TEACHING PLAN OF THE SUBJECT 2015-16

Course title:Ethnography and Cultural Encounters (1492 to 1750)

Class code: 31837.

Subject: Obligatoria XOptativa

Credits (ECTS):5 ECTS

Language of instruction: English (Catalan and Spanish are allowed for written assignments)

Professors (2014- 2015): Alexandre Coello& Joan-Pau Rubiés

Course description: The aim of the course is to analyze the history of the cultural encounters generated by the European colonial expansion in the early modern period (16th-18th centuries), with an emphasis on the production of ethnographic knowledge, literary and visual. The course adopts a global comparative perspective, taking account of the various contexts of such encounters in Africa, Asia, America and the Pacific. The course will emphasize the overseas empires of Spain and Portugal, but will also include materials generated by the Dutch, French and British commercial and colonial experiences. Each seminar will explore a distinct theme and will involve the contextual analysis of a variety of ethnographic sources. The aim is to reach an understanding of the historical, geographical, literary and artistic genres that gave expression to European ethnographies, taking account of the European intellectual trajectories on the one hand, but also of the local interactions – social, political, religious and cultural - that conditioned each encounter on the other. Four key questions will constitute a thread throughout the sessions: the problem of cultural perception and (mis)translation; the ideals, practices and contradictions of religious missions; the complex nature of colonial and imperial power; and the paradoxical development of universalist and cosmopolitan ideas.

Competences to be attained:

General competences:

- Skills in integrating knowledge and methods from different disciplines, such anthropology and history
- Training in the critical analysis (philological and historical) of primary sources, literary and visual
- Capacity to analyze the history of the cultural encounters from a comparative perspective
- Introduction to the history of early modern globalization

Specific competences:

- Analysis the sources for the early-modern image of "savages"
- Historicizing the concept of civilization.
- Historicizing the history of human rights in relation to the debate on the nature of the American Indians
- Analysis of the role that the Catholic Church played in the history of Latin America and the Philippines
- Knowledge on the interaction between religious and political agencies in the early history of European imperialism and overseas colonization
- Being able to analyze the social and cultural impact of the Catholic Church over indigenous social practices, and the role of native agencies in shaping hybrid outcomes
- Analysis of martyrdom, sanctity and violence in colonial discourses
- Analysis of the missionary practices of the Society of Jesus in the Indies (East and West)
- Study of the different models of missions in America and Asia, putting special emphasis on those on the peripheries of the Spanish and Portuguese empires
- History of the concept of oriental despotism
- Analysis of visual ethnographies as cross-cultural products

Syllabus:

1. First encounters: Images of the Savage and nature in the New World (AC)

Introductory session. Ethnography, travel writing and natural history. Methodological problems: how to read the sources. Genre, classical models and the problem of fictionalization. Interpreting first encounters.

2. Conquest: Mexico and Peru, barbarians or civilized? (JPR)

The conquest of the *Mexicas* and the Incas and their sources. Interpreting gentile civilizations. The rhetoric of the Indian kings: legitimation and fictionalization.

3. Natural and Moral History of the Indies: Acosta (AC)

José de Acosta, Peru, Mexico, Natural and Moral History, extirpation of idolatries, Council of Trent.

4. The debate about the rights and nature of American Indians (JPR)

Francisco de Vitoria, Bartolomé de Las Casas and Juan Ginés de Sepúlveda. Interpreting the debate: what it was about, and why it took place. Its impact upon colonial policy, and in European intellectual culture.

5. Franciscan and Jesuit *reducciones* in America and the Philippines (AC)

Peru (Juli, el Cercado), Viceroy Francisco de Toledo, Paraguay, colonial spaces, evangelizationprojects, utopia.

6. Missionary strategies and the limits of accommodation: Japan, China and India (JPR)

The Jesuits and their missions under the Portuguese padroado. The problem of gentile civilizations. Interpreting Hinduism, Buddhism and Confucianism. Accommodation, its reasons and its limits. The rites controversies.

7. Criollismo and mestizaje in the Andean World (16th and 17th centuries) (AC)

Social spaces of "mixtures", hybridity, mestizaje, criollismo, and cultural bridges, the Baroque city (Lima) versus the Andean world.

8. Ottomans, Safavids, Mughals and the idea of oriental despotism (JPR)

The great Muslim empires: a cosmopolitan world of interactions – an alternative civilization? Independent travellers and philosophical travellers in the East. The rediscovery of oriental despotism.

9. Martyrdom, sanctity and violence in colonial discourses (AC)

The fabrication of (Catholic) saints in the New World: hagiographies, vitaes and relics. Martyrs versus barbarians. Writing violence in Jesuit discourses.

10. 'The discovery of Hinduism', from missionary apologetics to the Republic of Letters (JPR)

The history of European writings about the 'gentile' religion of India. Its missionary origins in Jesuit accommodation. From antiquarianism to libertinism.

11. Missions and missionaries on the periphery of the Pacific Spanish empire: Mariana Islands, Carolinas and Palaos (17th and 18th centuries) (AC)

The history of the conquest and evangelization of the Marianas. The Jesuit missionary project in the Pacific. From the Marianas' twilight to the Caroline Islands' Utopia.

12. Visual ethnographies in the sixteenth century (AC & JPR)

Text and image. Visual cultures. Cultural hybridity. Visual ethnocentrism? From drawing to engraving. Looking for contexts.

Methodology:

Each class lasts 2h 15 minutes and combines both a lecture and a discussionof assigned readings. Active participation is essential in the discussion and students will be expected to have read and thought about the assigned readings.

