

Cultural Encounters in Time and Space / Kulturmøder i tid og rum

A focus on cultural encounters is an evident choice if one is interested in recent debates about mosques in Switzerland or border disputes between Mexico and the United States, but it is also evident if one is interested in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, French Immigrants in Copenhagen after the French Revolution or the vagabond as a literary figure. Thus, the point of departure for this class is cultural encounters seen as both phenomena and as an analytical tool for developing and answering research questions from the participating students.

Based on a variety of empirical examples, we aim at finding inspiration across time and space, and we invite scholars from Middle East Studies, History and American Studies to present their research and their perception and use of cultural encounters. Among the speakers are Benita Heiskanen, Peter Seeberg, Ulrik Langen, Erik Kulavig, Martin Rheinheimer, Jesper Majbom and Nils Arne Sørensen. All speakers will participate in discussions of the students' papers and research questions. Hence, the class is explicitly multidisciplinary and explicitly research based in order for the students to formulate and answer research questions independently but in correspondence with the used examples and participating lecturers.

The class consists of a theoretical and methodological part where, on the basis of examples, we will discuss relevant concepts and analytical frames. Theoretically, we emphasise the importance of *place* as a cross field where cultural encounters are part of social, economic, aesthetic and political processes. During the term, we will arrange three seminars with the above mentioned speakers. The theoretical and methodological parts of the class are tied together by the students' development of research questions.

The class will be in English. However, the students may choose between Danish and English for the exam.

Lecturers

Kirstine Sinclair, Center for Contemporary Middle East Studies

Anne Magnussen, Center for History and Spanish Studies