

The Spring 2024 Mediterranean Seminar Workshop
Friday & Saturday, 26 & 27 April
Saint Louis University

“Mediterranean Ecologies”

Program & Papers

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Click on the participant name to see their bio.

Link to the **program calender** here.

Download a **printable program** here.

This program is provisional and subject to change.

Round-table presenters should **upload their position papers** (pdf) [here](#) on or before April 12.

All presenters have access to a projector for PowerPoint; presenters must **bring their presentation on a USB drive**. In case of compatibility issues, please also bring your own laptop and an HDMI adapter.

Friday 26 April 2024

Location: Sinefield Stateroom, [Dubourg Building 409](#)

10:15—10:30 Coffee and Registration

10:30—11:00 Opening Remarks

• [Fabien Montcher](#) (Center for Iberian Historical Studies: Saint Louis University), Jeff Mazur (Taylor Geospatial Institute), [Brian A. Catlos](#) (Religious Studies: University of Colorado Boulder), and [Sharon Kinoshita](#) (Literature: UC Santa Cruz).

11:00–12:40 Workshop Paper #1

“Changing Landscapes in Tenth- and Eleventh-Century Italy: Human Activity, Climate, and the Environment” [abstract]

- **Ed Schoolman** (History: University of Nevada, Reno)

Moderator: **Brian A. Catlos** (Religious Studies: CU Boulder),

Respondent: **Fred Astren** (Jewish Studies, San Francisco State University)

12:40–12:55 Introductions

12:55–1:45 Lunch (for speakers and registered participants)

2:00-3:10 Workshop Paper #2

“Valparaíso and Late-Sixteenth-Century Morisco Ecologies” [abstract]

- **María Lumbreras** (History of Art and Architecture, UC Santa Barbara)

Moderator: **Sharon Kinoshita** (Literature: UC Santa Cruz)

Respondent: **Claire Gilbert** (Saint Louis University)

3:20–3:30 Break

3:30–4:40 Workshop Paper #3

“Saving Agrafa: an Ecological Defense of Life and Freedom in an Age of Climate Change” [abstract]

- **Alyssa Mendez** (Anthropology, University of Chicago)

Moderator: **Claire Gilbert** (History: Saint Louis University)

Respondent: **Bruce O'Neill** (Sociology and Anthropology: Saint Louis University)

4:40–5:00 Coffee Break

5:00–6:15 Keynote Presentation:

“Marx, Braudel, and the Climates of Historical Capitalism” [abstract]

- Jason Moore (Sociology: Binghamton University, SUNY)

Moderator: Fabien Montcher (History: Saint Louis University)

6:30–8:00 Dinner/ Reception (see below) for workshop presenters, moderators, and round-table presenters

9:00— Post-workshop meeting (see below)

Saturday 27 April 2024

Location: Sinquefield Stateroom, Dubourg Building 409

9:30–10:00 Coffee and Registration

10:00–11:15 Keynote Presentation:

“Environment and the State: A History of Slow Violence in the Ottoman Middle East”

[abstract]

- Zozan Pehlivan (History: University of Minnesota)

Moderator: Claire Gilbert (History: Saint Louis University)

11:30–12:45 Round Table 1

How did Mediterranean space condition the particular connections that shaped its history?

Moderator: Brian A. Catlos (Religious Studies: CU Boulder)

- Richard Ibarra (History, University of Southern California) “Mediterranean Modularity: Tents and the (Re)Creation of Familiar Environments in the Sixteenth-Century Mediterranean and Beyond” [abstract]

- Thomas Morin (History, Saint Louis University) “Lost at sea: Mediterranean ecologies and maritime crusaders” [abstract]

- Padraic Rohan (History, Quincy University) “From Periphery to Core? Or a Splitting of the Core?” [abstract]

- [Andrew Berns](#) (History, University of South Carolina) “Hippocratic Ideas about Environment in Hebrew Texts” [[abstract](#)]
- [Marilynn Desmond](#) (English and Medieval Studies, Binghamton University) “[The Deep Time of the Liquid Continent: The Matter of Troy and the Premodern Mediterranean](#)” [[abstract](#)]
- [Kathryn Renton](#) (Food Studies, University of California at Los Angeles) “[Becoming Feral: connecting multi-species spaces in the Mediterranean World](#)” [[abstract](#)]

12:45–1:45 Lunch (for speakers and registered participants)

1:45–3:00 Round Table 2

What perspectives or methodologies can we engage with to develop a new environmental and multi-species history of the Mediterranean?

