

CIVILIZATION SEQUENCE PROGRAM

A. SUMMARY OF PROGRAM

Under the previous Directors, Peter Shebay'a (1997-2003) and Maher Jarrar (2004-07), the Civilization Sequence Program (CVSP) was first restructured into a Sequence-I / Sequence-II framework, then reorganized internally with each multi-sectional core course coordinated separately. The CVSP mission is both to introduce students to key texts in Western and Islamic civilizations and to teach skills of critical reading of those primary texts. Core courses are arranged into four general periods (ancient, medieval, early modern, and modern), the first two periods constituting Sequence-I, the second two periods Sequence-II. In addition, each Sequence contains several thematic courses such as Utopian Thought, Science and Society, and Human and Divine Love, with readings selected from the relevant periods. Most students throughout the university have to take one course from Sequence-I and one from Sequence-II. Despite some inevitable partiality, the framework is flexible enough to accommodate new readings in the chronological courses as well as new thematic foci. As an interdisciplinary program we continue to invite professors from many departments at AUB to participate both in teaching courses and in delivering common lectures in the core courses.

At the start of 2007-08, following the initiative to examine Program and Course Learning Outcomes throughout the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, an Ad-Hoc Committee on Teaching Skills was formed within CVSP with the mandate to consider (1) what teaching skills CVSP teachers actually deploy in class in order to achieve the stated goals of their courses, (2) what teaching skills should be developed for CVSP courses to adhere more closely to the stated mission of the program, and (3) how syllabi should be modified to fit revised course learning goals. In the first semester a series of meetings were held to revise the course syllabus form of the core courses CVSP 201-206. In the second semester three seminars were held in which different teachers discussed the methods they use in class to develop skills, especially critical skills, in line with the CVSP mission statement. The result was to open out discussion on how to achieve the goals of the Civilization Sequence Program in class. The new course syllabus forms with revised learning outcomes are posted on the CVSP website.

THE FORUM OF THE CIVILIZATION SEQUENCE PROGRAM

As a slight departure from previous years, the CVSP Forum in 2007-08 was devoted to a two-day conference entitled "Collecting Practices in Lebanon: Alternative Visions of the Past", held on 24-25 May 2008. It was largely conceived by Sonja Mejcher-Atassi and organized by her in committee with Hayat Bualuan and John-Pedro Schwartz (English). Funding was obtained from the Provost's Office, CAMES and CASAR. Speakers were invited both from inside Lebanon and from abroad, and discussion was divided into different panels. On the first day, after an introductory lecture by the guest speaker Charles Saumarez Smith (Royal Academy, London) on Strategies for Collecting in London Public Institutions, there were three different panels: Material collections 1 (archaeology); Material collections 2 (modern art); and Textual collections (historiography, fiction, memoir). On the second day, there were three panels: Material collections 3 (Islamic art); Urban collections 1 (institutional history); and Urban collections 2 (popular/marginal history). Despite the political uncertainty during the first half of May, participation in the conference was good on both days: only the guest speaker of the second day, David Roxburgh (Harvard), was unable to attend. It is hoped to publish the papers in a peer-reviewed book, and to have a follow-up seminar in Fall 2008 relating more particularly to the concept of collecting texts in a canon, the underlying principle behind CVSP.

THE CVSP BROWN-BAG SERIES

Coordinator: Raed Samaha

The CVSP brown bag series is primarily a venue for presentation of work in progress by CVSP faculty and others. This year there were two presentations:

