

Mediterranean Studies Academy Newsletter

California State University, San Bernardino

December 2017, no. 3

The Mediterranean Studies Academy and its Mission

The Mediterranean Studies Academy at CSUSB has four goals. First, we seek to deepen student learning about the Mediterranean. Study across disciplines allows our students to make meaningful and provocative comparisons between regions of the Mediterranean and to reflect on developments and movements from antiquity to the present. Second, we seek to enrich student learning and campus life by partnering with the Center for Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies and the Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art. Third, we support and offer Study Abroad in the Mediterranean through the Center for Global Management. Fourth, we promote faculty research and scholarship because expertise in our disciplines elevates our instruction.

How we got started: An Interdisciplinary Collaboration

The Mediterranean Studies initiative was launched in 2015 by Luz Elena Ramirez (English) and Jesús David Jerez-Gómez (Spanish), following the success of two grant applications. The first was a mini-grant awarded by Arts & Letters Dean Terry Ballman to develop a team-taught Humanities seminar, *Mediterranean Identities*. The second was the Teaching Innovation Grant, awarded by Dean Lawrence Rose of the Jack H. Brown College of Business & Public Administration with the support of Dean Tatiana Karmanova, College of Extended Learning, to establish the Mediterranean Studies Academy. Teaching Innovation Grant awardees and founding members of the Academy are Matthew Habich (Management), Ece Algan (Communication Studies), Dany Doueiri (Arabic), Jesús David Jerez-Gómez (Spanish), and Luz Elena Ramirez (English). Since our founding, we've expanded our Academy to include new members.

Mediterranean Studies Academy

Jack H. Brown College of Business and Public Administration

Matthew Habich, Management

College of Arts & Letters

Ece Algan, Communication Studies

Dany Doueiri, Arabic, WLL

Jesús David Jerez-Gómez Spanish, WLL

Eva Kirsch, Robert & Frances Fullerton Museum of Art

Allen Menton, Music

Ahlan Muhtaseb, Communication Studies

Luz Elena Ramirez, English

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Yasemin Dildar, Economics

Kate Liszka, History

Nerea Marteache, Criminal Justice

Academy Activities

2017 has been a very productive year in terms of study abroad in Slovenia and Spain and for faculty research.

Study Abroad Slovenia

In July 2017, Eva Kirsch and Luz Elena Ramirez team taught *Museums as Models of Innovative Management and Creativity* at the Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana. Their interdisciplinary course proposal was subject to a competitive review process in which about 45 proposals were selected from 400. Kirsch and Ramirez's seminar provided the foundation for the study abroad program at this Triple Crown Accredited institution. Pictured below, courtesy of the Faculty of Economics, are students Hannah Fejzic, Faith Nevarez, Zion Jones, Lauren Den Besten, Tori Church, and Chris Cassadas.



Kirsch and Ramirez's team taught course was a success, as noted in student reflections. On the seminar's integration of business and humanities, one student wrote, "Of particular interest to me was the main underlying concept of the course, that it is important to integrate the fundamentals of a liberal arts education into other programs. It was interesting to me to read and hear about the skills and abilities that employers say they are looking for, as well as the statistics about the long term success of various liberal arts degrees."

To support their study abroad, Fejzic and Nevarez earned research grants from the Associated Students Incorporated; Fejzic researched the conversion of a prison into the chic, artsy Hostel Celica and Nevarez presented her paper on Slovenia travel video logs at the Faculty of Economics.

Professors Kirsch and Ramirez, their students, and Faculty of Economics colleagues were delighted to welcome the CSUSB Presidential delegation to Ljubljana in July (city photo below).



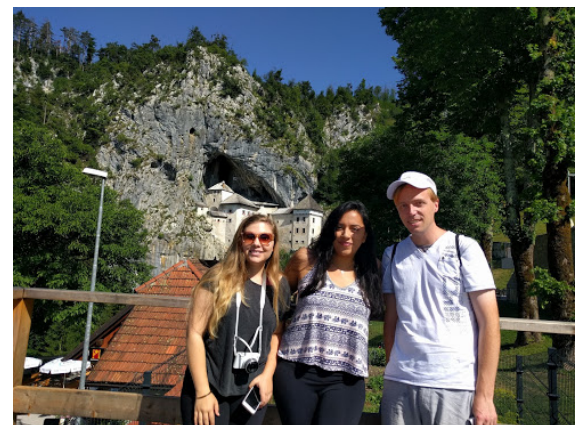
The Presidential delegation and Study Abroad Slovenia participants also enjoyed a tour of the magnificent Škocjan Caves, its underwater river and its stalagmites, as seen below (photo courtesy Lander).



