Course Syllabus

Prof. Victoria Sanger
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Architecture A4332
Tuesdays 1:00pm-3:00pm, 600 Avery Hall
Avery Library reserve shelf 407A-B, Oversize shelf 400A-B

European Urban Cartography 16th-19th Centuries*
*(subject to updates)

This course presents a critical period in the history of Western urban cartography. The sixteenth through the nineteenth century witnessed expansion and mechanization of cities and their maps evolving from the Age of Discovery and the invention of the printing press to the Industrial Revolution. We will analyze maps not as objective vehicles of data but rather as tools for planning, documenting, and governing while also being artistic and symbolic form in their own right. They are also works using different techniques made by graphic artists and craftsmen on paper and other media.

This semester, the class will focus on maps of New York City in comparison with a few major European cities. New York City was an extension of European urban mapping traditions through the eighteenth century and then in turn influenced European maps, for example with Fire Insurance maps in the nineteenth century. What does this tell us about European and American visual and urban culture? Students will work with originals and facsimiles in New York collections many of which we will visit on class trips (Avery Library, Map Division of the New York Public Library, Museum of the City of New York).

The format is part lecture, part reading discussion and map analysis. The first half of the semester will cover the different techniques of cartography and the major cartographers of the period across countries. The second half of the course will focus on Paris, London, and New York City (17th-19th century). Please come to class having done the assigned reading and reviewed the maps. I will bring facsimiles of maps to class and we will analyze them together. Participation is encouraged and welcome at all times.
Assignments:
30%: In-class written exercises. Attendance (maximum 3 absences). Completion of Readings. Presentation

30% Paper précis, bibliography, catalogue entry and description of your chosen map(s).

40% Paper (due May 8, no extensions) analyze a paper map of a New York by itself or in comparison with a map of Paris or London. It should be an original or a facsimile and it can be one of the works presented in class. 15 pages of writing plus bibliography and labeled illustrations.

Course Schedule

(assigns readings are all on Courseworks/Canvas under “Files”. Physical books and facsimiles that are on the seminar shelf 407A-B or the oversized shelf 400A-B are indicated with an asterisk. Powerpoints will be added to Courseworks after each class)

1: January 21: Introduction.

Readings:


2: January 28: A survey of European urban cartography 1600-1900

Reading:

3: Feb 4: Bird's Eye and Planimetric Formats

In class: write a one page description of one of the two maps below

Readings:


Examples:

*Leonardo Bufalini, two facsimiles of *Pianta di Roma*, 1551 (oversize shelf 400A-B)

*Jacopo de'Barbari, La pianta prospettica di Venezia del 1500 disegnata da Jacopo de'Barbari*, Cassa di risparmio di Venezia, 1963 (oversize shelf 400A-B)

4: Feb 11 Military Maps

Reading


5: Feb 18 Maps as works on paper

Attention: class will take place in Avery Classics.

Written exercise: fill in a sheet identifying a provided list of terms on the maps presented

Readings:


6: Feb. 25 1:30-3pm: Field trip to the New York Public Library at 42 Street. Meet in room 216, the Center for Research in the Humanities

Visit the NYPL New York mapping websites:

Collections about New York City

https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/collections/lane/collections-about-new-york-city (Links to an external site.)

Atlases of New York City, Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division, New York Public Library, digital collections, http://digitalcollections.nypl.org/collections/atlases-of-new-york-city#/?tab=about (Links to an external site.)

Map Warper,
http://maps.nypl.org/warper/maps?page=6&show_warped=1 (Links to an external site.)

7: March 3: Mapping New York

- Paper topics due, 2-4 pages (precis, bibliography, catalogue entry and visual description of map)
- Please sign up for a one on one meeting to discuss your paper topic the week of March 24


- examples:


John Randel, Jr., “A Map of the city of New York by the commissioners appointed by an act of the legislature passed April 3 1807, (commonly known as the Commissioners’ Plan), 1811, New York City Municipal Archives.

http://thegreatestgrid.mcny.org/greatest-grid/interactive-1811-plan

Louis A. Risse, General map of the city of New York, consisting of boroughs of Manhattan, Brooklyn, Bronx, Queens and Richmond: consolidated into one municipality by act of the legislature of the state of New York... 1900, New York Public Library, Lionel Pincus an Princess Firyal Map Divison. Digital collections: https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/510d47e2-6f6e-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a99#/?uuid=9e73fae8-2c67-d4b1-e040-e00a18062a71
March 10: No class (Kinne Travel).

March 17: Spring Break

8: March 24: Paris
Student meetings this week

Reading:


examples:
Georg Braun and Franz Hogenberg, Paris, in *Civitates orbis terrarum*, 1572, map I-7

*Civitates orbis terrarum = Cities of the world : 363 engravings revolutionize the view of the world : complete edition of the colour plates of 1572-1617 / Georg Braun and Franz Hogenberg ; edited by Stephan Füssel ; based on the copy in the Historisches*


http://www.oldmapsofparis.com


http://www.geographicus.com/P/AntiqueMap/Paris-gomboust-1900


http://cartocassini.free.fr/planville/paris/turgot/turgot_11.htm (Links to an external site.)

http://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b53085566g.r=plan%20indiquant%20les%20opérations%20de%20l%27insurrection


http://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b52505495j.r=Jacques%20bertillon%20atlas%20de%20statistique (Links to an external site.)