Course requirements:

- Attendance of 80% of classes is a requisite for passing the course (unless properly justified).
- Class participation and proficiency on discussing readings of the course pack.
- A number of brief oral presentations of the assigned readings will be required. These will contribute to 20% of the final mark.
- Two written assignments, *involving the use of primary sources*, of 2500 words to be delivered at specified dates. They will contribute 40% to final mark each.

Selected bibliography (more detailed bibliographies will be made available viamoodle for each class):

1. Andrien, Kenneth J. "Spaniards, Andeans, and the Early Colonial State in Peru", in K. J. Andrien&Rolena Adorno (eds.), *Transatlantic Encounters. Europeans and Andeans in the Sixteenth Century*, Berkeley, Los Angeles & Oxford: University of California Press, 1991, pp. 121-48.

2. Cantova, Juan Antonio, SJ. *Descubrimiento y descripción de las islas de los Garbanzos (y Carolinas)*. Boletín de la Sociedad Geográfica de Madrid, Tomo X, [1731] 1881.
3. Coello de la Rosa, Alexandre. "Representing the New World's Nature: Wonder and Exoticism in Gonzalo Fernández de Oviedo y Valdés". Historical Reflections/ReflexionsHistoriques, 28:1 (2002), 73-92.
4. Coello de la Rosa, Alexandre. "Más allá del Incario: Imperialismo e historia en José de Acosta (1540-1600)". *Colonial Latin American Review (CLAR)*, 14:1 (2005): 55-81.
5. Coello de la Rosa, Alexandre & Paulina Numhauser, "Introducción: criollismo y mestizaje en el mundo andino (siglos XVI-XIX)". *Illes i Imperis*, 14 (2012): 13-48.
6. Cortés, Hernán, *Cartas de Relación*, ed. Ángel Delgado (Madrid: Castalia, 1993).
7. De la Costa, Horacio, SJ. *The Jesuits in the Philippines (1581-1768)*, Cambridge – Massachusetts, Harvard University Press, [1961] 1989.
8. Driver, Marjorie G. *The Account of Fray Juan Pobre's Residence in the Marianas, 1602*. Mangilao, Guam: Micronesian Area Research Center (MARC), 2004.
9. Gregory, Brad S. *Salvation at Stake. Christian Martyrdom in Early Modern Europe*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, [1999] 2001.
10. Hanke, Lewis, *All mankind is one.A Study of the Disputation Between Bartolomé de Las Casas and Juan Ginés de Sepúlveda in 1550 on the Religious and Intellectual Capacity of the American Indians* (1974; Northern Illinois, 1994).
11. Hezel, Francis X. SJ. *From Conquest to Colonization. Spain in the Mariana Islands, 1690 to 1740*. Saipan, Mariana Islands, Division of Historic Preservation, 1989.
12. Hulme, Peter, 'Tales of distinction. European ethnography and the Caribbean', in Stuart Schwartz (ed.) *Implicit Understandings. Observing, reporting and reflecting on the encounters between Europeans and other peoples in the Early-Modern era* (Cambridge University Press, 1994).
13. Kuznesof, Elizabeth Anne. "Ethnic and Gender Influences on "Spanish" Creole Society". *Colonial Latin American Review (CLAR)*, 4:1 (1995), 153-176.
14. Lavallé, Bernard. *Las promesas ambiguas: ensayos sobre el criollismo colonial en los Andes*. Lima: Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, 1993.
15. Morgan, Ronald Jay. *Spanish American Saints and the Rhetoric of Identity*, Tucson, Arizona: University of Arizona Press, 2002. Jean de Léry, *History of a voyage to the Land of Brazil* (1993).
16. Pagden, Anthony, *The fall of natural man. The American Indian and the origins of Comparative Ethnology* (Cambridge,1981, 2nd ed.1986). Alsoavailable in Spanish as *La caída del hombre natural…* (Madrid, 1988).
17. Pastor Bodmer, Beatriz.*The armature of conquest. Spanish accounts of the discovery of America 1492-1589*(Stanford UP, 1992). Also in Spanish as *Discurso narrativo de la conquista de América* (La Habana, 1984).
18. Rubiés, Joan-Pau,*Travel and Ethnology in the Renaissance. South India through European Eyes, 1250-1625* (Cambridge University Press, 2000).
19. Rubiés, Joan-Pau,*Travellers and Cosmographers. Studies in the History of Early Modern Travel and Ethnology* (Ashgate, 2007).

20. Rubiés, Joan-Pau, 'Oriental despotism and European Orientalism: Botero to Montesquieu', *Journal of Early-Modern History* 9 (2005): 109-180.
21. Rubiés, Joan-Pau, 'Imágen mental e imágen artística en la representación de los pueblos no-Europeos: salvajes y civilizados 1500-1650'. *La Historia Imaginada. Construcciones visuales del pasado en la Edad Moderna*, ed. by Joan-Lluís Palos and Diana Carrió-Invernizzi (Madrid: Centro de Estudios Europa Hispánica, 2008), 327-57.
22. Rubiés, Joan-Pau'¿Diálogo religioso, mediación cultural, o cálculo maquiavélico? Una nueva mirada al método jesuita en Oriente, 1580-1640', in Alexandre Coello, Javier Burrieza and Doris Moreno(eds.) *Jesuitas e Imperios de Ultramar, siglos XVI-XX*(Madrid: Sílex, 2012): 35-63.
23. Zupanov, Ines G. *Missionary Tropics; The Catholic Frontier in India (16th-17th centuries)* (University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor, 2005).