

AS100.473
The Indian Ocean: Economy, Society, Diaspora
Spring 2007

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Course Meets M @ 2-3:50 p.m.
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Course Description

This course is a reading seminar in the history of the Indian Ocean from earliest times to the present with a focus on economy, society, and diaspora. The Indian Ocean is a vast sea linking a diversity of societies to its west, north, and south. These stretch from Australia, to Southeast Asia, to the Indian Subcontinent, to Persia and the Arabian Peninsula, to the east African coast, to Madagascar. The Indian Ocean is unique in comparison to the Atlantic and Pacific in its history of shipping, commerce, and movement of people more than a millennium before the arrival of Europeans (1498), and in the coexistence of European and Indian Ocean region trade during the modern era. A region of tremendous importance globally, the Indian Ocean has been neglected as a unit of historical inquiry. This is now changing, and in the class we will read much recent research on the Indian Ocean.

The readings selected for the course represent broad and important themes in the history of the Indian Ocean. They are not exhaustive of Indian Ocean history. Readings represent temporal, geographic, and thematic diversity. They focus more on interactions between regions and powers, on trade, and on exchange than on internal histories of particular places in isolation. The important point is that the Indian Ocean is an ancient zone of intercommunication and cultural diversity, characteristics it retains into the present time. By the time you complete this course, you will be conversant with many of the important historical issues and debates in the history of the Indian Ocean. In other words, while pitched at a high level for advanced undergraduates, this is an introductory course and assumes no specific prior coursework.

It does, however, require strong reading and reasoning skills. Reading seminars are designed to introduce students to the literature in a particular field. In class we will discuss the readings and their relationship to each other; the professor will seldom lecture. Your avid reading of all the assigned materials and liberal participation in the class (by conversing intelligently) is essential to its success and to your progress.

Required Coursework

1. Attendance. You are expected to attend class. Missing class will adversely affect your grade (if you are near—not at—a dividing point between grades in figuring your final grade, I will assign poor attendees the lower grade).
2. Participation in course discussions. This is a seminar, not a lecture course. You are expected to read the assigned material and to reflect on it and be prepared to talk intelligently about it in the classroom. Speak up. (If you are near—not at—a dividing point between grades in figuring your final grade, I will assign the shy and diffident the lower grade).
3. Weekly informal commentaries on the assigned reading. You must bring written comments on each week's assigned reading with you to class (one page, single spaced is sufficient). Your informal commentaries must briefly discuss the readings and raise intelligent questions for course participants to deliberate on. You must leave the professor a copy of your commentary when you leave at the end of class. (I will subtract 10 points for every paper that is not turned in to me at the end of class; no late informal commentaries accepted).
4. Map Quiz. You must correctly identify places, towns, bodies of water and other features on a map of the Indian Ocean. (100 points)
5. An historiographical paper. The paper will be a 15-20 page paper based upon your analysis of a set of *historical* works on some thematic dimension of Indian Ocean History to be negotiated with the professor. (450 points.)
6. A final examination. The final examination will be based on the assigned reading and course discussions. It will consist of a take-home examination in which you will answer two questions, each with a 5-page essay, well argued and structured. (450 points).

Required Books (Available at B&N Homewood Bookstore:

- Chaudhuri, K.N. *Trade and Civilisation in the Indian Ocean: An Economic History from the Rise of Islam to 1750*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1985.
- Bose, Sugata. *A Hundred Horizons: The Indian Ocean in the Age of Global Empire*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2006.

January 22: Introduction & Background Lecture

January 29: Oceans as History

- Bentley, Jerry H. "Sea and Ocean Basins as Frameworks of Historical Analysis." *Geographical Review* 89,2 (April 1999): 215-224.
- Bailyn, Bernard. "The Idea of Atlantic History." *Itinerario* 20 (1996): 19-44.
- Pearson, Michael Naylor. *The Indian Ocean*. London: Routledge, 2003. Pages 1-12.

- Arnold, David. "The Indian Ocean as a Disease Zone, 1500-1950." *South Asia* 14,2 (1991): 1-21.
- Gilbert, Erik. "Coastal East Africa and the Western Indian Ocean: Long-Distance Trade, Empire, Migration, and Regional Unity, 1750-1970." *The History Teacher* 36,1 (November 2002): 7-34.

February 5: Narrating Indian Ocean History

- Abu-Lughod, Janet L. *Before European Hegemony: The World System A.D. 1250-1350*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1989. Pages 251-290.
- Chaudhuri, K.N. *Trade and Civilisation in the Indian Ocean: An Economic History from the Rise of Islam to 1750*. Cambridge, Eng.: Cambridge University Press, 1985. Pages 1-62 & 121-159.

