From the time of Fernand Braudel’s magnum opus *La Méditerranée et le Monde Méditerranéen à l’Epoque de Philippe II* (1949) the Mediterranean has been reconfigured extensively not only in political, economic and cultural terms but also in the ways in which it is viewed, experienced and conceptualized. This interdisciplinary course aspires to look at the modern Mediterranean as a space of complexity, generating “old” style conflicts – including genocide, ethnic cleansing, and riots – and “new” phenomena such as radical urban transformation, mass tourism, dynamic social movements and hybrid identities. The course explores the region in terms of both the scholarly but also the literary imagination in its wider facets (anthropological, literary, cinematic) and focuses on issues of memory and political uses of the past. The course includes a theoretical component (on issues regarding nationalism, orientalism, exoticism) and various case studies that cover both the Eastern and Western Mediterranean, including divided cities (Jerusalem, Beirut), cosmopolitan nostalgia (Istanbul, Salonica, Smyrna), the decolonization of North Africa, Italian war crimes, the Jewish and Armenian genocides, Spanish amnesia regarding Franco and Cypriot mass graves after 1974.
Assignments
The requirements of the course are active and thoughtful participation in class discussions and successful, punctual completion of written assignments. There will be two longer papers [one historiographic essay (7 pp.) and one research paper (12-15 pp.)]. Syllabus is subject to minor changes.

Grading
Historiographic paper: 20%
Research paper: 30%
Participation: 50%

Due Dates
7 March: Topic proposal for historiographic paper (1 p. plus biblio.) due in class.
21 March: Historiographic paper (5-7 pp.) due in class.
4 April: Topic proposal for research paper (1 p. plus biblio.) due in class.
9 May: Final research paper (12-15 pp.).

Academic Honesty
According to the Statement of Academic Integrity of NYU “plagiarism is failure to properly assign authorship to a paper, a document, an oral presentation, a musical score and/or other materials, which are not your original work.” Whenever you use someone else’s words or ideas you should always provide a reference, otherwise this will be considered as plagiarism, in other words academic dishonesty. The penalties for the infringement of this rule range from reprimand to expulsion.

Assessment
Student performance will be assessed in three areas:
1. Quality of written assignments and relevance to the key concepts and events analyzed in the course;
2. Active participation in the sections and the course blog demonstrating critical engagement with course material;
3. Attendance and punctuality.

Class Blog
Every week students will be expected to write a short blog posts (approximately 200 words) responding to the week's readings and/or films. Ideal blog posts will synthesize the assigned materials.

* Attendance is mandatory. It is not only essential for improvement but also for securing a good final grade. Absence does NOT constitute a reason for not handing in assignments, except in the case of severe illness, religious holidays or other serious emergencies. If, for no serious reason, work is handed in late, this will result in a lower grade. The same applies to frequent late arrivals. If there are any exceptional circumstances that might affect your performance or attendance, please let me know at
once. Students with multiple unexcused absences or excessive lateness may not pass the course.

Laptop use must be reduced to the minimum and should be confined to note taking. Failure to comply with this basic rule might result in a lower class participation grade.

Films
Several films will be shown over the course of the semester. These films, like the readings, will highlight particular issues being dealt with in that week of the class. While a film is entertaining in its own right, we will want to view it also with an eye to what it can tell us about the history of a particular time and place.

THE MEDITERRANEAN BETWEEN PAST AND PRESENT

29 January. Myth and History: An Introduction

5 February. Whatever happened to Braudel’s Mediterranean?

Braudel Fernand, The Mediterranean and the Mediterranean World in the Age of Philip II (excerpts)
Braudel Fernand, The Long Duration
Liakos Antonis, “What happened to the Braudelian Mediterranean after Braudel?”
Horden Peregrine, Nicholas Purcell, The Corrupting Sea. A Study of Mediterranean History (excerpts)

12 February. Mediterraneism, Orientalism, Balkanism (and Vampirism)

Todorova Maria, Imagining the Balkans, 3-20
Fleming Katherine, ‘Orientalism, the Balkans, and Balkan Historiography’
Longinovich Tomislav, ‘Vampires like us. Gothic Imagery and the “Serbs”’
Herzfeld Michael, “The Horns of the Mediterraneanist Dilemma” (and debate around it)

19 February. In-between the Archaic and the Modern: From Mafia to Mass Tourism

Kressel Gideon, “Shame and Gender”
Schneider Peter, “Honor and Conflict in a Sicilian Town”
Hobsbawm E.J., “The Social Bandit” and “Mafia” in Primitive Rebels: Studies in Archaic Forms of Social Movement in the 19th and 20th Centuries
Basea Erato, “Michael Cacoyannis’s Zorba the Greek”

Films: Salvatore Giuliano by Francesco Rosi (1962) & Zorba the Greek by Michael Cacoyanis (1964)

DRIFTING CITIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN
26 February. **Cosmopolitan Nostalgia: Istanbul, Salonica, Smyrna**

