

Post-Imperial Camões

Universidade Católica de LisboaFLAD-SiPN
July 2018
M-R 9:30-11:50AM
Room TBD

Prof. Vincent Barletta
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Office: TBD
Office Hours: TBD

Course Description

Focus is on Camões's lyric poetry and his epic masterpiece, *Os Lusíadas*. Topics include empire, intertextuality, Indian Ocean Studies, history, prophecy, the pastoral, and poetics. What are the ideologies of empire that emerge from Camões poetry? What for Camões is the role of poetry in working through these ideologies and/or reaching what lies before and beyond them? How do we read his work now that “national poets” and “empire” (*inter alia*) have lost their luster? Can Camões help us to emerge from our own imperial/colonial nightmares? Readings in English and Portuguese. Course will be taught in Portuguese.

Learning Goals

- Students will be able to apply critical terms and methodology in completing a literary analysis following the conventions of standard written Portuguese.
- Students will be able to locate, apply, and cite effective secondary materials in their own texts.
- Students will be able to analyze and interpret texts within the contexts they are written.
- Students will be able to communicate in Portuguese (both orally and in writing) about texts in different genres and styles in a clear and articulate manner.

Required Texts

1. Camões, Luís Vaz de. *Os Lusíadas*. 2015 [1572]. Porta Editora. ISBN: 978-9720301604.
2. Camões, Luís Vaz de. *Lírica*. 1988 [1595-98]. Porta Editora. ISBN: 978-9725681343.
3. Figueiredo, João Ricardo. *Post-Imperial Camões*. Tagus Press. 2002. ISBN: 978-1933227061.
4. All other readings will be made available by the instructor.

Course Requirements

- Attendance (5%): Students may miss one class meeting for any reason whatsoever. After this, each additional absence (regardless of the reason) will cost 1% of the attendance grade (e.g., a student with three absences will receive 4% for attendance).
- Reading (15%): Students must come to class having read the material assigned for that day. Each day, students will be responsible for demonstrating—through discussion or in-class assignments—that they have read the assigned material.
- Reader's Journal (10%): Each student is responsible for posting twice per week to the course blog. These posts should be exploratory and reflect an honest engagement with our readings and discussions.

- Midterm Exam (30%): On June 14, the professor will distribute two exam questions. Students will have a week to answer each question in no more than 1500 words (a total of 3000 words maximum) and submit it to the professor.
- Comparative argument/analysis paper (40%): This must be no more than 4000 words in length. In consultation with the instructor, students will write an essay that develops some aspect/theme from class readings and/or discussion. The goal of this exercise is explore further the “post-imperial” possibilities of Camões’s poetics.

Course Calendar

Week 1	M Jun 4	Course introduction
	T Jun 5	Camões, Sonetos; Vendler: “Camões the Sonneteer”
	W Jun 6	Camões, Sonetos; Soropita: “Prólogo ao leitor”
	R Jun 7	Camões, Endechas; Marnoto: “Bárbora escrava?: Canon, Beauty and Color: An Embarrassing Contradiction”
Week 2	M Jun 11	Camões, Églogas; Alpers: “What is Pastoral?”
	T Jun 12	Camões, Redondilhas; Tamen: “Second Attempt”
	W Jun 13	Camões, <i>Lusíadas</i> , canto 1; Gil and Macedo: “O efeito <i>Lusíadas</i> ”
	R Jun 14	Camões, <i>Lusíadas</i> , canto 2; Blackmore: “Africa and the Epic Imagination of Camões”
Week 3	M Jun 18	Camões, <i>Lusíadas</i> , canto 3; Lourenço: “Sob o Signo de Deucalião”
	T Jun 19	Camões, <i>Lusíadas</i> , canto 4; Rajan: “Milton and Camões: Reinventing the Old Man”
	W Jun 20	Camões, <i>Lusíadas</i> , canto 5; Blackmore: “The Monster of Melancholy”
	R Jun 21	Camões, <i>Lusíadas</i> , canto 6; Alves: “Post-Imperial Bacchus”; Midterm essays due.
Week 4	M Jun 25	Camões, <i>Lusíadas</i> , canto 7; Murrin: “First Encounter”
	T Jun 26	Camões, <i>Lusíadas</i> , canto 8; Velho: “Roteiro” (selections)
	W Jun 27	Camões, <i>Lusíadas</i> , canto 9; Klobucka: “Lusotropical Romance”
	R Jun 28	Camões, <i>Lusíadas</i> , canto 10
	Jun 30	Deadline to submit final exam (by 11:59pm)