

ARH 4930  
**Mapping the World in the Age of Discovery**

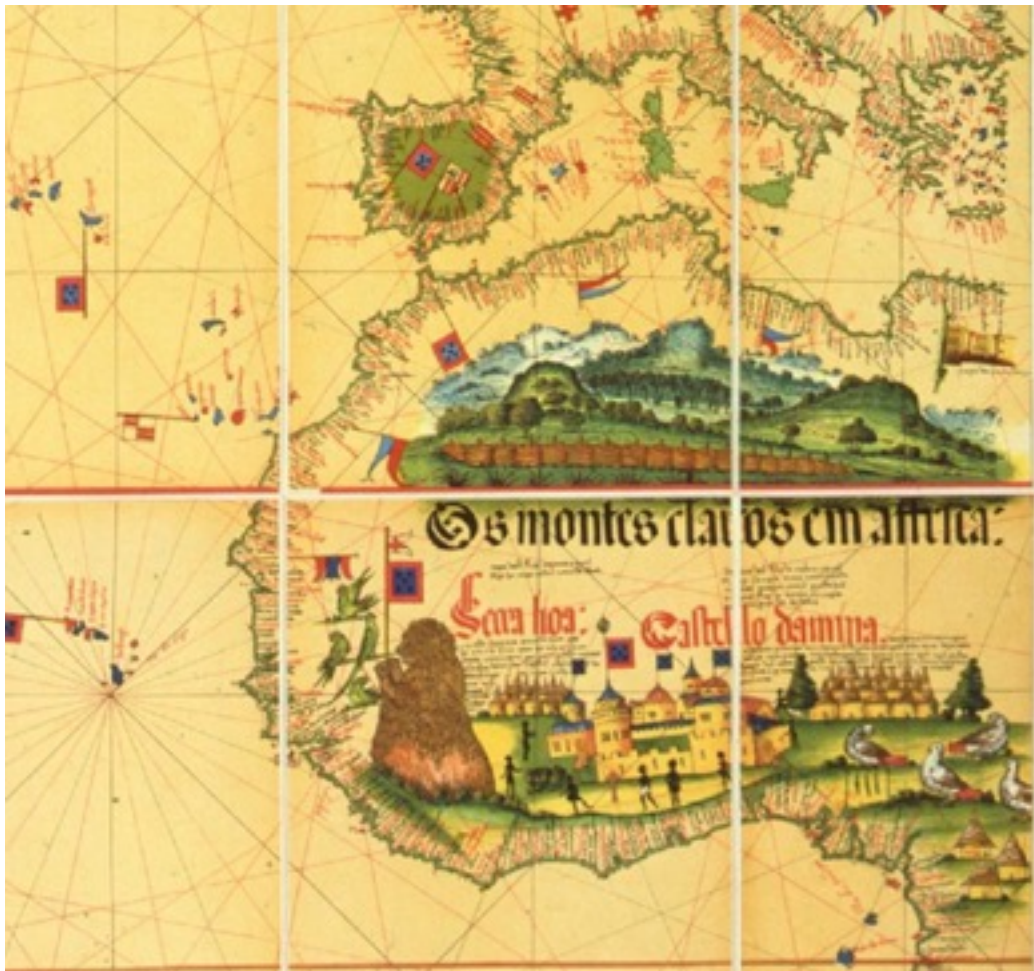
University of Florida, College of the Arts, School of Art and Art History  
Tuesday 3:00-4:55pm, Thursday, 3:00-3:50pm, Fine Arts C (FAC) 201  
3 credits

**Ingrid Anna Greenfield, Visiting Assistant Professor**

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Walk-in Office Hours: Monday 10:30am-12:30pm, and by appointment

Office: Fine Arts C (FAC) 119a



**Course Description:**

Maps provide topographical descriptions of the world, but they can also be ‘read’ as works of art through which we may glimpse a network of textual and visual information in circulation. Beginning with *mappae mundi*, medieval European maps of the known world, we will consider the nature of geographical discovery in the first imperial age, 1400-1750, paying particular attention to the cartographic changes that accompanied exploration and cross-cultural encounters.

**Course Objectives:**

- Students will become familiar with the established knowledge related to the history of cartography in late medieval and early modern Europe.
- Students will be able to apply knowledge in familiar and new situations for academic purposes, and will develop their capacity for critical thinking and independent inquiry.
- Students will demonstrate an ability to read and understand a wide range of academic writing, and to speak and write accurately on academic topics in an academically rigorous manner.
- In weekly class meetings students will regularly engage with their peers in a conscientious manner.
- Students will orally present their own critical interpretation of texts and images by leading one discussion of assigned readings.

**Course Policies:**

**Readings.** Class meetings will include lecture and discussion, typically structured around weekly topics and assigned readings. There are no textbooks for the course; instead, readings will be drawn from journal articles, book chapters, and essays that will be made available for download via electronic reserves or in labeled document folders on the course website.

**Attendance and due dates.** Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policy that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>. Please identify any potential conflicts as early as possible, and contact Dr. Greenfield.

Prompt attendance is required at all classes, and students are expected to attend all class sessions. Students will be permitted two excused absences for the semester (“excused” means that you must contact me prior to class to inform me of your absence). Additional excused absences – and any unexcused absences – will negatively affect your grade. Absences without prior notification will count as unexcused, lowering your participation grade. Numerous absences, excused or unexcused, may result in failure of the course; if you anticipate needing to miss several classes, you are advised to drop the course. A pattern of late arrivals is likewise detrimental.

Unless pre-approved by the professor, late papers and assignments may lose a third of a letter grade for each 24-hour period beyond their listed due date, until they are turned in. All papers and assignments must be submitted in order to pass the class.

