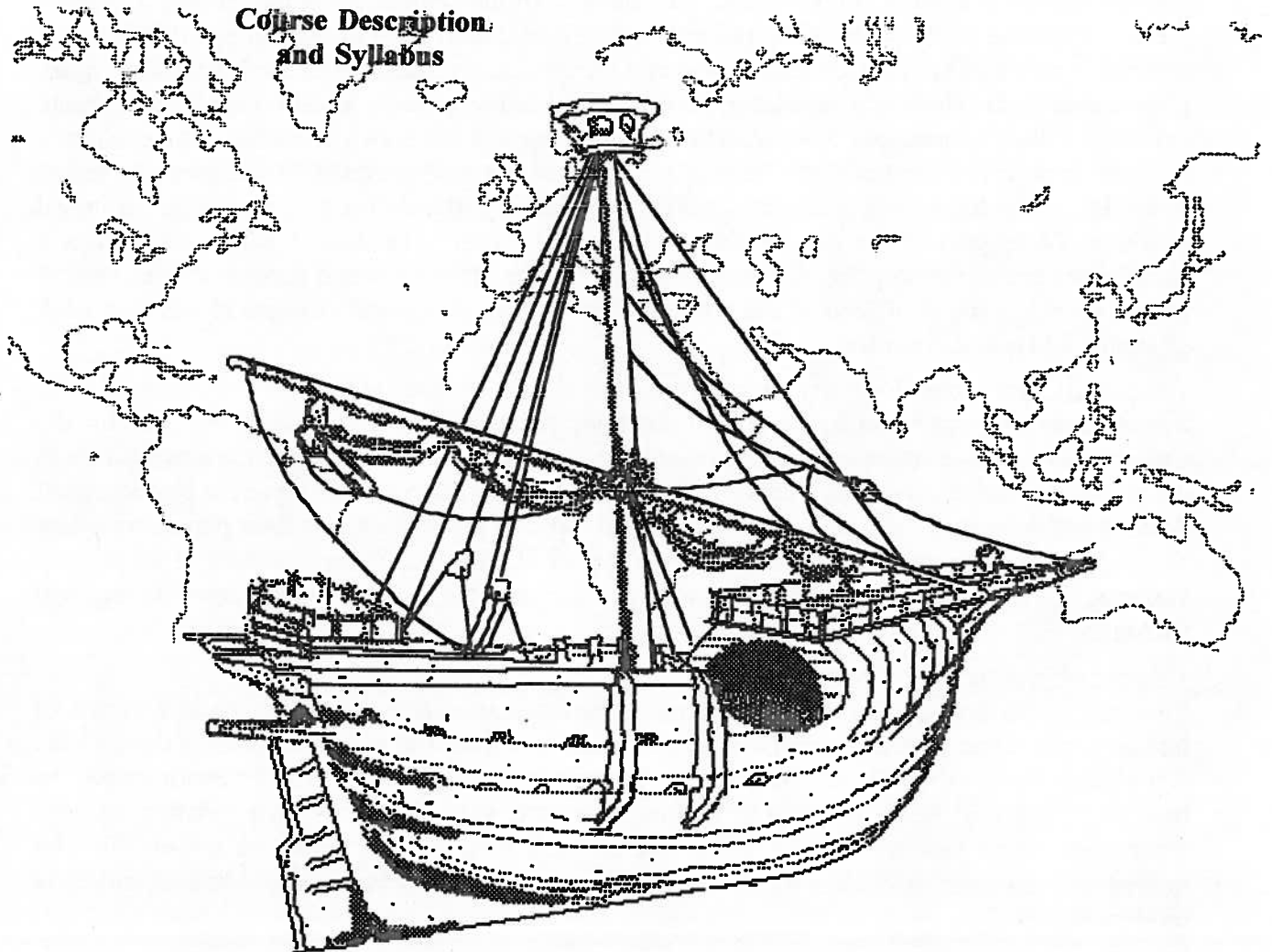


The Ohio State University
Spring Semester 2013
Professor Guilmartin

History 8550
Studies in Early Modern History
Commerce and Warfare at Sea
from the High Middle Ages through
the Wars of the French Revolution and Napoleon

Course Description
and Syllabus



Sketch of the Mataró Ship, a votive model dating from about 1450 originally hung in the cathedral of Mataró near Barcelona. It has suffered damage over the years—it originally had a bowsprit—but the basic structure is original. Much of what we know about the construction and rigging of the vessels that turned the oceans of the world into highways for European exploration from the end of the fifteenth century comes from analysis of this model. Sketch after Björn Landström, *The Ship* (New York, 1961), 94.