President Morales, Dean Tatiana Karmanova, Dean Terry Ballman, Faculty of Economics Head of International Relations Danijela Voljč and her colleagues joined Ramirez and Kirsch, as well as students, on a cruise on the Ljubljanica River (below).



Built into a cave, the 13th-century Predjama Castle was also on the itinerary. Students Tori Church, Amy Becerra, and Russell Kapryn stand outside the castle's entrance (photo below).



Sample student travelogues about Slovenia are online:
[Jenna Bozarth.pdf](#)
[Stacie Charlebois.pdf](#)
[Hannah Fejzić.pdf](#)
[Russell Kapryn.pdf](#)

Study Abroad, Granada Spain

In July, Professors Jesús David Jerez-Gómez and Matthew Habich co-directed the Granada, Spain Study Abroad Summer program. Working with the Dr. Vipin Gupta and Dr. Frank Lin at the Center for Global Management, their team recruited 18 CSUSB students who studied at the Universidad de Granada. Along with earning academic credit, CSUSB students were awarded a certificate of participation by Centro Mediterráneo and were graciously hosted by the center's co-director, Vanessa Martos. CSUSB student José Luis Sánchez appears in the picture below with his certificate from Professors Jerez-Gómez and Habich:



CSUSB students began their adventure in Spain on the Mediterranean, as seen in this group photo in Nerja:



Led by tour guide Inmaculada Correa, students visited important cultural sites in Granada, Lanjarón, Málaga, and Córdoba. In Granada, they toured the architecturally exquisite palace, the Alhambra, and its gardens (below):



Sample Spain travelogues can be viewed here:

[Eva Lopez.pdf](#)

[Kimberly Cardenas.pdf](#)

[Jenny Espinoza.pdf](#)

[Valeria Zaragoza.pdf](#)

Cross-College Study Abroad Colloquium

In support of the interdisciplinary vision of Dean Dr. Terry Ballman, Dean's Fellow Dr. Ramirez organized the Fall 2017 Cross-College Colloquium on Faculty-led Study Abroad. Presenters from Arts & Letters and the Jack H. Brown School of Business and Public Administration included Eva Kirsch, Jesús David Jerez-Gómez, Matthew Habich, and Luz Elena Ramirez. Dr. Vipin Gupta of the Center for Global Management and Arts & Letters Dean Terry Ballman offered opening remarks. The video is available here: <https://youtu.be/gnqNJONbcaU>



Matthew Habich, mhabich@csusb.edu
Lecturer, Department of Management

With an MBA from University of Michigan and management experience which includes the water industry, Matthew Habich brings to the Mediterranean Studies Academy an important business perspective and was an essential faculty member in the cross-college application for the Teaching Innovation Grant to found the Mediterranean Studies Academy.

In the Study Abroad Granada program, Habich taught his newly designed course supported by the Teaching Innovation Grant, *Management 306, Expository Writing: Mediterranean Fortunes: Culture and Commerce*. While in Spain Professor Habich presented his current research on the intersection between study abroad and employability at Centro Mediterráneo, Universidad of Granada, "Do Employer's Value Study Abroad?: A Survey of Existing Research."

Also this summer, Habich was guest lecturer at the Faculty of Economics at the University of Ljubljana and presented "The Corporation and its Stakeholders."



Ece Algan, ealgan@csusb.edu
Associate Professor of Communication Studies
Director of the Center for Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies
Member, Academics for Peace Initiative

Ece Algan's area of expertise includes globalization and digital media, local and community media, as well as national, cultural, and youth identities.

This summer, Algan's research took her to Scotland and Spain. In July, she presented "Local expressions of Kurdish alterity, nationalism and ethnic identity: Reading the Kurdish political movement through local media in Southeast Turkey" at the British Society for Middle Eastern Studies Annual Conference in Edinburgh.

Algan then traveled to Granada and toured the Albaycin, the architecturally rich, medieval district settled by Muslims of Spain. An invited panelist at the Centro Mediterráneo's international colloquium at Universidad de Granada, Algan delivered her paper, "Mediterranean history revisited in living rooms: The global popularity of Turkish TV series and multiple competing cultural narratives."

As Director of the Center for Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, Algan moderated in November the panel, "New Turkey from the Perspective of its Minorities" with presenters from Globally Connected, University of California, San Diego, and Syracuse University. The event was co-sponsored by the Mediterranean Studies Academy.

Jesús David Jerez-Gómez, jdjerez@csusb.edu
Professor of Spanish

Jesús David Jerez-Gómez is the Director of the Mediterranean Studies Academy and focuses on study abroad and curricular development. He was promoted to full professor this year.

