

2018 Spring Speaker Series

The Early Modern Atlantic World: Society, Economy, and Letters

Join us to hear three distinguished experts illuminate aspects of European society and Atlantic colonial expansion.
Refreshments will be served at each event.

The Yamasee War and the Development of South Carolina Slave Law

Tuesday, April 10, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Glennwood Lounge, 2nd floor, Student Center

South Carolina's near fatal experience in the Yamasee War of 1715 fostered an effort by the colonial legislature to domesticate the colony's slave system. New slave laws made slavery less brutal in some respects, but they also consolidated the apparatus of social control that enabled this slave society to enrich its planters for many generations to come.



Edward Rugemer, Yale University

Global Commodities and the Making of the Early Modern World

Thursday, April 12, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Occidental Lounge, 5th floor, Student Center

This talk will explore the changing geography, production techniques, and consumption patterns of some of the commodities that crossed the greatest distances in the period from c. 1500 to c. 1800: coffee, sugar, paper, glass, and coral. In the process, it will show how the globe became at once more interconnected and more hierarchical, with new groups gaining and other losing from the process of globalization.



Francesca Trivellato,
Yale University

The Rise of the Diary in Early Modern England and New England

Wednesday, April 25, 5:05 to 6:20 p.m.

Occidental Lounge, 5th floor, Student Center

When Cotton Mather compiled his ecclesiastical history of New England, *Magnalia Christi Americana* (1702), some of his most potent source material came from personal diaries. But why did so many New Englanders keep diaries? This talk traces the rise of the early modern spiritual diary from Cambridge academics to Essex ministers to New England immigrants, and argues that its spread was an intensely local, even familial affair.



Alan Stewart, Columbia University