Course description and philosophy:

History 8550, Commerce and Warfare at Sea from the High Middle Ages through the Wars of the French Revolution and Napoleon, addresses human exploitation of the sea for economic and military purposes from The 13th century through the end of the Napoleonic Wars. The focus of the course is on the establishment of an analytical framework to support research and writing in maritime history, naval history and the history of technology.

The course begins with a discussion of the fundamentals of ship design and navigation, followed by overviews of Polynesian, Indo-Arab, Malay, Chinese and European methods of deep sea navigation and warfare at sea from the dark ages forward. The development of gunpowder weapons, their adaptation for use afloat, and the military, economic, and social ramifications of their use comprise a major course theme. The balance of the semester will be devoted to tracing the evolution and exploitation of the ultimately dominant North Atlantic technology of seafaring; beginning with the fusion of Baltic/Atlantic and Mediterranean methods in the high middle ages; progressing to the sustained resistance mounted by Mediterranean, Middle Eastern and Asian seafarers to the exponents of North Atlantic technology; and the series of military and economic struggles among the various North Atlantic powers from the mid-seventeenth century that ended in British world hegemony with the suppression of piracy, the defeat of Franco-Spanish naval power at Trafalgar and the suppression of the slave trade. The course addresses Europe's competitors and the absorption of non-Europeans into the growing world economy. The central course theme is the evolution of the technologies of commerce and warfare at sea in social, economic and political context.

Temporally and technologically, the core of the course is bounded at the beginning by the introduction of gunpowder to Europe in the early fourteenth century and at the end by the appearance of marine steam engines sufficiently powerful and reliable for deep sea navigation in the mid-nineteenth. Subsidiary themes include the lives of seafarers, including the physiological demands of their work, and their relationships and those of their families to their parent societies; shifting patterns of commerce; evolution of the logistical and fiscal infrastructures of deep water seafaring; the emergence of navies in the modern sense; and the development of naval tactics and strategies.

Course objectives:

The principal course objective is to familiarize the student with the basic issues and events of human exploitation of the oceans for commerce and war from the high middle ages through the Napoleonic wars. A subsidiary objective is to apprise the student of current historiography so that he or she will be better able to address maritime subjects in research, writing and the classroom. The student should finish the course prepared to teach an upper division undergraduate course on the history of maritime commerce and warfare in the medieval and early modern eras.

Syllabus:

This syllabus is the basic guide to History 8550. In addition to laying out course requirements, schedule and reading assignments, it embodies an expanded outline of the subject matter and an implicit guide to course methodology. In topical coverage, it is a work in progress and will be modified to accommodate student interests as the course progresses.

Course requirements:

History 8550 requires a research paper and a seminar presentation of approximately fifteen minutes in length. Attendance in class is expected. There are no examinations.

Research Papers:

Graduate student research papers will be approximately 7,000 words in length not counting bibliography and citations, that is about fifteen pages of space and a half text. This is a general guideline; lengths may vary according to subject matter and sources with mutual consent. All papers will include a bibliography and must be documented according to a recognized scholarly method of source attribution. Footnotes, endnotes, or both may be used.

Seminar Presentations:

Seminar presentations will address the research topic and its significance, sources, methodology, findings to date and tentative conclusions. Presentations should be of about twenty minutes and should include a narrative of relevant events. Ordinarily, the seminar presentation will be a work in progress report on the research paper, but this need not be the case and you may consider another topic with my permission. Presentations will be followed by seminar discussion.

Scheduling and administration:

Class meets on Tuesdays from 1245 to 1540 (12:45 to 3:40 pm) in Denney, Room 0245. My office is 148 Dulles Hall. My office hours are Thursdays 1245 to 1540 (12:45 to 3:40 pm). I will not have scheduled office hours during finals week. If you are unable to meet with me during scheduled office hours, make an individual appointments or call me at home. I will normally be available after class.

Lectures and seminar discussions may be tape recorded with my specific permission.

Grades:

The research paper counts 80% of the grade, the seminar presentation counts 15% and classroom participation counts 5%. The course is graded on the basis of 1,000 points, allocated as follows:

Exercise	Date	Possible points
Research paper	Tuesday 23 April, turned in by noon	800 points
Seminar presentation	—	150 points
Class participation	—	<u>50 points</u>
TOTAL		1,000 points

Readings and class preparation:

You should be familiar with the readings for each class and prepared to talk about the discussion topic or topics. The basic texts and optional text are on sale at SBX. Readings on the Reserve Shelf will be placed in the History 8550 box in the History Department mail room.

