Purpose and Goals
The Colloquium enables faculty to feature important themes in World History that will assist graduate students in developing a competence in the emerging field of World History. These themes cut across national boundaries and stretch across broad expanses of time. This term the Colloquium will deal with Oceans and Seas from the late 1200s to the contemporary period. Oceans and Seas play a critical role in World History as people, ideas, religions, trade and precious metals, for example, relied on water transportation to move vast distances for sustained periods of time. Coastal societies develop rich multicultural traditions because of their water orientation. Migration depended on effective water transportation to facilitate the movement of huge numbers of peoples, freely or involuntarily, from one continent to another continent or from one island to another island. Empires grew up around maritime contact and used waterborne communication to thrive. In many ways, water has served numerous interests over the last eight centuries.

In this colloquium we will explore the centrality of oceans and seas to human endeavor and how these bodies of water have influenced global change and societies. The creation of the Atlantic World, for instance, produced water-based societies intensely connected through the exchange of goods and services and migration. Similarly, the Indian Ocean sustained a world that range from the Swahili Coast of East Africa to the Malacca Straits. In so many ways, Oceans and Seas have been central to the human experience. At the end of the course, students should have gained an awareness of oceans and seas as vital to understanding the evolution of human societies and shaping much of human interaction.

Grading:
Students will be evaluated on the basis of weekly participation in class discussions. Students also have to prepare five, six page reviews from the materials assigned each week. These should be completed before the scheduled discussion of these readings. Students will expected to attend every class unless some dire emergency develops.

Required Books:
Molly Greene. Catholic Pirates and Greek Mercenaries: A Maritime History of the Mediterranean
Thomas Benjamin. The Atlantic World: Europeans, Africans, Indians and

The World Their Shared History 1400-1900
Michael Pearson. The Indian Ocean
A.J.R. Russell-Wood. The Portuguese Empire, 1415-1808: A World on
The Move
David Hancock. Oceans of Wine: Madeira and the Emergence of
American Trade and Taste
Marcus Rediker. The Slave Ship: A Human History
Marcus Ridiker. Villains of All Nations: Atlantic Pirates in the Golden Age.
Linda Schiebinger. Plants and Empire: Colonial Bioprospecting in the
Atlantic World
Felipe Fernandez-Armesto. Pathfinders: A Global History of
Exploration
Course Outline:

Week One
The Mediterranean in Early Modern World
Assignment: Molly Greene. Catholic Pirates and Greek Mercenaries: A Maritime History of the Mediterranean

Week Two
The Atlantic World: Beginnings

Week Three
The Indian Ocean: Trade, Commerce and Society
Assignment: Michael Pearson. The Indian Ocean

Week 5
Southeast Asia in the Early Modern Period

Week 6
Maritime Empires: Europeans Across the Globe

Week 7
Ports, Trade and Diversity

Week 8
Seaborne Commodities and Trade Networks
Assignment: David Hancock. Oceans of Wine: Maderia and the Emergence of American Trade and Taste.

Week 9
The Slave Trade in the Atlantic World

Week 10
Piracy and the Open Seas
Assignment: Marcus Ridiker. Villains of All Nations: Atlantic Pirates in the Golden Age
Week 11
The Biology of Oceanic Empires
Assignment: Linda Schiebinger. Plants and Empire: Colonial Bioprospecting in the Atlantic World.

Week 12
Oceans and Explorers

Week 13
Industrialization and the Water World
Assignment: Julie Greene. The Canal Builders: Making America’s Empire at the Panama Canal

Week 14
Ecology and the Caribbean Sea

Week 15
Migration, Diaspora & The Oceans
Assignment: Adam McKeown. Chinese Migrant Networks and Cultural Change: Peru, Chicago, Hawai‘i.

Week 16
The Pacific Ocean

Disabilities Statement
The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.