**Classroom comportment.** The use of laptop computers is permitted during class, but strictly for note-taking purposes. Please do not write emails, read the newspaper, check social media, etc., as this can be hugely distracting to those sitting around you. If you are observed using your computer (or phone, iPad, etc.) for something irrelevant to the class, your participation grade will suffer.

**Email.** Please check your UF email account regularly for course announcements or replies to any emails you send. I will email you through Canvas which can be linked to your UF email account. In the first week of class, confirm that you are receiving messages sent by me through Canvas, as I will occasionally send readings, links, and important updates.

**Students with disabilities.** To request accommodations, please contact the Dean of Students Office and register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

University Counseling & Wellness Center

Phone: (352) 392-1575 (line open 24/7) Web: <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu>

***Academic Honesty:***

All students are required to abide by the Academic Honesty Guidelines which have been accepted by the University. For information on what constitutes plagiarism, consult the UF Plagiarism Guide at <http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/07b/studentplagiarism.html>.

**Course Requirements:**

Attendance —10% of the final grade

Participation — 20 % of the final grade

Presentation of reading & discussion questions — 10%

Written responses to readings — 10%

Writing assignment — 15%

Midterm Exam — 15%

Final take-home Exam — 20%

***Participation.*** In order to participate in class, you must attend class, but attendance does not constitute participation. This class will be run as a combination of lecture and discussion. Students are responsible for engaging with the material prior to class meetings by carefully reading and/or studying the assigned texts and images. You are expected to contribute to the educational environment of the classroom by coming prepared to both answer questions posed the instructor and engage in discussions with fellow students.

***Written responses to readings:***

Three times during the semester, dates TBD, students are required to post short responses to questions related to the assigned readings. (Questions will be posted at least one week in advance of the class for which they are assigned.) These responses should be uploaded to the ‘Discussion’ section of the course website on Canvas by 12 am (midnight) the night before class. These posts will receive grades of check plus, check, or check minus. Late posts will not be accepted.

***Midterm Exam:***

The in-class exam format consists of image identifications, image comparisons, and essay questions about the material covered in lectures, discussions, and readings.

***Writing assignment:***

Students will be required to write one short essay (approximately four or five pages long) on a pre-1800 map of their choice in the collection of the UF Map Library, Special Collections, or another collection where material can be viewed in person, to be submitted via Canvas on April 4 by 5pm. The guidelines for the essay will be explained on a separate handout.

**Final take-home exam:**

The final exam is cumulative, composed of a number of essay questions. In your responses you should incorporate relevant assigned readings; answers that do not cite any of the assigned reading will not receive full credit. The guidelines for the final exam will be explained on a separate handout.

**Grading Scale:**

<b>Letter Grade</b>	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
<b>% Equivalent</b>	93+	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	59-

**Important Dates:**

**Midterm exam:** February 25, in class

**Writing assignment:** Due April 12, 5pm

**Final take-home exam:** Due April 26, 5pm

**Course Schedule [subject to change]****Week 1**

Tues. Jan. 5 — Introduction to the course

Thurs. Jan. 7 — 1. What are maps and how should we read them?

**Week 2**

Tues. Jan. 12 — 2. Deconstructing Maps **\*Meet at the Maps Library**

Thurs. Jan. 14 — 3. The Materiality of Maps

**Week 3**

Tues. Jan. 19 — 4. **Printmaking Demonstration with Prof. Bob Mueller**

Thurs. Jan 21 — 5. Conventions of Medieval Geographies

**Week 4**

Tues. Jan. 26 — 6. Jerusalem and the Holy Land **\*Meet at the Maps Library**

Thurs. Jan. 28 — 7. The Edges of the World

**Week 5**

Tues. Feb. 2 — 8. Travel narratives: Sir John Mandeville and Marco Polo

Thurs. Feb. 4 — 9. The World Map c. 1400

**Week 6**

Tues. Feb. 9 — 10. Ptolemy's Geography \***Meet at the Maps Library**

Thurs. Feb. 11 — 11. Dividing the World c. 1500

**Week 7**

Tues. Feb. 16 — 12. Politics, Secrecy, and Misinformation

Thurs. Feb. 18 — 13. Body-worlds and bodies in the world: Matthew Paris & Opicinus de Canistris

**Week 8**

Tues. Feb. 23 — 14. \***Meet at Special Collections**

Thurs. Feb. 25 — 15. **Midterm Exam**

Tues. March 1 NO CLASS — SPRING BREAK

Thurs. March 3 NO CLASS — SPRING BREAK

**Week 9**

Tues. March 8 — 16. Mapping the Renaissance City \***Meet at Maps Library**

Thurs. March 10 — 17. The Soundscape of Florence

**Week 10**

Tues. March 15 — 18. Painted Map Cycles in Italian Courts

Thurs. March 17 — 19. Printed Maps & Atlases

**Week 11**

Tues. March 22 — 20. Cosmopolitanism in Abraham Ortelius's *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*

Thurs. March 24 — 21. Spaces of Encounter: Africa

**Week 12**

Tues. March 29 — 22. Spaces of Encounter: Tenochtitlan

Thurs. March 31— NO CLASS: Research day

**Week 13**

Tues. April 5 — 23. \***Meet at Maps Library**

Thurs. April 7 — 24. Cannibalism on maps of the Americas

**Week 14**

Tues. April 12 — 25. Mapping Florida \***Meet at Maps Library**  
\*\*\*Writing assignment due at 5pm\*\*\*

Thurs. April 14 — 26. California as an Island

**Week 15**

Tues. April 19 — 27. Imagining/Imaginary Worlds

**Final take-home exam due April 26 at 5pm**