7 November 2007, Robert Gallagher (CVSP) “Do humans constitute a genus or a type: The controversy over Aristotle's view”

21 May 2008, Mazen Makkouk (English), “Kant, Clare, and Pornography or what's Wrong with being Enlightened”

B. PERSONNEL

1. Faculty Members

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Saumarez Smith, Richard | PhD | Professor | <i>(Director)</i> CVSP & SBHS |
| Bornedal, Peter | PhD | Professor | CVSP (on leave Fall 07) |
| Jarrar, Maher | PhD | Professor | CVSP & Arabic (on leave Spring 08) |
| Moussalli, Ahmad | PhD | Professor | PSPA & CVSP |
| Genz, Hermann | PhD | Assistant Professor | Archaeology & CVSP |
| Hout, Syrine | PhD | Associate Professor | Engl. & CVSP |
| Meloy, John | PhD | Associate Professor | History & CVSP |
| Gallagher, Robert . | PhD | Assistant Professor | CVSP |
| Hamati-Ataya, Inanna | PhD | Assistant Professor | PSPA & CVSP |
| Harb, Serine | PhD | Assistant Professor | Engl. & CVSP |
| Kent, Julia | PhD | Assistant Professor | Engl. & CVSP |
| Mejcher-Atassi, Sonja | PhD | Assistant Professor | CVSP |
| Schwartz, John-Pedro | PhD | Assistant Professor | Engl. & CVSP (1st semester) |
| Wilmsen, David | PhD | Assistant Professor | Arabic & CVSP |
| Wrisley, David | PhD | Assistant Professor | CVSP |
| Amyuni, Mona | PhD | Senior Lecturer | CVSP |
| Nassar, C. Suhail | PhD | Senior Lecturer | Engl. & CVSP |
| Shebaya, Peter | MA | Senior Lecturer | CVSP |
| Bualuan, Hayat | PhD | Lecturer | CVSP |
| Faddoul, Atif | PhD | Lecturer | CVSP (part-time) |
| Maktabi, Hadi | PhD | Lecturer | CVSP (part-time) |
| Sabra, George | PhD | Lecturer | CVSP (part-time) |
| Sharif, Malek | PhD | Lecturer | CVSP (part-time) |
| Arasoghli, Aida | MA | Instructor | CVSP |
| Dibo, Amal | MA | Instructor | CVSP |
| Feghali, Zalfa | MA | Instructor | CVSP (part-time) |
| Hassan, Hani | MA | Instructor | CVSP & Phil. |
| Khoury, Samira | MA | Instructor | CVSP |
| Samaha, Raid | MA | Instructor | CVSP & Phil |
| Tomeh, Edmond | MA | Instructor | CVSP (pt) |
| Zhengzhong, Yi | MA | Visiting Instructor | CVSP |

2. Graduate Assistants

First and second semester: Rima Cortbawi

3. Non-Academic Staff

Khairallah, Randa Secretary
Daniel, Jad Technical Service Assistant

C. TEACHING

Fall Semester 2007-2008

Core Curriculum courses (Sequence I and Sequence II)

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---|
| CVSP 201 | 11 sections | 307 students |
| CVSP 202 | 9 sections | 253 students |
| CVSP 203 | 9 sections | 217 students |
| CVSP 204 | 10 sections | 231 students |
| CVSP 205 | 7 sections | 189 students |
| CVSP 207A | 2 sections | 49 students |
| CVSP 207C | 1 section | 25 students |
| Total Sequence I | 30 sections | 823 students (previous year 732) |
| Total Sequence II | 19 sections | 448 students (previous year 533) |
| Combined Total | 49 sections | 1271 students (previous year 1265) |

Elective Courses

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------|---|
| CVSP 110 | 2 sections | 40 students |
| CVSP 111 | 1 section | 20 students |
| CVSP 112 | 1 section | 19 students |
| CVSP 216 | 1 section | 10 students |
| CVSP 250 | 1 section | 20 students |
| CVSP 251 | 1 section | 21 students |
| CVSP/French 201 | 1 section | 25 students |
| CVSP/French 202 | 1 section | 16 students |
| CVSP/Chinese 201 | 2 sections | 50 students |
| Total | 11 sections | 221 students (previous year 239) |

Grand Total **60 sections** **1492 students** (previous year 1504)
Total Number of Credit Hours: 180 (previous year 177)

