation in Seventeenth-Century France* (University of Illinois Press, 2006). She has written and spoken extensively on early modern diplomacy, both inside of Europe and between Europe and other regions. Her expertise includes French contacts and interactions with the Ottoman Empire and Siam and their representation in literature, particularly during the reign of Louis XIV. She is currently working on a project that examines the seventeenth-century French engagement and fascination with idolatry, a concept at the intersection of philosophy, political theory, and religion. She is Associate Professor of French and Acting Associate Director of the School of Literatures, Cultural Studies, and Linguistics at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

LAURA HOSTETLER specializes in the history of China during the early modern period. Her book, *Qing Colonial Enterprise* (Chicago 2001) deals with the use of cartography and ethnography in the process of empire building in China. *The Art of Ethnography*, co-authored with David Deal, explores eighteenth-century Chinese ethnographic representations of culturally non-Chinese peoples in the context of global early modernity. Her current research explores the way the Qing court used early modern technologies in expanding and governing the empire. She is Professor in the Department of History, University of Illinois at Chicago.

EXCHANGE BEFORE ORIENTALISM

Asia and Europe 1500–1800

January 17 through May 4, 2017, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2-5 pm

The course will meet at the Newberry Library, 60 West Walton Street, Chicago, IL.

In 1498, Vasco da Gama landed on the West Coast of India and launched a period of extensive commercial, cultural, and technological exchange between Europe and the East. These were uncharted waters for all concerned, and the outcome of the first tentative encounters among these great civilizations of the era was uncertain. Drawing on recent scholarship, the Newberry Library's extensive collection of primary documents and artifacts, "Exchange before Orientalism" will examine exchange *before* European imperialism transformed an uncertain process of mutual familiarization into a struggle for dominance.

Through class meetings and a common set of readings, we will investigate topics such as early modernity; gift exchange; tributary relations; "exotic" animals; Wunderkammer (or collections of curious objects); ethnography; cartography; art; trade; piracy; exploration; and religion and missionary activity. Illustrated materials will play an important role in the seminar alongside the display of relevant texts from the Newberry Library's collections, which offer many first-hand accounts of these exchanges.

Bearing in mind each country's distinct approach to East West exchange, we will focus on differences, and competition, across Europe even as we explore the emergence of "Europe" as a concept and region defined in relation to the larger world during this period.

Each student will also independently explore an area of his or her own choosing. The instructors and Newberry librarians will help students plan and carry out their research using primary materials. While students do not need knowledge of a language other than English to take this course, students proficient in other languages will have the opportunity to conduct research in those languages. Although as a class we will primarily consider Europe's interactions with various parts of Asia, students with a special interest in the New World can pursue research in the Newberry's rich holdings in that area.

One of the aims will be to encourage students to explore instances that do not fit neatly into common ideas about how Europeans viewed and interacted with others—ideas that reflect primarily the more recent imperial past. While we will draw on studies that lay out ideologies that justified western imperialism, we aim also to look at instances that show "Orientalism" is not limited to a practice that "the West" imposed on other peoples. To this end we will also examine cases where the "non-West" orientalized its own others, and to instances where Europeans voluntarily accepted the cultural refinements of the countries in which they sojourned abroad.