Academic misconduct:

All graded material will represent your work and yours alone with the exception of collaborative activities such as jointly prepared seminar presentations. Reference to other sources and scholarship will be properly attributed. Plagiarism, using another's work without attribution, will not be tolerated. Guidelines are spelled out in the Committee on Academic Misconduct's website, <http://oaa.edu/coam/faq.html>

Required texts (available at SBX except for *Galleons and Galleys*):

Jan Glete, *Warfare at Sea, 1500-1650: Maritime Conflict and the Transformation of Europe* (London, 2000).

John F. Guilmartin, Jr., *Galleons and Galleys* (London, 2002, out of print). Copies of the text will be distributed in class.

Nicholas A. M. Rodger, *Command of the Ocean: A Naval History of Britain, 1649-1815* (New York, 2004).

Nicholas A. M. Rodger, *The Safeguard of the Sea: A Naval History of Britain, 650-1649* (New York, 1997)

Optional text (available at SBX):

Carlo M. Cipolla, *Guns, Sails and Empires: Technological Innovation and the Early Phases of European Expansion, 1400-1700* (New York, 1965; Sunflower Press paperback edition)

Reserve Shelf

The following will be available in the reserve box in the History Department mail room

Thomas Gladwin, "East Is a Big Bird", Parts I & II, *Natural History*, Vol. LXXIX, No. 4 (April, 1970), 24-35, and No. 5 (May, 1970), 58-68

John F. Guilmartin, Jr., "Exploiting the Guns of the *Santissimo Sacramento*: An Analysis of Early Modern Naval Ordnance, Gunnery and Gunfounding", *Materializing the Military*, Barton C. Hacker and Bernard Finn, eds., (London, 2005)

— *Gunpowder and Galleys: Changing Technology and Mediterranean Warfare at Sea in the Sixteenth Century*, 2nd ed. (Annapolis, Maryland, 2003), selected excerpts.

Frank Howard, "Early Ship Guns", Part I "Built-up Breech-Loaders", and Part II, "Swivels", *The Mariner's Mirror*, Vol. 72, No. 4 (November 1986), 439-53, and Vol. 73, No. 1 (February 1987), 41-55

Supplemental readings

Selected for historiographical importance and coverage of neglected topics

Carel de Beer, ed., *The Art of Gunfounding: The Casting of Bronze Cannon in the Late 18th Century* (Rotherfield, East Sussex, 1991)

Fernand Braudel, *The Mediterranean and the Mediterranean World in the Age of Philip II*, 2 vols., Siân Reynolds, tr. (New York, 1973)

Jean Boudriout, *The Seventy-Four Gun Ship*, 4 vols., tr. David H. Roberts (Annapolis, Maryland, 1986-88)

Howard I. Chapelle, *The History of the American Sailing Navy: The Ships and their Development* (New York, 1949)

K. Adlard Coles, *Heavy Weather Sailing*, 3rd revised ed. (Clinton Corners, New York, 1981)

Jan Glete, *Navies and Nations: Warships, Navies and State Building in Europe and America, 1500-1860*, 2 vols. (Stockholm, 1993)

Thomas C. Gillmer, *Pride of Baltimore: The Story of the Baltimore Clippers* (Camden, Maine, 1994)

George Hourani, *Arab Seafaring*, expanded edition (Princeton, 1995)

Frank Howard, *Sailing Ships of War, 1400-1860* (London, 1979)

Frederic C. Lane, "Economic Consequences of Organized Violence", *Journal of Economic History*, XVIII (1958)

Brian Lavery, *The Arming and Fitting of English Ships of War, 1600-1815* (London: Conway Maritime Press, 1987)

Colin Martin and Geoffrey Parker, *The Spanish Armada*, revised ed. (London, 1999)

Lawrence V. Mott, *Sea Power in the Medieval Mediterranean: The Catalan-Aragonese Fleet in the War of the Sicilian Vespers* (Gainesville, Florida: University Press of Florida, 2003).

