

## History 70B: Problems in European History, Monsters and Borders

### Contact Information:

- Instructor: Nancy McLoughlin
- Email: nmclough@uci.edu
- Office Hours: Monday 1-2 and by appointment

### Course Description:

History 70B: Problems in History (Europe) provides an introduction to the historical problems, the issues of interpretation, the use of primary sources, and the historical scholarship of the history of Europe with an emphasis on developing skills in historical essay-writing. This particular iteration of History 70B, *Monsters and Borders*, will focus upon the historical problem of monsters. Monsters (particularly human-animal or human-demon hybrids) of varying types appear regularly in otherwise serious works of European literature, political polemic, and geography written between c. 450 BCE and 1700 CE. In order to better understand the role played by the horrific and fantastic in the unfolding historical events and their recollection, this class will explore how different European communities used the portrayal of monsters to define the boundaries of their communities, understand the unknown, reinterpret the past, promote religious and/or intellectual reform, and establish hierarchical political orders.

### Required Course Materials:

1) To Purchase or Consult in Langson Library (2 Hour Hard Copy Reserve):

- Seamus Heaney, trans., *Beowulf: a New Verse Translation* (New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2000). ISBN 0-393-32097-9.
- Gerald of Wales, *History and Topography of Ireland*, trans. John J. O'Meara (New York: Penguin, 1983). ISBN-10: 0140444238 / ISBN-13: 978-0140444230.

2) Course Reader Available through University Readers or Langson Library (2 Hour Hard Copy Reserve): <http://www.universityreaders.com/>

3) Free readings to download and print from the Internet or electronic reserves. To access these readings click on the link on the syllabus under the day when the reading is due.

4) Langson Library Electronic Databases Articles: To access these readings, sign into the UCI Library network on the library's web-page (under connect from off-campus) and then look for the article using the library's search engine. Try the title first.

### **Course Requirements:**

Students will have the choice between two tracts of grading. Please read the instructions below carefully:

#### FOR ALL STUDENTS:

- 1) Participation 20% - Please participate in class discussions regularly. Students who do not feel comfortable talking in class should consult the participation tab of the course website and contact me during the first 2 weeks of class to agree upon participation alternatives.
- 2) Best 6 out of 9 Lecture Reading Essay Quizzes 20% [Because you can drop 3 quizzes there are no make-up quizzes]
- 3) Take-home Midterm Exam 20% (Due to EEE by noon on Friday May 8th).
- 4) Final Paper/Final Exam 20% (Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>: In class exam: 1:30-3:30 pm. Paper is due at 3:30 to EEE).

#### OPTIONS:

- 5) **Option A:** Students will write an Article Review Essay 20% (3-4 pages, due either Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> [for articles from weeks 1-3] or Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> [for articles due weeks 4-7]).
- 6) **Option B:** Students who opt out of the paper review will write a longer final paper or exam (for in-class exam takers, 2 rather than 1 essay will be required), which will be worth 40% of their course grade. Included in this option will be the possibility of submitting a short research paper as part of the final exam grade. Students may not take the research option unless their cumulative course grade is 85% or higher by week 6 and they have consulted with me and I have consented to their project.

