SENIOR SEMINAR:  Fall 2011
THE SEA

Course: HUM 490 Sr Sem Classics Humanities  Type: SEM  Units: 3.0  Location: LSS-246
Time: 1600 1840  T  Instructor: Rybakova, Maria
Office:  AL-630
Office hours:  TueThu 12:15-1:15
E-mail:  mrybakov@mail.sdsu.edu

Course Description: Prerequisite: Classics or Humanities major with more than 90 units, others with consent of department chair. Senior capstone seminar in major. Discussion and research on topic in classics and humanities. Formal research paper and presentation.

Every person living in San Diego has an immediate experience of the Pacific Ocean and of the beaches. Likewise, everyone who lives here is aware that drinkable water can present a very notable shortage. Everyday we hear in the news about whole regions suffering from draughts and people dying as a result. We are aware that our bodies consist mainly of water, and that without water there will be no life. This course will examine the cultural history of the seas (with help of John Mack's book) and will additionally look at the meaning of water in our everyday lives and culture.

Required Reading:
(available from Aztec Bookshop and Amazon)
Additional reading will be posted by me on the Blackboard every week!

Grading:

I. Class participation: 30% (including reading/critique sessions, attendance, evaluations of each other's presentations, and regular weekly discussion).

II. 2 in-class presentations (one 5 minutes, one 20 minutes): 30%

III. a 15-20 page research paper: 40%

Tentative Schedule:

Aug. 30  What is the cultural significance of water? What is its connection with art and literature? What is special about salt water, as opposed to fresh water?

Sept. 6  Mack, *Introduction* (pp.13-35)

Sept. 13  Mack, *Chapter 1* (pp. 36-71), *Pytheas* (Bb), *St Brendan* (bb). *Different Seas?* The Mediterranean, the North and the South Atlantic, The Indian Ocean, the Pacific.
Sept. 20    Mack Chapter 2 (pp. 72-104) Dreamtime (Bb), Great Wave (Bb) Concepts of the Sea. Sea as provider, destroyer, cleanser, or origin.

Sept. 27    Mack, Chapter 3 (pp. 105-135) History of Navigation (Bb), Polynesian Navigation (Bb), Navigation and the Arts of Performance. Sails, maps, stars and navigators.

Oct. 4      Mack, Chapter 4 (pp. 136-164) Ships as Societies. Moby Dick (article on Bb) International crews, pirates, languages, age/gender.


Oct. 18     Mack, Chapter 6 (pp. 188-218) Mami Wata (Bb), Sutton Hoo (Bb). The Sea on the Land. Customs and cult practices using ships on land.

Oct. 25     Everyone gives a 5 min presentation.

THE REST OF THE CLASSES WILL BE DEVOTED TO YOUR (LONGER) PRESENTATIONS – WITH PPT!
The papers can be on any topic tangential to the course title. I urge you to discuss your topic with me as early as possible. I will assign the day of your presentation myself.

December 6 Paper Due!
Papers will be graded and returned to you personally on December 13 at 4pm in the same room.
An assignment sheet that will provide guidance on paper-writing will be posted under Course Information on Blackboard.

November 22: office hours only (by appointment)

Thanksgiving recess: November 24-26

EXAMPLES OF TOPICS:
Underwater archeology (with focus)
Ancient Greek/Roman seafaring / piracy
(Ancient) pottery (as vessels for water)
Pytheas of Massalia and his journeys
Irish mariner-monks and their journeys
Representations of the sea in any art (for example, Greek, Impressionist, local)
Water in philosophy (with focus)
Ecology of water: problems we are facing (with focus)

Seafaring experience in novels (Melville *Moby Dick*, Conrad *Lord Jim*)

Sea as literature (Woolf, *The Waves*, Murdoch *The Sea, the Sea*, Banville *The Sea*)

Sea or Water in Science-Fiction (Jules Vernes, *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*; film *Solaris*)
CAL FACULTY!

Are you interested in . . .
acquiring the experience to participate in the University Grant Program (UGP)?
Do you want to know more about the application process? Need help with a
sabbatical application?
If you answered YES any of these questions, this workshop is for you.

"DEVELOPING SUCCESSFUL RESEARCH PROPOSALS"
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH
FROM 1:00-2:00
LOCATION: AL 625

This workshop is designed to assist interested
faculty in the application process for
the University Grant Program (UGP,
The CAL Critical Thinking Grants, and Sabbatical Proposals

Offered by
Joanne Ferraro (ferraro@mail.sdsu.edu), Coordinator and Chair
of Research and Professional Leaves
Faculty Research and Development

Please call or email Mozelle Harding (4-1564) (hardin1@mail) to confirm your attendance.

FIRM DEADLINES
FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS TO THE DEAN’S OFFICE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

UGP applications
October 3, 2011

Fall MICROGRANTS November 7th
CRITICAL THINKING November 14th