Spring Semester 2007-2008

Core Curriculum courses (Sequence I and Sequence II)

| | | |
|----------|-------------|--------------|
| CVSP 201 | 11 sections | 299 students |
| CVSP 202 | 11 sections | 300 students |
| CVSP 203 | 6 sections | 170 students |

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---|
| CVSP 204 | 18 sections | 427 students |
| CVSP 207A | 2 sections | 55 students |
| CVSP 208D | 1 section | 25 students |
| CVSP 208F | 2 sections | 50 students |
| Total Sequence I | 24 sections | 654 students (previous year 639) |
| Total Sequence II | 27 sections | 672 students (previous year 711) |
| Combined Total | 51 sections | 1326 students (previous year 1350) |

Elective Courses

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------|---|
| CVSP 110 | 2 sections | 44 students |
| CVSP 112 | 2 sections | 42 students |
| CVSP 215 | 1 section | 23 students |
| CVSP 250 | 1 section | 20 students |
| CVSP 251 | 1 section | 19 students |
| CVSP/French 201 | 1 section | 27 students |
| CVSP/French 202 | 1 section | 24 students |
| CVSP/Chinese 201 | 2 sections | 43 students |
| CVSP/Chinese 202 | 1 section | 3 students |
| Total | 12 sections | 235 students (previous year 246) |

Grand Total **63 sections** **1561 students** (previous year **1596**)
Total Number of Credit Hours: 189 (previous year **192**)

Total both semesters **123 sections** **3053 students** (previous year 3100)
Total no. of credit hours for both semesters: 369 (previous year 369)

Summer Semester 2007-08

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| CVSP 201 | 4 sections | 108 students |
| CVSP 202 | 5 sections | 135 students |
| CVSP 203 | 3 sections | 75 students |
| CVSP 204 | 3 sections | 75 students |
| CVSP/French 201 | 1 section | 25 students |
| Total | 16 sections | 418 students |

D. RESEARCH.

Bornedal, Peter

1. "Chiasmatic Reasoning: Strategies of Self-Immunitization in Jürgen Habermas," to appear in Hugh Silverman (ed.), *Chiasmatic Encounters* (IAPL's 2005 volume: Continuum, New York) (approx. 15 pages).
2. "Sklave, Sklaverei" and "Mittelmäßigkeit", articles commissioned for *Nietzsche-Lexikon* (Wissenschaftlichen Buchgesellschaft, Darmstadt), ed. Prof. Christian Niemeyer.
3. *The surface and the abyss: Nietzsche's philosophy of mind and knowledge*. Approximately 400-500 pages. The book consists of six long essays and four shorter appendices. All essays and appendices have been written and exist at least in an advanced draft version; the work is now in the phase of being rewritten, polished and revised.

Contents:

Essays: 1. Conceptualization and arbitrariness. 2. A silent world. 3. Splitting the subject. 4. Toward a neuro-epistemology. 5. The incredible profundity of the truly superficial. 6. Eternal recurrence in inner-mental life.

Appendices: 1. Kant and Nietzsche. 2. Understanding sensations: A comparison of Nietzsche and Ernst Mach. 3. Against Utilitarianism: Nietzsche on pain and pleasure. 4. The fragmented Nietzschean subject and literary criticism.

Bualuan, Hayat

1. "The Image of the West in the Writing of Late 18th and Early 19th Century Historians of Bilad al Sham", article to appear in *Parole de L'Orient*, 32, 2007.
2. "Mikhail Breik, a precursor of 19th Century Arab Renaissance", article to appear in *Chronos*, University of Balamand.
3. "The Christians Under Ottoman Rule in the Writings of Late 18th and Early 19th Century Historians of Bilad al Sham", in conference proceedings on Discrimination and Tolerance in The Middle East, to be published by the Orient Institute Beirut.

Gallagher, Robert L.