## Course Policies:

- Electronic Submissions to EEE Dropbox: Your papers and take-home exams should be submitted electronically to the EEE dropbox. This dropbox helps to make sure that your papers do not get lost and that we have a record of your paper on file for the course of the quarter. Submitting your paper electronically works to your benefit. However, you also have responsibilities. It is your responsibility to make sure that your electronic submission works. You must try to open your own attachment once you have submitted it. If it does not open, please try to submit it again. If you open it and you realize it is a paper for another class, please submit the correct paper. If you are unable to upload your paper, it is your responsibility to print out a copy of your paper and also to copy and paste the text of your paper into the text of an email message and send that message to me at [nmclough@uci.edu](mailto:nmclough@uci.edu). This email will guarantee that your paper is counted as on time. All students must also bring a paper copy of their paper to lecture. If you cannot submit your papers electronically, please make alternative arrangements with your TA.
- Late Work: Late papers will be docked 5 points for each day late. Make-up exams will be scheduled only in the case of a university-approved and officially documented emergency. There are no make-up quizzes because the lowest 3 quiz grades will automatically be dropped.
- Disability: Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Disability Services Center at 949/824-7494 as soon as possible to better ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.
- Academic Honesty: Academic dishonesty is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at the University of California, Irvine. Cheating, forgery, dishonest conduct, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the University's educational, research, and social roles. They devalue the learning experience and its legitimacy for the entire community. It is essential that all members of the academic community commit to the ideal of academic integrity and accept individual responsibility for their work. Please familiarize yourself with the UCI Policy on Academic Honesty linked to the course website.
- Add/Drop Policy: Any student may add or drop a course in the School of Humanities up to the end of the second week of classes with the instructor's signature. Requests to add or drop after the second week will be granted only for exceptional circumstances.
- Letter Grades: All school and major requirements must be taken for letter grades.

## SCHEDULE OF READING AND ASSIGNMENTS.

\*Please note: Readings are listed below the date on which they will be discussed. I strongly recommend that students read all of the readings due in a current week on the preceding weekend.

### Unit 1: Ancient Monsters on the Edge of Civilization

#### Week 1, March 30-April 3 Introduction to History 70B / Monsters

**Monday, March 30th:** Why *Monsters and Borders* and Introduction to Ancient Mediterranean

- **Link:** Steven Muhlberger, *Overview of Late Antiquity*, Chapter 1.1-1.4  
<http://www.nipissingu.ca/departement/history/muhlberger/orb/OVINDEX.HTM>

**Wednesday, April 1st:** Reading Primary Sources and Grappling with their Monsters: Enkidu

- **Link:**
  - Why read primary sources? <<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/robinson-sources.html>>
  - How to read primary sources: < <http://www.bowdoin.edu/writing-guides/primaries.htm>>
- **Link:** *Epic of Gilgamesh*, Tablets I, II and X.  
<http://www.ancienttexts.org/library/mesopotamian/gilgamesh/>
- **Link:** The Biblical Book of Judges 13-16 in any Bible or at the following link:  
<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/k/kjv/kjv-idx?type=DIV1&byte=1012257> (Make sure you scroll down to chapter 13 before you begin reading.)

**Friday, April 3rd (Quiz 1):** “Wild” People and the Costs of Civilization

**UCI Link:** Gregory Mobley, “The Wild Man in the Bible and the Ancient Near East,” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 116, no. 2 (1997): 217-233. JSTOR: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3266221>

#### Week 2, April 6-10: Greece and its Barbaric Monstrous Neighbors

**Monday April 6th:** Greece vs. Empires and Barbarians

- **Link:** Steven Muhlberger, *Overview of Late Antiquity*, Chapter 1.5  
<http://www.nipissingu.ca/departement/history/muhlberger/orb/OVINDEX.HTM>

**Wednesday, April 8th:** Greeks and Cannibals

• **Link:**

- Polyphemus (Od. 9.82-500):  
<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0136%3Abook%3D9%3Acard%3D82> [PAGE AHEAD TEN TIMES TO READ ENTIRE SECTION]
- Herodotus
  - Cambyses, Astyages and Harapagus: 1.108- 1.119.7:  
<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0126%3Abook%3D1%3Achapter%3D108%3Asection%3D1> [PAGE AHEAD SEVERAL TIMES TO READ ENTIRE SECTION]
  - Massagetae: 1.216-1.216.4:  
<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0126%3Abook%3D1%3Achapter%3D216%3Asection%3D1> [PAGE AHEAD 3 TIMES TO READ ENTIRE SECTION]
  - Cannibalism as Warfare, 3.11, 2-3:  
<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0126%3Abook%3D3%3Achapter%3D11%3Asection%3D1> [PAGE AHEAD 2 TIMES TO READ ENTIRE SECTION]
  - Custom is Relative, 3.38, 1-4:  
<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0126%3Abook%3D3%3Achapter%3D38%3Asection%3D1> [PAGE AHEAD 3 TIMES TO READ ENTIRE SECTION]
  - Raw-flesh eaters, 3.99, 1-2:  
<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0126%3Abook%3D3%3Achapter%3D99%3Asection%3D1>