An active scholar, in June he presented "Cervantes y el *Persiles*: Una novela mediterránea en el septentrión" at the Congreso Internacional «Cervantes en el Septentrión» at the Arctic University of Norway; he is seen below in Tromsø.



After Norway, Professor Jerez Gómez joined Matthew Habich to lead the Study Abroad Granada program. While in Spain, he delivered the paper, "Intercambio cultural mediterráneo: El motivo de la doncella guerrera del folklore a la literatura," at el Coloquio de Estudios Mediterráneos, Universidad de Granada. In October, he presented "El romancero y la difusión de propaganda política: Dos romances (y su réplica) en el contexto de la *Invencible* (1588)" at the Conference of the Society for Renaissance and Baroque Hispanic Poetry at the University of Seville. Jerez-Gómez also submitted "Seducción guerrera en el *Quijote*: la tradición mediterránea de la mujer disfrazada" in honor of Adrienne L. Martin in the forthcoming volume, *Sexo y género en Cervantes/Sex and Gender in Cervantes* (Editorial Reichenberger).

To advance curriculum related to Mediterranean Studies, Professor Jerez-Gómez completed the Teaching Resource Center's General Education Pathways and Program Design Institute this fall.

**Eva Kirsch, ekirsch@csusb.edu
Director, Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art**

Eva Kirsch comes to the Mediterranean Studies Academy with expertise in curation and management and directs the Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art (RAFFMA) at California State University, San Bernardino. RAFFMA holds one of the three major California collections of Egyptian antiquities and a small collection of ancient pottery from the Italian Peninsula, and regularly exhibits art from the Mediterranean region.

Kirsch has curated several Mediterranean-theme exhibitions, including two with objects on loan from the J. Paul Getty Museum, Malibu Villa and, this academic year, *Journey to the BEYOND: Ancient Egyptians in the Pursuit of Eternity* (Oct. 2016-June 2018). This year she's pursuing external grants for the research phase of her next large curatorial project related to the Mediterranean region, including a National Endowment for the Humanities application co-written with Professor Ramirez.

An active contributor to her field, Kirsch has submitted to the *American Research Center in Egypt Bulletin* an article for consideration co-written with Bryan Kraemer, "The New Exhibit *Journey to the Beyond: Ancient Egyptians in the Pursuit of Eternity* at the Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art."

Kirsch teaches art history and museum studies. This July, she team taught with Professor Ramirez at the Faculty of Economics in Ljubljana (see assembly of professors below).



Kirsch is pictured below (right) with Faculty of Economics Summer School Faculty from Croatia, France, Poland, and Finland.



While in Slovenia, Kirsch networked extensively and met with numerous colleagues and museum professionals. In July, Kirsch delivered lectures at the National Museum of Slovenia, Metelkova: "Between Poland and California: Changes and Transformations in the Field of Museums, 1985-2017", and "Recent Museum Trends."

After Slovenia, Kirsch traveled throughout Italy to research with her husband, Donat, their historical novel set in Egypt and the Mediterranean in the late 13th c. B.C. She appears in the photo below in Tivoli.



Since 2014, Kirsch has been serving as the President of the Southern California chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt featuring "the premiere Egyptian lecture program in the U.S." (John Adams). Monthly lectures are held at the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana.

Ahlam Muhtaseb, amuhtase@csusb.edu
Professor, Communication Studies

Dr. Muhtaseb is Graduate Coordinator of Communication Studies and teaches, among other subjects, cinema and public relations.

An active scholar and film maker, Professor Muhtaseb presented "Palestine in U.S. Media" at the American Muslims for Palestine Conference in Chicago (as seen in photo below).



This year, Muhtaseb finished her documentary *1948: Creation & Catastrophe*, with co-director/co-producer Andy Trimlett. Through riveting and moving personal recollections of both Palestinians and Israelis, *1948: Creation & Catastrophe* reveals the shocking events of the most pivotal year in the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians.

Ten years in the making, Muhtaseb and Trimlett worked with a team of archivists, historian consultants, camera operators, and translators to create this film. They wanted to convey the story of 1948 to audiences who might know little about the conflict.

Production took place across seven countries: Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon, Israel, Canada, the United Kingdom, and the U.S. Producers combed through 20,000 pages of research, and conducted close to 90 primary interviews with Palestinian refugees, Israeli fighters in 1948, and world-famous historians such as Rashid Khalidi, Ilan Pappé, and Charles Smith. Archival materials came from a wide range of sources, including the Israeli army, the Getty Museum and *New York Times*, over 2,000 images in all.