1. "Aristotle on *eidei diapherontoi*", article submitted for publication in refereed journals.
2. "Aristotle's peirastic treatment of the Republic: unity and homonymy", article in preparation. This article shows that in the *Politics* Aristotle regards Socrates' proposal for achieving unity in a state in *Republic Book v* to contradict what Socrates says elsewhere in the *Republic*. The criticisms that Aristotle draws from Socrates' own remarks do not reflect his own views about unity, which are based on his metaphysics and to which he refers in other parts of the *Politics*.
3. "Grace, honour and justice: utopian thought in Aristotle's Ethics", article in preparation. This article discusses why Aristotle held that "grace" (*charis*) has an important role to play in exchange between producer and consumer: It inspires generosity in the wealthy and gratitude in the less well off. Aristotle suggests that the powerful accede to the demands of the poor for generous terms of exchange and accept public honour (*timē*) in recompense.
4. "Aristotle's peirastic treatment of the Republic: friendship and homonymy", article in preparation. This article will show that in the *Politics* Aristotle regards Socrates' proposal for the sharing of women and children in *Republic Book v* to contradict what Socrates says elsewhere in the *Republic*. The criticisms that Aristotle draws from Socrates' own remarks do not reflect his own views about friendship, which appear in the *Ethics* and qualitatively differ from the arguments he raises in the *Politics*.
5. "A solution to the dilemma of 'natural slavery' in Aristotle's Politics". Article in research stage. Much contemporary criticism of Aristotle's *Politics* has focused on his view that some human beings lack the power of deliberation and are, hence, "natural slaves". M. Schofield has proposed that in the "natural slave" Aristotle refers to those <physiologically> impaired in respect to mental function, e.g., Down syndrome sufferers. The article argues that the deficiency to which Aristotle refers is the result of development and is thus accidental, rather than essential, and that therefore the "natural slave" can be eliminated from Aristotle's system. The paper will advance an alternative solution within Aristotle's metaphysical framework for the evidence that brought him to argue for the existence of "natural slavery".
6. "Marx's criticism of Aristotle's philosophy of human nature". Article in research stage. This article discusses how Marx's criticisms in *Capital* of Aristotle's theory of economic justice are answered in part by passages in Aristotle's *Eudemian Ethics* of which Marx was probably unaware.

7. "Thomas' departure from Aristotle on the nature of privation". Article in research stage. This article for the first time brings to the attention of the scholarly community the fact that the metaphysics of Thomas Aquinas is a significant departure from that of Aristotle in regards to its fundamental principles.
8. "*Eros and philia in Plato's Republic*". Article in research stage. The article shows that Socrates' proposal for the sharing of women and children reduces the role of *philia* (friendship, caring love) to secondary status behind *eros* (sexual or selfish love, lust).

Jarrar, Maher

1. "José Saramago's *The Gospel according to Jesus Christ* and Elias Khoury's *Ka'annahā Nā'imah: A transtextual attempt*".
2. "Qadariyya (Predestination)", *Encyclopedia of Islamic Political Thought*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. (2082 words).
3. "Elias Khoury", *Dānešnāme-ye Jahān-e Eslām* (Encyclopaedia of the World of Islam), ed. Ğolām-'Alī Haddād 'Ādel, Tehran. (4925 words).
4. "Zaydiyya," *Dānešnāme-ye Jahān-e Eslām* (Encyclopaedia of the World of Islam), ed. Ğolām-'Alī Haddād 'Ādel, Tehran. (4890 words).
5. "Khaymatun li 'l- Hanīn: Mahmoud Darwish wa 'l-Andalus (A Tent for Nostalgia: Mahmoud Darwish and Al-Andalus)," *Poetry and History: The Value of Poetry in Reconstructing Arab History*, eds. Ramzi Baalbaki and Tarif Khalidi. (8206 words).

