

科目名：人文社会科学特別講義／ Humanities and Social Sciences (Special lecture)

曜日・講時：後期集中

セメスター：集中 (6), 単位数：1

担当教員：Estelle DOUDET

講義コード：LB98862

科目ナンバリング： 使用言語：英語

1. 授業題目：‘A Strange and Marvelous World’：Meeting Other Civilizations in European Pre-Modern Literatures

2. Course Title (授業題目)：‘A Strange and Marvelous World’：Meeting Other Civilizations in European Pre-Modern Literatures

3. 授業の目的と概要 (Course Objectives and Course Description)：

The course aims to explore the ways in which European Medieval literatures have described other world civilizations, from the Crusades to the East to the ‘discovery’ of America. This encounter enhanced the value of new concepts in Western thought and languages, such as the strange and the marvelous, and had a strong emotional and intellectual impact on European readerships.

The course investigates the linguistic, cultural and philosophical changes caused by the pre-modern globalizations by exploring major masterpieces over five centuries of European culture: Saint Brendan’s travel, the first travel story through the oceans written in European modern languages (c.11); Marco Polo’s famous Travels to Asia (c.13); and Montaigne’s philosophical essays about the Amerindians (c.16). Some extracts of works proposing alternative points of view, by the woman writer Marie de France (c.12), the Muslim traveler Ibn Battuta (c.14), and the Swiss ethnologist Jean de Lery (c.16), will be proposed for comparison.

While today’s globalization carries the heritage of colonialism, industrialization, and nature exploitation, the course also invites to discover an alternative history of interculturality, by confronting past and present. Post-modern approaches like ecocriticism, global literary studies and decolonialization, are put to the test of pre-modern literary cultures. The participants are invited to open the dialogue between European Medieval ways and current Japanese/Asian ways to evoke and reflect on the Otherness.

4. 学習の到達目標 (Learning Goals)：

Three main objectives:

- Understand the ways in which intercultural dialogue and representations of other civilizations evolved in pre-modern European literatures and become familiar with major masterpieces of Western culture from the eleven to the sixteenth century.
- Compare the pre-modern Western view of the encounter between civilizations with other views from the same period and with Japanese approach to today’s globalization.
- reflect on new ways of analysis cultural heritage: ecocriticism; global studies; decolonial studies.

5. 授業の内容・方法と進度予定 (Course Content, Methods, and Course Schedule)：

The course is structured in four sessions.

Each session offers three activities to the participants

- 1/ “Watch and read” (before the meeting): watching videos on historical and cultural context + preparatory reading of sources (available in English and/or Japanese translations).
- 2/ “Comment”：collective close-reading of extracts.
- 3/ “Compare and debate”：debating issues raised by medieval texts’ approaches of Otherness by comparing them to current approaches of interculturality in Europe and Japan.

Session 1: Encountering Other Civilizations in arts and literatures, past and present (introduction)

Video: “new critical approaches to interculturality: ecocriticism, global studies; decolonial studies” .

Commented presentation of the corpora and the working methods.

Session 2: Saint Brendan: beyond the Oceans, the Paradise

Video: “European representations of the world in the eleventh century”

Comment: Saint Brendan: strange sea encounters and marvelous animals

Debate: What did and does “strange” and “marvelous” mean?

Session 3: Marco Polo, a Venitian in Asia

Video: “Dreams and fears of Asia in thirteenth century Europe”

Comment: The Travels: between encyclopedia and autofiction

Debate : how to describe asiatic cities?

Session 4: Montaigne, a philosopher facing America

Video: "The French Brazil, history of a failure"

Comment: Montaigne's "Cannibals", an essay on cultural difference

Debate: Who are the "savages" ?

6. 成績評価方法 (Grading) :

Students are required to prepare for class according to the goal and contents of each session. All materials, videos, extracts, documents will be delivered by Prof. E. Doudet to students on the first course.

To validate the course, students are expected to

1/to participate actively during close-reading sessions

2/to bring examples of their choice and to comment on them into the debate sessions (at least one example per student during the whole course).

3/to answer interactive online quizzes proposed during some sessions to check the acquisition of knowledge.

7. 教科書および参考書 (Materials) :

The main works or the main extracts of them studied during the course will be given par the teacher in original language and in English and/or in Japanese:

BENEDEIT, Saint Brendan: prologue ll.1-20; the marvelous whale, ll.441-552; dragons and griffons, ll.1001-1030; the strange iceberg, ll. 1063-1096; coming close to Paradise, ll.1669-1706.

MARCO POLO, Travels: prologue; description of Beijing, chap. 85, 95; Cipango (Japan), chp. 158-159.

Michel de MONTAIGNE, Essais, I, 31, 'About Cannibals' : the whole essay.

Secondary European medieval corpus whose extracts will be provided by the teacher

Marie de France, Lais, Guigemar, ll. 145-195.

Ibn Battuta, Travels: description of Beijing.

Jean de Léry, Story of a travel to Brazil, chp. 15.

Secondary European modern corpus whose extracts will be provided by the teacher

Nicolas Bouvier, The Way of the World (1963)

Claude Lévi-Strauss, Sad Tropics (1955)

Italo Calvino, The Invisible Cities (1972)

8. 授業時間外学習 (Out-of-hours learning) :

45-50 minutes for each session.

9. その他 (Others) :

This class is taught in English.