**Friday, April 10th (Quiz 2):** Herodotus and Ethnography?

- **Library Databases / Electronic Reserves:** James Redfield, “Herodotus the Tourist,” *Classical Philology* 80, No. 2 (1985): 97-118. Stable URL:  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/270156>

<b>Unit 2: Christians and Rome</b>
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**Week 3: April 13-17th: Christians as Cannibals:**

**Monday, April 13th:** Rome and Christianity

• **Link:**

- Muhlberger, *Overview of Late Antiquity*, Chapter 1.7 – 1.9  
<http://www.nipissingu.ca/department/history/muhlberger/orb/OVINDEX.HTM>

**Wednesday, April 15th:** Accusations of Cannibalism made Against Jews and Christians

- **Link:**
  - Ritual Cannibalism charge against Christians:  
<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/christian-cannibals.html>
  - Pliny, Epistles. 10.96: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/pliny1.html>
  - The Persecution and Martyrdoms of Lyons in 177 A.D.  
<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/177-lyonsmartyrs.html>
- **Friday, April 17th (Quiz 3): Writing Exercise:** Accusations of Cannibalism in Greek and Roman Traditions
- **Library Databases / Electronic Reserves:** Andrew McGowan, "Eating People: Accusations of Cannibalism Against Christians in the Second Century," *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 2, no. 4 (1994): 413-44. **Project Muse Database:**  
[http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal\\_of\\_early\\_christian\\_studies/v002/2.4.mcgowan.html](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_early_christian_studies/v002/2.4.mcgowan.html)

**Week 4, April 20th-24th: Monks and Monsters**

**Article Review Essay Due for Students Writing on McGowan, Redfield or Mobley**

**Monday April 20th:** The Christianization of Empire

- **Link:** Muhlberger, Overview of Late Antiquity, Chapter 2  
<http://www.nipissingu.ca/departement/history/muhlberger/orb/OVINDEX.HTM>
- **Reader:** John Block Friedman, *The Monstrous Races in Medieval Art and Thought* (Syracuse University, 2000), 5-25.

**Wednesday, April 22nd:** Mapping Monsters in Pagan and Christian Antiquity

- **Link:**
  - Herodotus, On Lybia: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/herod-libya1.html>
  - Plinian Races, Pliny's *Natural History*, 6.35:  
<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.02.0137%3Abook%3D6%3Achapter%3D35>
  - **Link:** Evagrius: Saint Simeon Stylites:  
<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/evagrius-simeon.html>
  - **Link:** Philo on Ascetics of Egypt addressed in Eusebius, *History of the Church*, 2.17:  
<http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf201.iii.vii.xviii.html>
  - **Link:** Sozomen, *Ecclesiastical History*, 3.14:  
<http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf202.iii.viii.xiv.html>
  - Augustine of Hippo, *City of God*, XVI. 8:  
<http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf102.iv.XVI.8.html>
  - Augustine of Hippo, *City of God*, XXI.5-8:  
<http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf102.iv.XXI.5.html>
- **Course Reader:** Jerome, *Life of Paul of Thebes*.

**Friday, April 24th (Quiz 4):** Monks and Monsters Monks as Monsters and Redefining the Borders and Center of Civilization

- **Library Databases / Electronic Reserves:** Andrew H. Merrills, “Monks, Monsters, and Barbarians: Re-Defining the African Periphery in Late Antiquity,” *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 12, no. 2 (2004): 217-44. **Project Muse Database:** [http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal\\_of\\_early\\_christian\\_studies/v012/12.2merrills.html](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_early_christian_studies/v012/12.2merrills.html)

### **Week 5: April 27th-May1st: Christianity, Barbarism and Redefining Monstrosity**

**Monday, April 27th:** Monks, Monsters and the Continuation of Christian Roman Order

- **Link:** Muhlberger, *Overview of Late Antiquity*, Chapter 3  
<http://www.nipissingu.ca/departement/history/muhlberger/orb/OVINDEX.HTM>

