MEDITERRANEAN STUDIES II: EAST AND WEST AT THE CENTER, 1050-1600

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2009
3:00-6:00 PM, ROYCE HALL 306

“Accursed, Superior Men: Power and Identity in the Medieval Mediterranean”
Brian Catlos (History, UC Santa Cruz)
Seminar Leader: Teofilo Ruiz (History, UCLA)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2009
3:00-6:00 PM, ROYCE HALL 306

“How To Do Things in the Medieval Mediterranean”
Sharon Kinoshita (Literature, UC Santa Cruz)
Seminar Leader: Zrinka Stahuljak (French & Francophone Studies, UCLA)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2009
3:00-6:00 PM, ROYCE HALL 306

“Archiving the Orient in Early Modern Europe”
Oumelbanine Zhiri (Literature, UC San Diego)
Seminar Leaders: Christine Chism (English, UCLA) and Peter Stacey (History, UCLA)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2009
3:00-6:00 PM, ROYCE HALL 306

“Lingua franca: Hybridity and Conflict in the Mediterranean”
Jocelyne Dakhlia (Centre de Recherches Historiques, Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris)
Seminar Leader: Zrinka Stahuljak (French & Francophone Studies, UCLA)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2009
3:00-6:00 PM, ROYCE HALL 306

“Cross-currents: Ibn Battuta, Ibn Jubayr and the Muslim Mediterranean”
Christine Chism (English, UCLA)
Seminar Leaders: Eric Jager (English, UCLA) and James Schultz (Germanic Languages, UCLA)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2009
3:00-6:00 PM, ROYCE HALL 306

“The Question of Islam and Muslims in Europe’s Mediterranean”
Adnan Husain (History, Queen's University, Toronto)
Seminar Leaders: Gabriel Piterberg (History, UCLA) and Teofilo Ruiz (History, UCLA)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2009
3:00-6:00 PM, ROYCE HALL 306

“Identities in Transition: Historical Writing and Regime Change in the Late Medieval Eastern Mediterranean”
Teresa Shawcross (Schulman Research Fellow in History, Trinity Hall, Cambridge University)
Seminar Leader: Claudia Rapp (History, UCLA)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2009
3:00-6:00 PM, ROYCE HALL 306

“The Language(s) of Power in Medieval Sicily”
Alexander Metcalfe (History, Lancaster University)
Seminar Leaders: Christine Chism (English, UCLA) and Peter Stacey (History, UCLA)

GENERAL INFORMATION
Seminar sessions are three hours in length and will have a workshop format. The guest speaker will present a lecture during the first hour. After a short break, participants will reconvene and discuss the topic introduced in the lecture. Discussions will be led by one or more UCLA faculty members. Seminar participants are strongly encouraged to read the recommended readings in advance.

REGISTRATION
Advance registration is required. Please call 310-825-1880 or email cmrs@humnet.ucla.edu. No admission fee. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

RECOMMENDED READINGS
Readings pertinent to the topic, selected by the guest speakers, will be posted before each session at www.cmrs.ucla.edu/medstudies_readings/index.html. Login information will be provided when you register.

PARKING
Campus parking permits may be purchased for $10 each day from any UCLA Parking Services kiosk.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?
Contact the UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies by email at cmrs@humnet.ucla.edu or phone at 310-825-1880.

Illustrations from a map in Cosmographia Ptolémée, Nicholas Germanus (ed), 1482.
Since Greco-Roman times, the Mediterranean has been considered the cradle of “Western” civilization and also the site of an original fault line between a homogenous “West” and an exotic, undervalued “East”—an “other” against which to defend and define the West. This dichotomy seems to be due not only to the emergence and the definition of the West, but also in large part is the product of nationalized, nineteenth-century disciplinarity.

The field of Mediterranean Studies seeks to undo the long-held ideas of the “homogeneity of the West” and the “exoticism of the East.” The Mediterranean Sea has not kept continental landmasses apart, rather, it is a body of water that allows for fluidity and openness, connecting different worlds in a network that has shaped local social, commercial, political, and cultural developments. The cross-cultural, cross-linguistic, and cross-confessional exchange that has occurred over an extremely long period of time makes the Mediterranean a region of global importance.

Mediterranean Studies: East and West at the Center, 1050-1600 is a two-part seminar series organized by Professor Zrinka Stahuljak (UCLA French & Francophone Studies and CMRS Associate Director for Medieval Studies) and funded by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. This seminar has been considering the Mediterranean as an entity, the center for both East and West, and part of a world system rather than a line of separation between the emerging “West” and an exotic “East.” Accordingly, starting in the West, in the Iberian peninsula and Occitania, we have been concentrating throughout the seminar primarily on the central and “Eastern” Mediterranean, from Sicily to the Italian Peninsula, the Maghreb, the Adriatic, Byzantium, Crete, Cyprus, Syria and Palestine, Mamluk Egypt, and the Ottoman Empire. For the second part of the seminar series we have invited our guests to reflect on the methodology applicable to Mediterranean Studies.