Marion Ingram, author of *The Hands of War and The Hands of Peace*, praises the film: "To this Holocaust survivor, this 1948 documentary is an important and poignant contribution to a better understanding of painful history. It should open closed minds and help pave the way toward a just peace in Palestine."

Numerous film screenings have taken place and are scheduled in 2018. In August, the producers offered two screenings at the "Art under Siege" Exhibition at the OXO Tower in London. Subsequent screenings have taken place at Georgetown University, University of Memphis, Rhodes College, Hunter College, the San Diego Arab Film Festival, and the Israeli Film Festival 48mm. Muhtaseb appears below at the Boston Film Festival (second from left).



In November, Muhtaseb and Trimlett's *1948* was an official selection by the Middle East Studies Association Film Festival in Washington D.C. And the producers recently learned *1948* will be shown at the Reel Palestine Film Festival in Dubai on January 21, 2018.

Learn more about the *1948* film here:
<https://www.1948movie.com/>



Luz Elena Ramirez, ramirez@csusb.edu
Professor of English
Dean's Scholar, College of Arts & Letters

Luz Elena Ramirez specializes in Victorian and early twentieth-century British literature and transatlantic studies. At CSUSB, she teaches literature, theory, and the humanities seminar, *Mediterranean Identities*.

This summer, she team taught with Eva Kirsch at the Faculty of Economics in Ljubljana their interdisciplinary seminar, *Museums as Models of Innovative Management and Creativity*. In addition to teaching, Ramirez and Kirsch presented in July, "Stakeholders of the Mediterranean Studies Academy" at the Faculty of Economics Research Seminar.

From Slovenia, Professor Ramirez traveled to Spain to present "The Impact of Museums on Literary Criticism: Palacio de los Olvidados and Crypto-Judaism in Rider Haggard's *Fair Margaret* (1907)" at Centro Mediterráneo, Universidad de Granada (below).



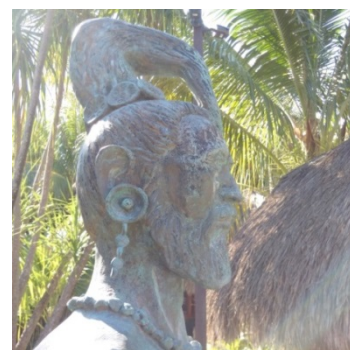
The Palacio de los Olvidados, pictured below, displays ceremonial objects that help readers understand Haggard's story of a Jewish merchant forced to hide his faith during the Inquisition.



From Spain to Mexico, the Mediterranean Studies Academy goes transatlantic with Ramirez's current research project. She is on leave this fall to work on her book manuscript: *Conquest and Reclamation in the British Imagination*. Ramirez traveled to Mexico to conduct research on two Spanish castaways, mariner Gonzalo Guerrero and Catholic priest, Gerónimo de Aguilar. In 1511, these men survived the foundering of their ship and landed on the pristine shores of the Yucatan (photo courtesy K. Elmrbet).



Guerrero and de Aguilar were taken captive by the Maya—who subjected their compatriots to human sacrifice—but the two escaped and aligned themselves with a rival tribe, learning the Maya language and acculturating to new ways of life. Guerrero married a Maya princess, while de Aguilar was rescued by Conquistador Hernan Cortez and entered into Cortez's service as an interpreter. Below is Ramirez's photo of a commemorative sculpture in Akumal which celebrates Guerrero and his family, depicting him with tribal piercings, necklace, and headpiece.



Guerrero and his Maya wife, Zazil Há, had three children and he fought with the Maya against his Spanish compatriots. The sculpture commemorates him as the father of the *mestizaje* (mixed race). In *Conquest and Reclamation*, Ramirez explains the stories of Guerrero and de Aguilar provided the basis for cultural mediators in Victorian novels, notably George Henty's *By Right of Conquest: Or with Cortez in Mexico* (1891) and H. Rider Haggard's *Montezuma's Daughter* (1893).

Kate Liszka, Kate.Liszka@csusb.edu
Assistant Professor of History
Benson and Pamela Harer Fellow

Dr. Liszka teaches classes on Ancient Egypt for the departments of History, Anthropology and Art.

Since June 2017, Kate Liszka has been busy researching, publishing, and teaching about Ancient Egypt in the Mediterranean World. Her article "Egyptian or Nubian?: Settlement Architecture at Wadi el-Hudi and Wadi es-Sebua" was published in the *Journal of Egyptian Archaeology* (103: 1-17). She also submitted for consideration two articles to the *Oxford Nubian Studies Handbooks* and an article for the *Journal of Egyptian History* looking at identity in the Ancient World.