Eldem Eldem, “The Ethnic Structure of Galata”
Tureli, Ipek. “Ara Güler’s Photography of ‘Old Istanbul’ and Cosmopolitan Nostalgia”
Angelopoulos, Giorgos, “Political Practices and Multiculturalism: the Case of Salonica”

Films: *Hamam* by Ferzan Özpetek (1997) & *Smyrna, Cosmopolitan City* by Maria Eliou (2011)

5 March. **Divided Cities: From Jerusalem to Beirut**

Daniel Monterescu, “Estranged Natives and Indigenized Immigrants: A Relational Anthropology of Ethnically Mixed Towns in Israel”

Film: *Waltz with Bashir* by Ari Folman (2008)

**MEMORY AND THE MEDITERRANEAN**

12 March. **Proust’s Madeleine: Scents and Sounds of the (Mediterranean) Past**

Mete Hatay and Rebecca Bryant, “The Jasmine Scent of Nicosia: Of Returns, Revolutions, and the Longing for Forbidden Pasts”
Seremetakis Nadia, “The memory of the senses: Historical Perception, Commensal Exchange and Modernity”
Eleni Kallimopoulou, Kostis Kornetis, Panayotis C. Poulos, Spyros Tsipidis, “From the Call to Prayer to the Silences of the Museum: Salonica’s Soundscapes in Transition”
Denney Peter, “Looking back, groping forward: Rethinking Sensory History”
Eleftheriotis Dimitris, “A Touch of Spice: Mobility and Popularity”

Film: *A Touch of Spice* by Tassos Boulmetis (2003)

**March 16-March 22. Spring Recess. No classes**

26 March. **France vs. Italy: Colonizing (and Decolonizing) North Africa**
M. I. Choate, ‘Identity Politics and Political Perception in European Settlement of
Tunisia: The French Colony versus the Italian Colony’
Helene Blais, Florence Deprest, “The Mediterranean, a territory between France and
Colonial Algeria: imperial construction”
Reid Donald, “Reviewing the Battle of Algiers with Germaine Tillion”
Interview with Gillo Pontecorvo

*Primary Source: Aussaresses Paul, The Battle of the Casbah. Terrorism and Counter-
Terrorism in Algeria, 1955-1957, pp. 112-147.

Screening: The Battle of Algiers by Gillo Pontecorvo (1966)

2 April. Dark Basin: From Medz Yeghern to the Holocaust

Apostolou Andrew, “The Exception of Salonica: Bystanders and Collaborators in
Northern Greece”
Fleming Katherine, Greece. A Jewish History (excerpts)
Mazower Mark, Salonica. City of Ghosts (excerpts)
Mazower Mark, The “G” word. The Treatment of Armenians in the Ottoman Empire,
1915-16”

Film: Salonica. City of Silence by Maurice Amaraggi (2006)

9 April. Captain Corelli’s War Crimes

Doumanis Nikolas, Myth and Memory in the Mediterranean
Santarelli Lidia, ‘Muted Violence’
Klinkhammer Lutz, ‘The question of Fascist Italy’s war crimes’

*Louis de Bernières, Corelli’s Mandolin (novel)

Film: Mussolini’s Dirty War by Giovanni Donfrancesco (2008)

16 April. Remembering (Not) to Forget: Cyprus

& ‘Intercommunal Killing in Cyprus’
Papadakis Yannis, ‘The National Struggle Museums of a Divided City’
Koureas Gabriel, ‘Visualizing an open wound: Nicosia, a divided city in an expanded
Europe’

Screening: Attila 74 (1974) by Michael Cacoyannis

23 April. Unearthing Franco’s Legacy
Aguilar Paloma, *Memory and Amnesia of the Spanish Civil War*, pp. 1-27
Aguilar Paloma and Humbleback Carsten, “Collective Memory and National Identity in the Spanish Democracy”
McKay Ruth, “History on the Line. The Good Fight and Good History: The Spanish Civil War”
Davis Madeleine, “Is Spain Recovering Its Memory? Breaking the "Pacto del Olvido"”
Kovras Iosif, Unearthing the Truth: The Politics of Exhumations in Cyprus and Spain

**MEDITERRANEAN NEW SOCIAL MOVEMENTS**

30 April. **1968: Transnational Activism Across the Mediterranean**

Hendrickson Burleigh, “1968: Practicing Transnational Activism from Tunis to Paris”
Kornetis Kostis, “Everything Links? Temporality, Territoriality and Cultural Transfer”
Arif Dirlik, “The Third World in 1968”

7 May. **From the Arab Spring to the Indignados**

Chaland Benoit, “Arab Spring in Times of Counter-Revolution”
Eduardo Romanos, “The Use of Humor in the Spanish Indignados”
Neil Hughes, “Young People Took to the Streets and all of a Sudden all of the Political Parties Got Old’: The 15M Movement in Spain”

Final research paper (12-15 pp.) DUE. Please submit it electronically.