Moderator: [Sharon Kinoshita](#) (Literature: UC Santa Cruz)

- [Fred Astren](#) (Jewish Studies, San Francisco State University) “[Hen and Rooster in the Mediterranean Longue Durée, or How Jews Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Chicken](#)” [[abstract](#)]
- [Megan Moore](#) (Languages, Literatures, & Cultures, University of Missouri) “[Knowing beyond the body: ecocriticism, posthumanism, and the networked Mediterranean](#)” [[abstract](#)]
- [Nicole Archambeau](#) (History, Colorado State University) “[Mediterranean Honeybees on the Farm and in the Wild](#)” [[abstract](#)]
- [Natividad Planas](#) (History, Université Clermont Auvergne) “Ecology, locality and mobility” [[abstract](#)]
- [Tom Barton](#) (History, University of San Diego) “[Tracking European Sugar Consumption Using Late-Medieval Municipal Sources](#)” [[abstract](#)]
- [Aaron Stamper](#) (History, Princeton) “Premodern Communities and the Especially Sensitive Animal” [[abstract](#)]

3:15—4:30 Round Table 3

How are Mediterranean environments and exchanges represented historically in the

arts, sciences, and literary genres?

Moderator: [Fabien Montcher](#) (History: Saint Louis University)

- [Dorrah Alharbi](#) (Art History, University of Texas at Austin) "[The Ark Re-Imagined: Fostering Sustainability with Iraq's Marshlands](#)" [[abstract](#)]
- [Josh Mugler](#) (Hill Museum & Manuscript Library) "[The Subjected Sea in the Prayer of al-Shādhilī](#)" [[abstract](#)]
- [Alice Gaber](#) (Classical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison) "[Corrupted Ecologies. Plague and Decay in Greek Mythic Environments](#)" [[abstract](#)]
- [Nina Zhiri](#) (Literature, UC San Diego) "The Gardens of Muhammad al-Ghazzāl" [[abstract](#)]
- [Hossein Nakaei](#) (Art and Architecture, University of Pittsburgh) "[Ecology of cobalt blue pigment in Medieval Iran](#)" [[abstract](#)]
- [Mohamad Ballan](#) (History: Stony Brook University) "Plague, Politics and Polemic: The Black Death in Nasrid Granada, ca. 1348-1351" [[abstract](#)]

4:30–5:00 Concluding Remarks

- [Brian A. Catlos](#) (Religious Studies: University of Colorado Boulder), [Sharon Kinoshita](#) (Literature: UC Santa Cruz), [Claire Gilbert](#) (History: Saint Louis University), and [Fabien Montcher](#) (History: Saint Louis University)

5:30—6:30pm Reception

6:30—7:30pm Concert

"[Adoption, Adaption, Appropriation and More: Invasive Species in Mediterranean Musical Culture](#)" Early Music Missouri

- Jeffrey Noonan, Director of Early Music Missouri, accompanied by Dr. Samantha Arten (Music Historian and Soprano) and Patrick Rafferty (M.M. Guitar).

9:00— Post-workshop meeting (see below)

Participants:

- [Ilyas Debbah](#) (King's Business School:King's College London)
- [Edward Holt](#) (History: Grambling State University)
- [David Olsen](#) (History: Saint Louis University)
- [Nathan Van Aken](#) (History: Saint Louis University)

Staff and Administration

- [Dru Swadener](#)
 - [Teresa Harvey](#)
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Practica**Arrival:**

Once you arrive at St. Louis Lambert Airport there are many [options for getting to your hotel](#), including rideshare or the [St Louis Metrolink](#).

Accommodation:

Conference presenters will be lodged the [Element St. Louis Midtown](#), at [3763 Forest Park Ave](#), a 10-minute walk from the workshop venue.

Parking:

The Element offers daily parking, which has been included for you. If you are driving to campus, the closest Visitor Parking on campus is in the [Laclede Garage](#), at 3602 Laclede Ave.

Meeting location: [Sinquefield Stateroom, Dubourg Building 409](#). All conference sessions will be held on the North Campus in the Sinquefield Stateroom, located on the 4th floor (Room 409) of DuBourg Hall, 221 N. Grand Avenue. This is where you will be able to pick up your registration packet as well. If you have an opportunity, you might want to explore [Getting Around SLU's St. Louis Campus](#) for some helpful information regarding additional

directions to/from St Louis' Lambert Airport, SLU's North campus (site of the conference) and area information.

Wifi:

SLU-Guest is an open network.

Lunches:

Lunches are provided free to participants.

Dinners:

- Friday: Samuel Cupples House, [3673 W Pine Blvd](#)
- Saturday: on your own

Post-workshop meeting:

[Element St. Louis Midtown](#), room TBA, at 9:00pm

- Participants & attendees welcome.

Snacks provided; please bring the beverages of your choice.

Pius Library:

During your stay, you are welcome to peruse the resources at [Pius XII Memorial Library](#). We ask that you use the north entrance. Upon entry, simply show your conference badge to staff at the circulation desk across the lobby from Einsteins Bros. Bagels. You will be able to consult anything in the circulating collection but will not be able to check out items. If you would like to access materials in Rare Books or the Vatican Film Library, please arrange an appointment ahead of time by contacting katie.mascari@slu.edu (Rare Books librarian) or lea.frost@slu.edu (Vatican Film Library).

Help

If you have any specific questions regarding practica and logistics, contact [Dru Swadener](#) or [Teresa Harvey](#)