**Wednesday April 29th:** Saint Martin as Monster

- **Link:** Sulpitius Severus, *On the Life of St. Martin*, trans. Alexander Roberts in *A Select Library of Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers of the Christian Church*, Second Series, Vol. 11 (New York, 1894) posted on the Internet Medieval Sourcebook:  
<http://www.users.csbsju.edu/~eknuth/npnf2-11/sulpitii/lifemart.html>
- **Link:** Description by Tacitus of the Rebellion of Boudicca (AD 60-61)  
<http://www.athenapub.com/britsite/tacitus1.htm>

**Friday, May 1st (Quiz 5):** Monks Destroying Civilization

- **UCI Library Database:** Thomas Sizgorich, “Not Easily Were Stones Joined by the Strongest Bonds Pulled Asunder”: Religious Violence and Imperial Order in the Later Roman World,” *Journal of Early Christian Studies*, 15, no. 1 (2007): 75-101.  
[http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal\\_of\\_early\\_christian\\_studies/v015/15.1sizgorich.pdf](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_early_christian_studies/v015/15.1sizgorich.pdf)

<b>Unit 3: Monsters and the Beginnings of European Colonization</b>
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### **Unit 2: Take-home exam Friday**

### **Week 6, May 4th-8th: Barbarians Claiming the Roman Legacy**

**Monday, May 4th:** Christianizing Barbarian Kings

- **Link:** Muhlberger, *Overview of Late Antiquity*, Chapter 4 & 5  
<http://www.nipissingu.ca/departement/history/muhlberger/orb/OVINDEX.HTM>
- CLOVIS

**Wednesday, May 6th:** Gildas vs. Bede

- **Link:**
  - Gildas “Concerning the Ruin of Britain.”  
<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/gildas.html>
  - Selections from Bede, *Ecclesiastical History of The English Nation*, Book One.  
<http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/basis/bede-book1.asp>

**Friday, May 8th:** Take-home midterm essay due to see by 12 noon-No class mtg

## Week 7: May 11th-15th: Differentiating Christian from Viking

### Monday, May 11th: Vikings and Carolingians

- **Link:** Background on Carolingians and Vikings: <http://www.the-orb.net/textbooks/westciv/charlemagne.html>
- **Reader:** John M. Riddle, "Europe: Disunited, Assaulted, and Saved (814-1024)," in *A History of the Middle Ages: 300-1500* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2008), 207-236.
- **Link:**
  - Annals of Xanten: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/xanten1.html>
  - 3 more accounts of Vikings: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/843bertin.html>

### Wednesday, May 13th: (Quiz 6-This quiz cumulative): *Beowulf*, Gildas, & Bede

- Required Reading, *Beowulf*. Two Options:
  - UCI Bookstore/Langson Library Reserve Desk: *Beowulf* trans. Seamus Heaney
  - Inferior translation available online  
<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/basis/beowulf.html>

### Friday, May 15th: Monsters in Europe's Pre-Christian Past- No Class-International Medieval Congress Meeting

- **Reader:** Peter Brown, "In gear dagum, 'In Days of Yor': Northern Christendom and its Past," in *Rise of Western Christendom*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Blackwell, 2003), 463-488 and 545-548.

## Week 8: May 18th-22nd: Europeanization and Colonization

### Monday, May 18th: Reader: Norman Expansion and Othering Ireland

- Robert Bartlett, *The Making of Europe: Conquest, Colonization and Cultural Change, 950-1350* (Penguin, 1994), 5-23.
- Edward Peters, *Europe in the Middle Ages*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. (Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2004), 228-233.

### Wednesday, May 20th:

- **Purchased Book:**
  - Gerald of Wales, *The History and Topography of Ireland*, trans. John J. O'Meara (Penguin, 1951,1982).

### Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> (Quiz 7-This quiz is cumulative): Early Medieval Borders and Europeanization

- **Reader:** Robert Bartlett, *Gerald of Wales: A Voice of the Middle Ages* (Tempus, 2006), 130-146.