Sevket Pamuk, "Prices in the Ottoman Empire, 1469-1914", *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, Vol. 36, No. 3 (August 2004), 451-468

Geoffrey Parker, "The Dreadnought Revolution of Tudor England," *The Mariner's Mirror*, Vol. 82, No. 3 (August 1996)

John H. Pryor, *Geography, Technology and War: Studies in the Maritime History of the Mediterranean, 649-1571* (Cambridge, 1998)

Nicholas A. M. Rodger, *The Wooden World: An Anatomy of the Georgian Navy* (London, 1986)

— "The Development of Broadside Gunnery, 1450-1650," *The Mariner's Mirror*, Vol. 82, No. 3 (August 1996)

William Ledyard Rodgers, *Naval Warfare Under Oars, 4th to 16th Centuries: A Study of Strategy, Tactics and Ship Design* (Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1940)

Roger C. Smith, *Vanguard of Empire: Ships of Exploration in the Age of Columbus* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1993)

Brett D. Steele, "Muskets and Pendulums: Benjamin Robins, Leonhard Euler, and the Ballistics Revolution," *Technology and Culture*, Vol. 35, No. 2 (April 1994), 348-382

Geoffrey Symcox, *The Crisis of French Sea Power, 1688-1697: From the Guerre d'Escadre to the Guerre de Course* (The Hague, 1974)

Alberto Tenenti, *Piracy and the Decline of Venice, 1580-1615* (Berkeley, 1967)

Richard W. Unger, ed., *Cogs, Carracks and Galleons: The Sailing Ship, 1000-1650* (London: Conway Maritime Press, 1994)

David W. Waters, *The Art of Navigation in England in Elizabethan and Early Stuart Times* (London, 1958)

Syllabus

Class

<u>Period</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic and Readings</u>
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1 Tuesday 8 January

Seafaring from the Earliest Times to the Fourteenth Century: Cultural, Social, Economic and Military Objectives; Technological and Economic Limitations.

Discussion topics

- Deep Water Seafaring from Prehistory through Classical Times: Means and Ends.
- Material Constraints and the Theory and Practice of Ship Building in Pre-Modern Times.

2 Tuesday 15 January

Historiography of Warfare at Sea. Non-European Approaches to Deep Sea Navigation: Polynesian, Indo-Arab, Malay and Chinese.

Mini-lecture

- Black Powder: Alchemy's Crow Jewel, or Midwife of Modern Science?

Discussion topics

- The historiography of warfare at sea
- The capabilities and limitations of Polynesian, Chinese and Indian seafaring.
- China's turning away from the sea, inevitable or contingent?

Readings

Glete, *Warfare at Sea*, Chapter 1, Chapter 2, pp 17-20.

Gladwin, "East is a Big Bird."

Guilmartin, *Gunpowder and Galleys*, Chapter 1, "The Mahanians' Fallacy", to "Prevesa 1538."

3 Tuesday 22 January

Maritime Commerce and Warfare in the Mediterranean through the 14th Century.

Discussion topics

- Aragonese sea power and the War of the Sicilian Vespers.
- The Chioggian War

Readings

Guilmartin, *Galleons and Galleys*, Introduction to "Sluys, 1340."

Pryor, *Geography, Technology and War*, Introduction and Chapters 1-5.

- 4 Tuesday 29 January Warfare and Commerce at Sea in the North Atlantic and Baltic through the 14th Century.

Mini-lectures

- The World in 1300
- The Cog.

Discussion topics

- Aragonese sea power and the War of the Sicilian Vespers.
- The Hundred Years War at sea.
- The structure and wars of the Hanseatic League.

Readings

Rodger, *Safeguard of the Sea*, Chapters 1-8.

Guilmartin, *Galleons and Galleys*, Introduction, "Shuys 1340."

- 5 Tuesday 5 February Structures and Origins of Europe's Transoceanic Expansion: Geography, Religion, Gunpowder and the Catalán Forge

Mini-lectures

- Black Powder: Alchemy's Crow Jewel, or Midwife of Modern Science?
- The Fourth Venetian-Genoese War and the Siege of Chioggia, 1379-1380

Discussion topics

- The cross-fertilization of North Atlantic and Mediterranean ship design and construction
- The evolution of the full-rigged ship

Readings

Rodger, *Safeguard of the Sea*, Chapters 9-17.

Glete, *Warfare at Sea*, Chapters 2-4

Guilmartin, *Galleons and Galleys*, Chapters 1-3

- 6 Tuesday 12 February The Establishment and Functioning of the Iberian Maritime Empires; Gunpowder, Islam and Christendom's Competitors

Discussion topics

- The Iberian voyages of discovery, ends and means.

Readings

Glete, *Warfare at Sea*, Chapter 5

Guilmartin, *Gunpowder and Galleys*, Preface, Introduction, and "Jiddah, 1517."

