Seminar in Reformation and Humanism:  
Travel Literature of the Early Modern Period (1400-1750)  
German 521  
Spring 2016  
Monday: 4:00 - 6:00 PM  
Office Hours  
Monday, 3:00 - 4:00 pm (North Brookings, Room 155)  
Wednesday, 1:30 - 2:30 (Ridgley, Room 315)  

To travel, whether for reasons of curiosity, business, religion, conquest, exploration, or simply enjoyment (although the latter is, generally, a more recent phenomenon) has inspired many and diverse forms of writing. Those who traveled during the early modern period as well as some who never left the comfort of their own home produced prose narratives, travelogues, letters, guidebooks, chronicles, and a rich variety of visuals such as maps and illustrations. These depicted worlds, some newly discovered, some known but not yet explored that were home to strange and fascinating peoples, and to all manner of unknown and captivating animals and plants. The narratives mixed facts with fiction; eye witness reports were often filled with tales of fancy in an effort to make the strange comprehensible, familiar, and thus governable. On the basis of selected texts and visuals dealing with travel and conquest, our Distinguished Visiting Professor Ottmar Ette and I will explore the confrontation with the strange, the unfamiliar, the frightening, and the coveted. - Gerhild Scholz Williams, Ottmar Ette  

Course Requirements:  
1. One paper (15 - 20 pages) or three shorter papers (6 pages)  
2. Participation in discussion groups (at least 3 Discussion Reports)  

Plagiarism: Do not do it! If you are borrowing other people’s words or thoughts without admitting your indebtedness to them, you are plagiarizing. You have your own worthwhile ideas; you do not need to steal from others. When in doubt, cite!  

Required Texts:  

In Book Store:  
Christopher Columbus. The Four Voyages. Pinguin Classics. 1969  
Fortunatus. Reclam 1996 UB 7721  

Copies Distributed:  
Egeria’ Travel  
Schiltbergers Reisbuch  
Vespucci Letters  

A-Reserve  
Passwords are no longer needed for courses. Students who are enrolled will automatically see
the course when they log into Ares. If you register late there might be a delay in the registrar passing that information on to the library systems. The library can manually add you to the class. Just ask them to contact reserve@wumail.wustl.edu and they will take care of it. Readings will become active on 1/10/16.

Abulafia, David. *People from the Other World*
From the Old Canaries. . . 1492
La Navidad. 1492-3; First News of the New World
Vespucci’s Tabloid Journalism: The Land of the Holy Cross

Anonymous
Excerpts from the *Wagnerbuch* (1593)

Bitterli, Urs
*Der Eintritt des amerikanischen Überseebewohners in die europäischen Geschichte*

Campbell, Mary
*The Scriptural East: Egeria. . .
The Fabulous East: Wonderbooks and Grotesque Facts*
“The Other Half,” Mandeville Naturalizes the East

Cramer, Thomas
*Iter Ad Paradisum*

Fritze, Ronald
*World Views before the Age of Exploration*

Kugler, Hartmut
*Symbolische Weltkarten - Der Kosmos des Menschen*

Larner, John
*Images of Asia and the Coming of the Mongols*

Müller, Jan-Dirk
*Fortunatus*

Seth, Vanita
*Self and Similitude: Renaissance Representations of the New World*

Wenzel, Horst
*Deutsche Conquistadoren: Hans Staden in der Neuen Welt*

Williams, Gerhild
*Altes Wissen – Neue Welt*

Wolf, Gerhard
*Das Individuum auf dem Weg zu sich selbst*

**Bibliography (Will be added at a later date)**

**Additional Notes:**
Cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices, including personal computers, must be turned off during class times, except in special circumstances approved by the professor.

**Important information on the following issues can be found here:**

- Academic Integrity
- Accommodations based upon sexual assault
- Bias Reporting
- Mental Health
- Students with Disabilities
**Syllabus**

**January 25: Introduction**
Abulafia, *Peoples from the Other World*
Kugler, *Symbolische Weltkarten*

**February 1: Egeria**
Campbell, *The Scriptural East: Egeria*
Fritze, *Worldviews before the Age of Exploration*

**February 8: Schiltberger**
Cramer, *Iter Ad Paradisum*
Larner, *Images of Asia and the Coming of the Mongols*

**February 15: Mandeville**
**SHORT PAPER #1**
Campbell, “The Other Half:” Mandeville Naturlizes the East

**February 22: Columbus**
Abulafia, *From the Old Canaries. . . 1492 La Navidad, 1492-1493; First Views of the New World*

**February 29: Vespucci**
Abulafia, *Vespucci’s Tabloid Journalism: the Land of the Holy Cross*
Bitterli, *Der Eintritt der amerikanischen Überseebewohner*

**March 7: Staden**
**SHORT PAPER #2**
Wenzel, *Deutsche Conquistadoren: Hans Staden . . .*
Seth, *Self and Similitude: Renaissance Representations*
MARCH 13 - 19: SPRING BREAK

March 21: ETTE

March 28: ETTE

April 4: ETTE

April 11: ETTE

April 18: De las Casas: *Devastation of the Indies*
Wagnerbuch: *Excerpts*
Williams, *Altes Wissen – Neue Welt*

April 25: Fortunatus
Müller, *Fortunatus*
Wolf, *Das Individuum auf dem Weg zu sich selbst*

May 6

SHORT PAPER #2 or LONG PAPER to be handed in by 12:00 noon - German Office, Ridgley Hall