Unit 4 Monstrous Continuities

**WEEK 9 (May 25th-29th)**

**Article Review Essay Due for Students Writing about Bartlett, Brown, Sizgorich or Merrills**

**Monday, May 25th:** Memorial Day: No Class

**Wednesday, May 27th:** Late Medieval and Early Modern Religious and Political Crisis

- **Reader:**
  - Robin W. Winks and Teofilo F. Ruiz, "The Late Medieval Crisis and the Transition to the Early Modern Period," in *Medieval Europe and the World: From Late Antiquity to the Present* (Oxford University Press, 2005), 238-262.
- **Link:**
  - Medieval Sourcebook: Witchcraft Documents:  
<http://legacy.fordham.edu/halsall/source/witches1.asp>
  - Medieval Sourcebook: Christopher Columbus: Extracts from Journal.  
<http://legacy.fordham.edu/halsall/source/columbus1.asp>
  - Amerigo Vespucci (1452-1512): Account of His First Voyage, 1497.  
<http://legacy.fordham.edu/Halsall/mod/1497vespucci-america.asp>
- **Library Databases/ Extra Credit:** Tamar Herzig, "Witches, Saints, and Heretics Heinrich Kramer's Ties with Italian Women Mystics," *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft*, 1, no. 1 (2006): 24-55. <http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/mrw/summary/v001/1.1.herzig.html>

**Friday, May 29th (Quiz 8):**

- **Link:** Lynn Ramey, "Monstrous Altering in Early Modern Travel Accounts: Lessons from the Ambiguous Medieval Discourse on Humanness," *L'Esprit Créateur* 48, no. 1 (2008): 81-95. <http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/esp/summary/v048/48.1ramey.html>

**Week 10: June 1<sup>st</sup>-5th: A Legacy of Monsters and the Internal Other?**

**Monday, June 1st:**

- **Reader:**
  - Roberts, "Society and Belief," *A Penguin History of Europe* (London and New York: Penguin Books, 1996), 255-271.
  - Lisa Di Caprio and Merry E. Wiesner, *Lives and Voices: Sources in European Women's History* (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin, 2001), 223-235.
  - Montaigne, "On Cannibals."
- **Link:** Internet History Sourcebook: John Knox, The First Blast of the Trumpet Against the Monstrous Regiment of Women, 1558. [Please note, this sources is 59 pages long, only read until you have a general idea of the type of argument being made. This should happen quickly. <http://www.swrb.ab.ca/newslett/actualNLS/firblast.htm>

**Wednesday, June 3rd (Quiz 9): Witches (Please Study One Article for the Quiz)**

• **Library Databases / Electronic Reserves:**

- Charlotte Wells, "Leeches on the Body Politic: Xenophobia and Witchcraft in Early Modern French Political Thought," *French Historical Studies* 22, no. 3 (1999): 351-77. [http://www.jstor.org/stable/286712?seq=1#page\\_scan\\_tab\\_contents](http://www.jstor.org/stable/286712?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents)

**Friday, June 5th: Monsters Moving Forward: Divergent Trends**

• **Library Databases / Electronic Reserves:**

- Katharine Park and Lorraine J. Daston, "Unnatural Conceptions: The Study of Monsters in Sixteenth-and Seventeenth-Century France and England," *Past and Present*, No. 92 (1981): 20-54. Stable Link: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/650748>

• **Additional Reading (Not Required)**

- T.A. Shippey (ed.) *The Shadow-Walkers: Jacob Grimm's Mythology of the Monstrous* (Brepols, 2005) [Hard-copy 2 hour reserve at Langson Library]
- Jonathan Z. Smith, "Close Encounters of Diverse Kinds, in *Religion and Cultural Studies*, ed. Susan L. Mizruchi (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2001): 3-21. [Hard-copy 2 hour reserve at Langson Library]
- Courtney M. Booker, "Byte-Sized Middle Ages: Tolkien, Film, and the Digital Imagination," *Comitatus* 25 (2004): 145-174. Stable Link: <http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/cjm/summary/v035/35.booker.html>