February 12: Ancient Human, Cultural, Linguistic Dispersals

- Manning, Patrick. "Homo Sapiens Populates the Earth: A Provisional Synthesis, Privileging Linguistic Evidence." *Journal of World History* 17,2 (2006): 115-158.
- Mitchell, Peter. *African Connections: An Archaeological Perspective on Africa and the Wider World*. New York: Altamira Press, 2005. Pages 99-133.
- Bellwood, Peter S. "The Austronesian Dispersal and the Origin of Languages." *Scientific American* 265,1 (July 1991): 88-93.
- Robert E. Dewar, "The Archaeology of the Early Settlement of Madagascar," in Julian Reade, ed., *The Indian Ocean in Antiquity* (London: Kegan Paul International, 1996). Pages 471-486.
- Wright, Henry Tutwiler, and Jean-Aimé Rakotoarisoa. "The Rise of Malagasy Societies: New Developments in the Archaeology of Madagascar." In *The Natural History of Madagascar*, edited by Steven M. Goodman and Jonathan P. Benstead, 112-119. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003.

February 19: Early Trading Networks

- McPherson, Kenneth. *The Indian Ocean: A History of People and the Sea*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1998. Pages 16-75.
- Casson, Lionel, ed. *The Periplus Maris Erythraei: Text with Introduction, Translation, and Commentary*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1989. Pages 5-47.
- Sidebotham, S. E., and W. Z. Wendrich. "Berenike: Roman Egypt's Maritime Gateway to Arabia and India." *Egyptian Archaeology* 8 (1996): 15-18.
- Roy, Mihir. "India at the Crossroads in the Indian Ocean." In *Mariners, Merchants, and Oceans: Studies in Maritime History*, edited by Kuzhippalli Skaria Mathew, 469-488. New Delhi: Manohar Publishers, 1995.
- Hourani, George F. *Arab Seafaring in the Indian Ocean in Ancient and Early Medieval Times*. Revised and expanded by John Carswell. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995. Pages 3-84.

February 26: Islam and the Ocean

- Levtzion, Nehemia, and Randall L. Pouwels, eds. *The History of Islam in Africa*. Athens, Oh.: Ohio University Press, 2000. Pages 37-59 & 251-271.
- Ibn Battuta, *Travels in Asia and Africa, 1325-1354* (London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1983). 106-122, 228-281.
- McPherson, Kenneth. "Maritime Passenger Traffic in the Indian Ocean Region Before the Nineteenth Century." *The Great Circle: Journal of the Australian Association for Maritime History* 10,1 (1988): 49-61.
- Pearson, Michael Naylor. *Pious Passengers: The Hajj in Earlier Times*. New Delhi: Sterling Publishers, 1994. Pages 131-187.
- Metcalf, Barbara D. "The Pilgrimage Remembered: South Asian Accounts of the Hajj." In *Muslim Travellers: Pilgrimage, Migration, and the Religious Imagination*, edited by Dale F. Eickelman and James Piscatori, 85-107. London: Routledge, 1990.

March 5: An Emporium of Exchange

- Chaudhuri, K.N. *Trade and Civilisation in the Indian Ocean: An Economic History from the Rise of Islam to 1750*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1985. Pages 160-228.
- Finlay, Robert. "The Treasure-Ships of Zheng He: Chinese Maritime Imperialism in the Age of Discovery." *Terrae Incognitae* 23 (1991): 1-12.
- Gilbert, Erik, and Jonathan T. Reynolds. *Africa in World History: From Prehistory to the Present*. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall, 2004. Pages 99-116.
- Habib, Irfan. "Merchant Communities in Precolonial India." In *The Rise of Merchant Empires: Long-Distance Trade in the Early Modern World, 1350-1750*, edited by James D. Tracy, 371-399. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1990.
- Pearson, Michael Naylor. "Indians in East Africa: the Early Modern Period." In *Politics and Trade in the Indian Ocean World: Essays in Honour of Ashin Das Gupta*, edited by Rudrangshu Mukherjee and Lakshmi Subramanian, 227-249. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1998.

March 19: Europeans Enter, or The Early Modern Period

- Chaudhuri, K.N. *Trade and Civilisation in the Indian Ocean: An Economic History from the Rise of Islam to 1750*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1985. Pages 63-118.
- Reid, Anthony. "Five Centuries, Five Modalities: European Interaction with Southeast Asia, 1497-1997." In *Vasco da Gama and the Linking of Europe and Asia*, edited by Anthony Disney and Emily Booth, 167-177. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2000.
- Winius, George. "The 'Shadow Empire' of Goa in the Bay of Bengal." *Itinerario* 7 (1983): 83-101.
- Barendse, R.J. "Trade and State in the Arabian Seas: A Survey from the Fifteenth to the Eighteenth Century." *Journal of World History* 11 (2000): 173-225.

- Gilbert, Erik, and Jonathan T. Reynolds. *Africa in World History: From Prehistory to the Present*. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall, 2004. Pages 201-218.
- Worden, Nigel. "Cape Town and Port Louis in the Eighteenth Century." In *The Indian Ocean Rim: Southern Africa and Regional Co-operation*, edited by Gwyn Campbell, 42-53. London: RoutledgeCurzon, 2003.