Mejcher-Atassi, Sonja

1. Contemporary book art (*livres d'artiste*) in the Arab Middle East. The lecture given in Munich (see under "E") and article to be submitted to *MEL* (see below) are first steps to bring some of this research to paper. The research project is still in its beginning; research trips to Amman and London are planned in the near future.
2. Collecting Practices in Lebanon. The conference I organized for this year's CVSP forum (see under "E") is a first preparation to carry out more research in this regard. I am planning to publish the conference's proceedings in addition to other articles next year.
3. (2008) "الصدائة التبادل الرمزي و فن الكتاب : عيد الرحمن منيف والفن الحديث" (revised and extended translation of my article in *MIT-EJMES*), in: Suad Kawadiri Munif (ed.). *On 'Abd al-Rahman Munif* (in Arabic). Beirut: al-Mu'assasa al-'arabiyya lil-dirasat wal-nashr.
4. (2008). "On the Necessity of Writing the Present. Elias Khoury and 'the Birth of the Novel' in Lebanon", in: Angelika Neuwirth, Andreas Pflitsch and Barbara Winckler (eds.). *Arabic Literatur, Postmodern*. London: Saqi Books, c. 10 pages.
5. (2008). "The Forbidden Paradise. How Etel Adnan Learned to Paint in Arabic", in: Angelika Neuwirth, Andreas Pflitsch and Barbara Winckler (eds.). *Arabic Literatur, Postmodern*. London: Saqi Books, c. 10 pages.
6. "Fascination Book. Contemporary Book Art from Iraq" (revised and extended version of my lecture given at the Ludwig-Maximilians University Munich, Germany) to be submitted to *Middle Eastern Literatures*.
7. Revision of my D.Phil. thesis "Reading Across Modern Arabic Literature and Art. Three Case Studies: Jabra Ibrahim Jabra, Abd al-Rahman Munif, Etel Adnan" (Oxford 2005) to be published by Reichert, Germany.

Saumarez Smith, Richard

1. “Land, society and state in Qada ‘Ajlun (north Jordan), 1870-1940”, in conjunction with Martha Mundy. This long-term project, begun before we came to AUB in October 1993, resulted in a joint monograph published by I.B. Tauris in 2007, *Governing property, ruling the modern state: Law, administration and production in Ottoman Syria*. The book is generating scholarly interest, e.g. a comment by Roger Owen in the SOAS journal “The Middle East in London” in March 2008 as follows: “This ... is the way in which the really significant books in our field continue to be produced ... like André Raymond, like Alexander Scholch – and now like Martha Mundy and Richard Saumarez Smith whose book ‘Governing Property’ ... seems to me the kind of work which my colleagues and I dreamed of long ago but did not have the opportunity, or probably the skills and the perseverance, to complete.” One further line of research has been to look at the 1895 tax register of *qada* ‘Ajlun for links between villages. I did work on this in June and August 2007, part of the results of which were presented by Martha Mundy in a workshop on *shar`i* court records at Harvard, 13-14 May 2008. The book is currently being translated into Arabic by Dar al-Kitab al-Jadid which has signed a contract with I.B. Tauris. A second line of research leading from this work compares forms of governance in late Ottoman Bilad-i Sham and in India under British imperial rule.