To support her research, she has applied for the National Endowment of the Humanities Summer Stipend Research to analyze the archaeological context of the Temple of Mut at Karnak. Maintaining an active conference schedule, she has presented her research at the North Texas chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt and the Near Eastern Languages Civilizations Department at University of California, Los Angeles.

Currently, Liszka is preparing for archaeological work at the site of Wadi el-Hudi in Egypt, as seen in the picture below:



To map the site, Professor Liszka was awarded funding from the Cultural Heritage Resources Grant from the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (J. M. Kaplan Fund, Responsive Preservation Initiative).

A newly launched website for this excavation allows Liszka and her team to share their findings with a wider audience: www.wadielhudi.com.

Below is the Wadi el-Hudi team surveyor Bryan Kraemer.



In fall 2017, Professor Liszka taught Ancient Egyptian History: Origins to 1700 BCE for the History Department and Ancient Egyptian Archaeology for the Departments of History and Archaeology.

Professor Liszka was recently the focus of the CSUSB Faculty highlight which centers on her study of Egyptology: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wxtp3tiHzQg>

Nerea Marteache, nmarte@csusb.edu
Associate Professor, Criminal Justice

Dr. Marteache comes to the Mediterranean Studies Academy with a LL.M. in Criminal Law from the University of Barcelona and a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from Rutgers School of Criminal Justice. Marteache's scholarship focuses on crime prevention through opportunity reduction, and on the analysis and evaluation of criminal justice policy.

This summer she presented her work at Universidad Miguel Hernández in Elche, Spain (pictured below).



Marteache was selected as a member of the keynote roundtable on Environmental Criminology (Criminología Ambiental) at the Symposium of the Spanish Society of Criminology at Universidad Miguel Hernández. Professor Marteache appears below (center) with colleagues Laura Vozmediano and Lucía Summers:



At the same conference Marteache presented her project on theft by employees titled “Paga extra: Oportunidades para cometer hurto en el lugar de trabajo”.

In November, Professor Marteache presented two papers at the American Society of Criminology Annual Conference in Philadelphia: “Depot Design: The Criminogenic Elements of Train Stations” and “The Spatial Pattern of Redwood Burl Poaching Incidents: Implications for Prevention”.

A successful grants writer, Dr. Marteache received the highly competitive Teaching Resource Center Summer 2017 Course Development Grant to redesign *Environmental Crime Prevention*. In the new version, which was taught in fall 2017, students work with San Bernardino Police Department to develop Problem-Specific Guides on current crime problems in the local area.

In addition, Marteache was awarded the Office of Student Research Course Re-Design grant to create a seminar called *Wildlife Crime*, which will analyze, among other topics, global trends in wildlife illegal trade, international laws governing this issue, and its global impact.

Campus events related to Mediterranean Studies

January 18, 2018

Conversations on Art

Dr. Kate Liszka

Tomb Robbery in Ancient Egypt

6- 8 pm, Robert & Frances Fullerton Museum of Art

February 8, 2018

Conversations on Art

Dr. Kei Yamamoto, University of Arizona, Tucson

Ancient Egypt: High Officials under the Reign of Senwosret III

6-8 pm, Robert & Frances Fullerton Museum of Art

February 15, 2018

Screening *1948: Creation and Catastrophe*

6:00 pm San Manuel Student Union Theatre

California State University, San Bernardino

March 6, 2018

Screening *1948: Creation and Catastrophe*

6 pm, Indian Wells Theater

Palm Desert Campus

California State University, San Bernardino

March 8, 2018

Conversations on Art

Dr. Tatiana Sizonenko, University of California, San Diego

“Artists as Agents in Venice, 1450-1550: The Artistic Exchange and Cultural Translation between Venice and Constantinople – The Case of Gentile Bellini.”

6-8 pm, Robert & Frances Fullerton Museum of Art

The Mediterranean Studies Academy would like to thank:

Dean Terry Ballman, College of Arts & Letters

Dean Larry Rose, Jack H. Brown College of Business & Public Administration;

Dean Rafik Mohamed, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences

Dean Tatiana Karmanova, College of Extended Learning

for their collective support of interdisciplinary and cross-college collaboration. We also thank Vipin Gupta and Frank Lin, Co-Directors of the Center for Global Management.

Contact Dr. Luz Elena Ramirez ramirez@csusb.edu about the Mediterranean Studies Academy Newsletter

Contact Dr. Jesús David Jerez-Gómez jdjerez@csusb.edu about the Mediterranean Studies Academy