9: March 31: London and British Maps

examples


10. April 7: Student presentations OR trip to the Museum of the City of New York, permanent exhibition and Who We Are

11: April 14: Student presentations

12: April 21: Student presentations

May 8: Final paper due. No extensions. 15 pages not including bibliography illustrations.

Bibliography

(This is not an exhaustive bibliography, but it has essential sources that students must look at when researching. Suggestions are welcome)
General Cartography

Mauricio Giraldo Arteaga, *From Paper Maps to the Web: A DIY Digital Maps Primer,* [https://www.nypl.org/blog/2015/01/05/web-maps-primer](https://www.nypl.org/blog/2015/01/05/web-maps-primer) (Links to an external site.)


Katharine A. Harmon, You are Here: Personal geographies and other maps of the imagination, New York, Rizzoli, 1994 Avery AA520 R4721


"Maps. Resources" in World History Sources, A project of the Center for History and New Media, George Mason University, with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation © 2003-2005 center for history & new media
http://chnm.gmu.edu/worldhistorysources/unpacking/mapsonline.php

NYPL Map
Warper: http://maps.nypl.org/warper/maps?page=6&show_warped=1 (Links to an external site.)

University of Portsmouth, UK, Klokan Technologies GmbH, Switzerland, Old Maps online http://www.oldmapsonline.org/


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**Military Maps**

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Antoine Bousquet, *The Eye of War: Military Perception from the Telescope to the Drone*, University of Minnesota Press, 2018


Yolande Hodson, *George III’s Collection of Military Maps*, Royal Collection Trust

[https://militarymaps.rct.uk](https://militarymaps.rct.uk) (Links to an external site.)

Emilie d’Orgeix and Isabelle Warmoes, *Atlas militaires manuscrits (XVIIe – XVIIIe siècles)*, BnF Editions, Ministère des Armées, 2017


*Orbis terrarum: ways of world-making: [Museum Plantin-Moretus and surroundings, 22.06-24.09.2000: a project organized by Antwerpen Open and Museum Plantin-


Examples of Digital and Mapping Websites

Sarah McPhee, Envisioning Baroque Rome, Emory Center for Digital Scholarship

3-D reconstruction of the maps and views of Giovanni Battista Falda’s views and maps of Rome ca. 1676 using the gaming platform Unity, https://www.baroquerome.org/portal/ (Links to an external site.)


Print analysis


Metropolitan Museum of Art, "What is Printmaking?"


**Renaissance**


Urban History


Paris and France


Atlas Vasserot (1810-1836), *Le cadastre de Paris par ilot*,

http://canadp-archivesenligne.paris.fr/documents_figures/_plans_parcellaires/docfig_pp_1_recherche.php

Series of original and reconstructed historical maps of Paris

http://paris-atlas-historique.fr/index.html

Ecouter le Paris du XVIIIe siècle, Paris, CNRS, 2016

https://lejournal.cnrs.fr/articles/ecoutez-le-paris-du-xviiie-siecle

Sound Atlas of Paris in the 18th C based on historical documents and maps

**London and Britain**


Maps related to this book hosted by IHR Digital, School of Advanced Study, University of London: [http://townmaps.data.history.ac.uk](http://townmaps.data.history.ac.uk) (Links to an external site.)


Laurence H. Slaughter Collection of English Maps, Charts, Globes, Books and Atlases at NYPL


exhibition of same: "In thy map securely saile": *Maps, Atlases, Charts and Globes from the Lawrence H. Slaughter Collection at the NYPL,* 1998

New York and America


[http://www.oasisnyc.net](http://www.oasisnyc.net) (Links to an external site.)
- excellent source layering historical maps


New York Public Library: Collections about New York City


Maps of New York City and State


New York Historical Society current exhibition: *Who We Are: Visualizing NYC by the Numbers* (Through July 19, 2020)

**Periodicals**

**JSTOR**

*Imago Mundi*, Berlin, 1935-present

[https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/rimu20](https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/rimu20)
Available online through JSTOR and Taylor and Francis

*The Portolan Journal* by the Washington Map Society

- See the website from their temporary exhibit at Cornell University, Persuasive Cartography: The PJ Mode Collection [https://persuasivemaps.library.cornell.edu](https://persuasivemaps.library.cornell.edu) (Links to an external site.)
- Index to the Journal

*The Cartographic Journal*,
[https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/ycaj20/current](https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/ycaj20/current) (Links to an external site.)

*Journal of Map & Geography Libraries*,
[https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/wmgl20](https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/wmgl20) (Links to an external site.)

European Science Foundation, *Mapping Europe's Historic Boundaries and Borders: An Exploratory Workshop*

[http://www.geog.port.ac.uk/hist-bound/](http://www.geog.port.ac.uk/hist-bound/)

Mapping resources

- [https://mapwarper.net](https://mapwarper.net)
Map Warper: Allows layering up and rectifying of historical maps onto modern maps.

Columbia Center for Spatial Research, [http://c4sr.columbia.edu](http://c4sr.columbia.edu)

Tutorials, publications and information about 19th-21C mapping and data

- Film
Tim's Vermeer, 2013 documentary by Teller about Vermeer's scientific approach to painting

A Day on the Grand Canal with the Emperor of China -- David Hockney film about Chinese landscape and cartography. http://vimeo.com/103808381