Wrisley, David

1. “The Loss of Constantinople and Imagining Crusade at the Fifteenth-Century Court of Burgundy,” *al-Abhath* 55 (2007) [in proofs].
2. “Images de sainteté au XVe siècle: Tunis, Beyrouth, Damas vues par Anselme Adorno et Joos van Ghistele” *Archives des sciences sociales des religions* [in press].
3. “Prosifying Lyrical Insertions in the 15th-century *Violette* (Gérard de Nevers)” commissioned for *Poetry, Knowledge and Community in Late Medieval France*. Gallica Series. Eds. Rebecca Dixon and Finn E. Sinclair (Suffolk, UK: Boydell & Brewer) [in proofs].
4. “Illumination between Multi-Confessional Debate and Evangelization: Jean Germain’s *Debat du Chrestien et du Sarrasin* (BnF fr. 948),” article commissioned for *The Social Life of Illumination*, Eds. Kathryn Smith, Joyce Coleman and Markus Cruse, Turnhout: Brepols [research complete, writing article]
5. “Dance on a New Beat: Fragments of a Reinscribed Lebanese Nation in *Al Bosta* (2005)” [presented as a conference paper, rewriting as article]
6. Book review of Alexandre Winkler, *Le tropisme de Jérusalem dans la prose et la poésie (Xiiie-Xive siècle): Essai sur la littérature des croisades* (Paris: Champion, 2006) for *Speculum*. [writing stage]
7. “Two Accounts of the Sack of Alexandria (1365), An-Nuwairi al-Iskandarani et Guillaume de Machaut” paper in preparation for International Conference on Philippe de Mézières, Cyprus, June 2009. [research stage]

E. OTHER STAFF ACTIVITIES

Amyuni, Mona

1. Teaching: CVSP-111 (Youth and rebellion in modern literature), CVSP-215 and 216 (Introduction to French literature in English, 19th and 20th centuries) and CVSP-204. Common lectures: Thucydides, introductory lecture to CVSP-204, Solzhenitsyn, Tayeb Salih.
2. Service: Coordinator of CVSP social activities; Group coordinator CVSP-204.

Arasoghli, Aida

1. Teaching: CVSP-112 (Contemporary Arab Identity), CVSP-202 and 204. Common lectures: Tayeb Salih.

Bornedal, Peter

1. “Immensity and indifference: Sublimity and eternal recurrence in Kant and in Nietzsche”, paper accepted for presentation to IAPL (International Association of Philosophy and Literature), Melbourne, Australia, June 2008. Participation cancelled due to illness.
2. “Perception, conceptualization, and interpretation: On the logical foundation for interpretability”, paper presented to IAPL, Nicosia, Cyprus, June 2007.
3. “On reading and misreading Nietzsche in deconstruction”, paper presented to ACLA (American Comparative Literature Association), Puebla, Mexico, April 2007. At the same conference I organized and chaired the panel, “The future of deconstruction”.
4. Teaching: CVSP-208F (Four theories that shaped the 20th century) and CVSP-204.

Bualuan, Hayat

1. “The Rise of Druzism in Ben Sa`id al Antaki’s Writing”, paper presented at CEDRAC and Kaslik University conference “Literary production of Melkites- Pre-Ottoman Era”, January 2008.
2. Teaching: CVSP-112 (Contemporary Arab identity), CVSP-201 and 202. Common lectures: Ibn Khaldun.
3. Service: Member of CVSP-Forum organizing committee.

Dibo, Amal

1. Teaching: French-201 and 202, CVSP-201 and 204. Common lectures: de Beauvoir.

Faddoul, Atif

1. Teaching: CVSP-201.

Feghali, Zalfa

1. Teaching: CVSP-204, 205.

Gallagher, Robert

1. Teaching: CVSP-201 and 202. Common lectures: Plato-I, Aristotle-I, Aquinas.
2. Service: Group coordinator CVSP-201 (Spring 2008); Chair of CVSP ad-hoc committee on General Education.

Hassan, Hani

1. Teaching: CVSP-207C (Utopian Thought I), CVSP-202 and 203. Common lectures: Nietzsche.

2. Service: Secretary of CVSP general meetings; Faculty Advisor for the Student Music Club, the Student Drama Club, and the Student Human Rights and Peace Club.