March 26: Omani and Hadrami Expansion/Diaspora

- Boxberger, Linda. *On the Edge of Empire: Hadhramawt, Emigration, and the Indian Ocean, 1880s-1930s*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2002. Pages 39-63.
- Freitag, Ulrike, and William Gervase Clarence-Smith, eds. *Hadhrami Traders, Scholars and Statesmen in the Indian Ocean, 1750s-1960s*. Leiden: Brill, 1997. Pages 1-34.
- Clarence-Smith, William Gervase. "The Rise and Fall of Hadhrami Shipping in the Indian Ocean, c. 1750-c. 1940." In *Ships and the Development of Maritime Technology in the Indian Ocean*, edited by David Parkin and Ruth Barnes, 227-258. London: RoutledgeCurzon, 2002.
- Onley, James. "Transnational Merchants in the Nineteenth-Century Gulf: The Case of the Safar Family." In *Transnational Connections and the Arab Gulf*, edited by Madawi Al-Rasheed, 59-89. London: Routledge, 2005.
- Bhacker, M. Reda. *Trade and Empire in Muscat and Zanzibar: Roots of British Domination*. London: Routledge, 1992. Pages 15-30, 67-100 & 116-137.

April 2: The African Diaspora of the Indian Ocean

- Larson, Pier M. "African Diasporas and the Atlantic." In *The Atlantic in Global History, 1500-2000*, edited by Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra and Eric R. Seeman, 129-147. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall, 2007.
- Alpers, Edward A. "The African Diaspora in the Indian Ocean: A Comparative Perspective." In *The African Diaspora in the Indian Ocean*, edited by Shihan de Silva Jayasuriya and Richard Pankhurst, 19-50. Trenton, N.J.: Africa World Press, 2003.
- Sheriff, Abdul. "The Slave Trade and its Fallout in the Persian Gulf." In *Abolition and its Aftermath in the Indian Ocean, Africa and Asia*, edited by Gwyn Campbell, 103-119. London: Frank Cass, 2004.
- Mirzai, Behnaz A. "African Presence in Iran: Identity and its Reconstruction in the 19th and 20th Centuries." *Outre-Mers: Revue d'Histoire* 89,336-337 (2002): 229-246.
- Ewald, Janet J. "Crossers of the Sea: Slaves, Freedmen, and Other Migrants in the Northwestern Indian Ocean, c. 1750-1914." *American Historical Review* 105,1 (2000): 69-91.

April 9: Slavery in the Indian Ocean

- Drescher, Seymour, and Stanley L. Engerman, eds. *A Historical Guide to World Slavery*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998. Pages 77-87.

- Chatterjee, Indrani, and Richard M. Eaton, eds. *Slavery & South Asian History*.
Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press, 2006. Pages 1-16, 44-62, 83-114.
- Hutson, Alaine. "Enslavement and Manumission in Saudi Arabia, 1926-38." *Critique: Critical Middle Eastern Studies* 11,1 (Spring 2002): 49-70.
- Deutsch, Jan-Georg. *Emancipation without Abolition in German East Africa, c. 1884-1914*. Oxford, Eng.: James Currey, 2006. Pages 17-96. [56 total reading].
- Worden, Nigel. "Diverging Histories: Slavery and its Aftermath in the Cape Colony and Mauritius." *South African Historical Journal* 27 (1992): 3-25.

April 16: Modern Migrations

- Bose, Sugata. *A Hundred Horizons: The Indian Ocean in the Age of Global Empire*.
Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2006. Pages 1-121.
- Tinker, Hugh. "Into Servitude: Indian Labour in the Sugar Industry, 1833-1970." In *International Labour Migration: Historical Perspectives*, edited by Shula Marks and Peter Richardson, 76-89. London: Published for the Institute of Commonwealth Studies by Maurice Temple Smith, 1984.
- North-Coombes, M.D. "Indentured Labour in the Sugar Industries of Natal and Mauritius." In *Essays on Indentured Indians in Natal*, edited by Surendra Bhana, 12-87. Leeds, UK: Peepal Tree Press, 1988.
- Diederich, Mathias. "Indonesians in Saudi Arabia: Religious and Economic Connections." In *Transnational Connections and the Arab Gulf*, edited by Madawi Al-Rasheed, 128-146. London: Routledge, 2005.

April 23: Travel, Hybridity and Nationalism

- Bose, Sugata. *A Hundred Horizons: The Indian Ocean in the Age of Global Empire*.
Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2006. Pages 122-282.
- McDonnell, Mary Byrne. "Patterns of Muslim Pilgrimage from Malaysia, 1885-1985." In *Muslim Travellers: Pilgrimage, Migration, and the Religious Imagination*, edited by Dale F. Eickelman and James Piscatori, 111-130. London: Routledge, 1990.
- O'Brien, Susan. "Pilgrimage, Power, and Identity: The Role of the Hajj in the Lives of Nigerian Hausa Bori Adepts." *Africa Today* 46,3-4 (Summer/Autumn 1999): 11-40.
- Haring, Lee. "African Folktales and Creolization in the Indian Ocean Islands." *Research in African Literatures* 33,3 (2002): 182-199.
- Lionnet, Françoise. "Reframing Baudelaire: Literary History, Biography, Postcolonial Theory, and Vernacular Languages." *Diacritics* 28,3 (Autumn 1998): 62-85.