- 7 Tuesday 19 February** **The Struggle for Mediterranean Dominance and the Rise and Decline of the War Galley, 1500-1669**
Mini-lectures
• The invention of the main centerline gun-armed ordinary galley.
• Diet, physiology, war galley performance and the price revolution of the sixteenth century.
Discussion topics
• What were the limits of Ottoman expansion?
Readings
Glete, *Warfare at Sea*, Chapter 6.
Guilmartin, *Galleons and Galleys*, Chapter 4
Guilmartin, *Gunpowder and Galleys*, Chapter 1, "Prevesa, 1538"-end.
Pryor, *Geography, Technology and War*, Chapter 6-end
- 8 Tuesday 26 February** **The Rise of Sea Power in the Baltic.**
Discussion topics
• The Baltic's economic importance and links with the North Sea and Atlantic.
Readings
Glete, *Warfare at Sea*, Chapter 7.
- 9 Tuesday 5 March** **Warfare and Commerce at sea in the far east from the rise of the Ming Empire through the Japanese-Korean War, 1592-1598.**
Mini-lectures
• The Ming Dynasty's trans-oceanic venture.
• Wako "pirates" and the Korean response.
Discussion topics
• How realistic was Hideyoshi's dream of empire?
• Changing war aims and the Twelve Years Truce, 1609-1621
Readings
Guilmartin, *Galleons and Galleys*, Chapter 1, pp. 32-34; Chapter 5, "Hansan Strait, 1592."

10 Tuesday 19 March

Structural Factors: European Warfare at Sea, 1500-1603, Economic Growth and State Formation; the Age of the Galleon.

Mini-lectures

- The Galleon, origins, design characteristics, tactics and strategic implications.
- Philip II's seizure of Portugal and the struggle for the Azores

Discussion topics

- The Invincible Armada: How close-run?
- The Twelve Years Truce, 1609-1621, and changing war aims.

Readings

Glete, *Warfare at Sea*, Chapters 8 and 9.

Guilmartin, *Galleons and Galleys*, Chapter 5 and Conclusion.

Rodger, *Safeguard of the Sea*, Chapters 18-20.

11 Tuesday 26 March

The Rise of the Netherlands, Spanish Decline and Portuguese Survival: The Eighty Years War at Sea, 1568-1648, the Invincible Armada of 1588, the English Civil War and the Struggle for Brazil.

Mini-lectures

- The Fluyt and the Economics of Dutch Empire.
- The War of Restoration, 1640-68, and the Luso-Dutch War, 1621-54.

Discussion topics

- The Invincible Armada: How Close-Run?
- Changing war aims and the Twelve Years Truce, 1609-1621

Readings

Rodger, *Safeguard of the Sea*, Chapters 21-28.

Rodger, *To Command the Ocean*, Chapters 1-2.

Glete, *Warfare at Sea*, Chapter 10 and Conclusion.

Guilmartin, "Exploiting the Guns of the *Santissimo Sacramento*."

12 Tuesday 2 April

The Anglo-Dutch Wars, 1652-54, 1665-67 and 1672-74, and the Franco-Dutch War, 1672-80.

Mini-lecture

From Armed Merchantmen to Ships of the Line

Discussion topics

- The origins and evolution of linear tactics
- The importance of the *guerre de course* in a blue water context

Readings

Rodger, *Command of the Ocean*, Chapters 3-6

13 Tuesday 9 April

The Franco-British Struggle for World Hegemony, 1688-1763

Mini-lecture

The Seventy-Four and Frigate, Ultimate Expressions of the Shipwright's Art

Discussion topics

- The Battle of Beachy Head, 10 July 1690
- Louis XIV and the limitations of French Sea Power
- Piracy and privateering in the Age of Reason

Readings

Rodger, *Command of the Ocean*, Chapters 8-25.

14 Tuesday 16 April

The American Revolution and the Wars of the French Revolution and Napoleon at Sea, 1775-82 and 1793-1815; The Royal Navy, Sea Power and World Hegemony

Mini-lectures

- Benjamin Robins, Leonard Euler and the Science of Ballistics
- Napoleon, the Royal Navy and the Industrial Revolution.

Discussion topics

- The French Revolution, Napoleon and the Continental System
- The Battle of the Chesapeake Capes, 5 September 1781.
- The strategic impact of privateering, 1775-1815.

Readings

Rodger, *Command of the Ocean*, Chapters 26-36 and Conclusion.