Jarrar, Maher

1. “Darwīsh wa ’l-Andalus (Mahmoud Darwish and Al-Andalus),” a paper read in a conference on *Arabic Poetry and History: The Value of Poetry in Reconstructing Arab History* organized by the Department of Arabic and Near Eastern Languages at the American University in Beirut, 8-10 February, 2008.
2. “Strategies of Paradise: Paradise Virgins and Utopia,” a paper read at the *Deutsche Orientalisten Tagungen*, Freiburg i. Br., September 25, 2007.
3. Teaching: CVSP-205. Common lectures: al-Muhasibi, Marx & Engels.
4. Service: Director of Anis Makdisi Program in Literature (see separate report); Group coordinator CVSP-202 (Fall 2007).

Khoury, Samira

1. Teaching: CVSP-110 (Gods and Creation: East and West), CVSP-202 and 205. Common lectures: Odyssey-I, Socrates, al-Ghazali, Naguib Mahfouz.

Maktabi, Hadi

1. Teaching: CVSP-250 (Introduction to Art Appreciation, Spring 2008)

Mejcher-Atassi, Sonja

1. I was awarded the Annemarie-Schimmel-Prize on January 23, 2008 (Gesellschaft der Freunde Islamischer Kunst und Kultur e.V., Muenchen). On the occasion of the award ceremony, I was invited to give a lecture at the Ludwig-Maximilians University Munich, Germany. The title of my lecture was “Fascination Book: Contemporary Book Art from Iraq”
2. Concept and organization of this year’s CVSP forum in the form of a two day conference at AUB on “Collecting Practices in Lebanon: Alternative Visions of the Past”, May 24-25, 2008 (see under “A”).
3. Teaching: CVSP-250 and 251 (Introduction to Art Appreciation, and Civilization through the Arts), and CVSP-204. Common lectures: Thomas Mann.
4. Service: FAS Library committee (2nd semester). I participated in the CTL Seminar on Developing a Teaching Portfolio (January 7, 2008) and the CTL Seminar on Learning and Teaching Excellence (March 19-April 23, 2008). Chair of CVSP ad-hoc committee on Teaching Skills.

Sabra, George

1. Teaching: CVSP-202. Common lectures: Augustine-I, Luther.

Samaha, Raed

1. Teaching: CVSP-208D (Science and Society) and CVSP-203. Common lectures: Descartes, Enlightenment-II (Hume and Bentham).

2. Service: Coordinator of CVSP Brown bag seminars (see under “A”); Group coordinator CVSP-203.

Saumarez Smith, Richard

1. Teaching: CVSP-201 and 202. Common lectures: Odyssey-II, Aristotle’s Ethics, Machiavelli, Locke, Enlightenment-I (Smith and Encyclopaedists).
2. Service: CVSP Director, Secretary of University Senate, FAS Advisory Committee, Advisor of Majorless Students.

Sharif, Malek

1. Teaching: CVSP-204 (Spring 2008).

Shebay’a, Peter

1. Ongoing work for an outdoor production of Bertold Brecht’s Mother Courage to be presented next academic year due to spring events in Lebanon. This play revolves around the one hundred year confessional wars in Europe, dealing with themes of the exploitation of religious differences fueled by power lust and economic interests. The aim is to present our audiences with a work that has been called “the greatest play of the 20th century” as well as to draw parallels with our contemporary local and international situation. The outdoor site for the play will allow us to make maximum use of a variety of media that promises to make of it a significant cultural event.
2. Teaching: CVSP-201, 202, 203, 204, 205. Common lectures: Oedipus, Introduction to CVSP-202, Augustine-II, Dante-I, Dante-II, Faust-II, Freud-I, Freud-II.
3. Service: Acting Director CVSP; Group coordinator CVSP-205 (Fall 2007); Group coordinator CVSP-202 (Spring 2008).

