

northwestern university
DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY

Quarter/Year

Course Number

Day/Time

Instructor

Winter 2018

ART-HIST 340-2

TR 12:30-1:50

Swan

Course Title

Baroque Art: Early Modern Art and Science



This course offers an art historical introduction to transcultural encounters between European states, the Ottoman Empire, the Mughal Empire, Asia, and the Indies during the early modern era. The primary focus is on the production, exchange, and consumption of exotic objects in Europe and along Eurasian contact routes between 1500 and 1650. Readings from early modern history and art history, cultural and material history, the history of science, and maritime and diplomatic history complement analysis of objects and works of art. One aim of the course will be to understand the significance of the early modern category of “the exotic” and the role of the exotic or foreign in shaping artistic practices during a period that tends to be studied with Europe at the center of the world. By tracing the role of art in international politics of the early modern world, students will be introduced to one of the most exciting, important eras in the history of global relations.

Required Textbooks

Diana Newall, ed., *Art and Its Global Histories: A Reader*, Manchester University Press 2017, ISBN: 1526119927; Emma Barker, ed., *Art, Commerce and Colonialism 1600-1800*, Manchester University Press 2017, ISBN: 1526122928.

Assessments

Midterm exam: 30% Final exam: 40%
Two brief written assignments: 20% Class participation 10%