

Sailing Away

Transatlantic and
Transmediterranean
Representations Across
Early Modern Worlds

Graduate Student Conference in
Romance Studies

Duke University
September 10-11,
2010



Call for Papers

Sailing Away: Transatlantic and Transmediterranean Representations Across Early Modern Worlds

**Graduate Student Conference in Romance Studies
Duke University, September 10-11, 2010**

Keynote Speaker: TBA

We are currently accepting submissions of proposals for our annual Graduate Student Conference in the Department of Romance Studies at Duke University.

Please send abstracts of approximately 250 words to:

dukesailingaway@gmail.com

Abstracts must be submitted in English. In order to facilitate discussion across the disciplines, presentations will also be made in English. Presentations will last 12-15 minutes. With your submission, please include on a separate page your name, institutional affiliation, phone number, street address, email address, and a brief biographical sketch focusing on your academic work.

Deadline for submissions is June 25.

For more information visit our blog:

<http://dukesailingaway.blogspot.com/>

The main subjects and questions we want to discuss are:

- What was a successful trip? What was not?: Sailors, castaways, explorers, pirates, merchants, slaves, missionaries, and outcasts
- Trans Oceanic colonialism, its Mediterranean models and accounts
- Travel writing
- Transatlantic and transmediterranean economies
- Were new subjectivities/identities created aboard the ships?
- Space: sea and the city
- Gender: expectations, anguishes and discoveries across the seas
- Race: Perspectives of the Others and construction of subject's hierarchies

- Biopolitics: Early Modern State apparatus and the construction of new identities
- Representation and aesthetics: Diverse perspectives on art, history and narration
- Was there a transatlantic *lingua franca*? More than one?
- Science and travel: medicine, physics, astronomy, natural sciences
- Rationalism (philosophy) and its transformations after the encounter of the Old and the New World
- Empires and Imperialism: Similarities and differences between empires
- The Atlantic and Mediterranean in the Early Modern World Order
- Cultural appropriations of the Transatlantic and the Transmediterranean in canonical literature (appropriating culture from across the seas to Europe)
- Perspectives and representations of the native populations across the seas; the colonized/enslaved
- Evidence of budding imperialistic or colonizing attitudes
- Travel narratives
- Accounts of sea travel (challenges, experiences)
- Perspectives of merchants and diplomats as well as of the more conventional writers or artists