Tohme, Edmund

1. Teaching: CVSP-201, 204. Common lectures: Marx.

Wrisley, David

1. “Le Débat multi-confessionnel et la connaissance de l’Islam à la cour de Bourgogne au XVe siècle”, paper presented at the international conference “La culture sur les rives de la Méditerranée” at Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt, 12-19 February 2008.
2. “The *Debat du chrestien et du sarrasin (Trésor des simples)* and Knowledge of Islam at the 15th-century Court of Burgundy”, paper presented at the University of Cambridge Medieval French Research Seminar, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK, 7 February 2008.
3. “Dance on a New Beat: Fragments of a Reinscribed Lebanese Nation in *Al Bosta* (2005)”, paper presented on panel “Transnationalism, Transculturalism, and Cosmopolitanism in Francophone Literature and Film”, Division on Francophone Literatures and Cultures panel at Modern Language Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, December 2007.
4. “Burgundian Prose Orient”, paper presented at “The Power of Prose”, Division of Medieval French Language and Literature Panel, Modern Language Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, December 2007.
5. Teaching: CVSP-207A (Love: Human and Divine), CVSP-201 and 204. Common lectures: Lucretius and Virgil.

6. Service: FAS Freshman advisor; Acting Chair FAS Student Affairs committee; SRC election representative; Group coordinator of CVSP-201 (Fall 2007).

F. PUBLICATIONS

Jarrar, Maher

1. "al-Maghāzī wa 'l-siyar fī al-Andalus: dirāsa fī tatawwur mafhūm al-Jihād, (Development of the Genre of Jihad in Islamic Spain)", in *From Baghdad to Beirut... Arab and Islamic Studies in Honor of John Donohue s.j.*, eds. Leslie Tramontini and Chibli Mallat. Beirut/Würzburg: Ergon Verlag, 2007, 28-56.
2. "Abd al-Rahmān Munīf's *Upon Leaving the Bridge and Endings: A Redemptive Journey*," in *The MIT Electronic Journal of Middle East Studies* (Special Focus: 'Abd Al-Rahman Munif Remembered), 7 (Spring 2007), 59-69.

Mejcher-Atassi, Sonja

1. Edited *'Abd al-Rahmān Munīf Remembered*, special issue of *MIT-Electronic Journal for Middle East Studies* vol. 7, Spring 2007, 217 pp., <http://web.mit.edu/cis/www/mitejmes>.
2. "Munīf's Interest in Modern Art. Friendship, Symbolic Exchange and the Art of the Book," in *'Abd al-Rahmān Munīf Remembered*, special issue of *MIT-Electronic Journal for Middle East Studies* vol. 7 Spring 2007, pp. 99-115. <http://web.mit.edu/cis/www/mitejmes>

Wrisley, David

1. "Translating Knowledge and Power: Examples from the Library of Burgundy", *The Medieval Translator* 10 (Fall 2007), 351-365.
2. "Situating Islamdom in Jean Germain's *Mappemonde Spirituelle* (1449)", *Medieval Encounters* 13.2 (2007), 326-346.

G. FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

CVSP intends to remain at the heart of the university's General Education requirements in the humanities when the provisions of GE are adopted across all faculties in 2009-10. During 2008-09 the core CVSP courses will adopt Web-CT technology (Moodle). This will enable teachers to focus on the development of the specific critical skills stated in the core syllabi through regular postings, exercises and discussion on the web. All common lectures will also be recorded on video-tape to provide a readily accessible learning resource for students. A second development, also related to the adoption of GE, is to expand the range of thematic courses in CVSP. At present thematic courses represent a small fraction of Sequence I / Sequence II offerings, by far the greater proportion being occupied by the core chronological courses CVSP-201 to 206 (see "B" above). A larger proportion of thematic courses will offer greater choice to students at the same time as allowing professorial rank faculty to teach topics closer to their area of specialization, which in turn will lead to enriching the chronological courses. Thus we shall be seeking to recruit new faculty over the next few years in order to both to increase the range of offerings and to regenerate the core chronological courses. Thirdly, and following the work of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Teaching Skills this year, 2008-09

will see an increased emphasis on the means by which we achieve the stated objectives of our courses in relation to student attainment of critical skills.

Richard Saumarez Smith
Director