



## HTST 303 Great Explorations

MWF 1200

G.W. Colpitts



Between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, Spanish, French and English explorers made remarkable geographic and ethnological discoveries in North America. This course examines the great age of exploration on the continent, from the landfalls of Columbus, to the chimeras of the “north-west passage,” to the labyrinth of passes in the Rocky Mountains. Lectures challenge students to better understand how newcomers struck out against formidable barriers to their human knowledge and commercial enterprises to make discoveries in these “New Found Lands.” They will also examine enduring literary themes, cultural prejudice and commercial speculation well established in European exploration history. Particular emphasis will be placed on the use and interpretation of primary exploration and travel texts.

There is no assigned text for this course.

Readings will be provided to students via internet links and the course D2L