



## Course Syllabus

*This course was developed by Prof. Burlingham from California State University, Fulerton in partnership with Study in Portugal Network (SiPN).*

<b>Name of the course</b> (en):	<b>History of Science</b>
<b>Créditos/Credits ECTS:</b>	6 ECTS – Usually transfers as 3 US Credits
<b>Professor: Kate Burlingham, PhD.</b>	
Língua(s) de ensino/language: English	
Horas de Contacto/Contact hours: 48.0	
Horas de Trabalho Total (Horas de Contacto + Trabalho Autónomo) Total contact hours (in-classroom + autonomous work): 150.0	

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Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Articulate major themes, patterns, and trends in the history of colonialism and natural knowledge, with particular emphasis on Portuguese colonialism
- Develop a working definition of 'colonial science' and an awareness of its many genres of print and visual production
- Explore the changing interplay between scientific knowledge, environment, and empire over time and in different social contexts
- Construct informed and thoughtful responses to course readings, in both writing & class discussions
- Diagnose the historical roots and social dimensions of present-day issues
- Use analytical perspectives of the past to reinterpret contemporary challenges

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**Learning outcomes:**

In addition to learning new content, students will be introduced to the disciplinary tools of history. These objectives are:

- Learn to navigate a diverse array of primary source materials, including, but not limited to, textual sources, film, and visual materials.
- Refine the ability to read historical sources and scholarly writing actively and critically.
- Gain a sense for how history is a form of interpretation, and how past societies interpreted their own histories

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**Syllabus:**

Week 1A: Introduction to the history of science/medicine/technology; Who owns nature?

Week 1B: Framings: Approaching the History of Nature & Empire: Ways of Seeing and The Power of a Name

Week 2A: Botany and Colonialism: Pharmaceuticals

Week 2B: Botany and Colonialism: Classifying and Bioprospecting

Week 3A: People and Places on Display

Week 3B: Medicine

Week 4A: Commodities: Wonders of the earth and Revolutions in taste

Week 4B: Labor

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The demonstration of coherence between the teaching methods and objectives of the course lie in the close relation between themes, reading materials, guest lectures and teaching methodology. Critical reading, collective discussion, and individual writing transmit the courses' content.

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**Assessment:**

- **Reading Responses (35% final grade)**



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All students will be required to post a response to the readings on Canvas each week. I will provide prompts / discussion questions. These responses must demonstrate both comprehension and critical thinking about the readings.

- **Final Project (35% final grade)**

The final project will ask students to select a contemporary issue that speaks to the intersection of science, nature, and power and situate it in its historical context. Students will be given a list of potential topics, or they can choose their own with consultation with the instructor.

- **Attendance and Participation (30% final grade)**

Participation is crucial to your success in this course. “Active participation” in our class means not only thoroughly preparing each week’s material—i.e. having completed the assigned reading and multimedia—but also being prepared with your original ideas, comments, and questions ready to share with your fellow students. We’ll discuss these ideas on virtual platforms like hypothesis. As you read, take careful notes and write down the ideas and themes that jump out at you.

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Faculty will tailor reading assignments and discussion to provide students with a background in the history of science and technology, particularly as it pertains to the history of colonialism. Guest lecturers and other events will form part of the course and will reinforce these themes.

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**Observations:**

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