

# Exploring and Mapping the World


## *Syllabus for Fall, 2019*

**Location:** OLLI Paradise Campus

**Day/Time:** Thursdays, 9-10:45, Sep 19 – Nov 21

**Instructor:** Susan Merritt; susanmerritt99@gmail.com

### Schedule:

Class	Subject	Topics
9/19	<i>The First Explorers</i>	Course introduction and Polynesian navigation
9/26	<i>From Babylon to Ancient Greece</i>	Space has a history, told through maps; timeline of western knowledge of the earth and sky; voyages of Pytheas the Greek
10/3	<i>Geography and Cartography Basics</i>	Map subjectivity, projections, orientation, latitude/longitude, Ptolemy's legacy
10/10	<i>The Vikings</i>	The quest to measure longitude, Norse navigation, Leif Eriksson the Lucky
10/17	<i>Marco Polo and the East</i>	The journeys of Marco Polo and Sir John Mandeville, monsters on maps, geo trivia
10/24	<i>Portugal's Great Leap Forward</i>	Spatial knowledge in the Age of Discovery; Portugal's quest for wealth through spices; navigational charts and rhumb lines
10/31 	<i>A New World Takes Shape</i>	World knowledge in 1492; the enigmatic Christopher Columbus; the Waldseemuller map; U.S. geo-ignorance & David Helgren's quiz
11/7	<i>Lewis and Clark</i>	The many uses for maps; Jefferson dispatches Lewis and Clark; what maps tell us about their expedition and the history of the American west
11/14	<i>Magellan &amp; Globalization</i>	Magellan's voyage and the advent of globalization; custom-made GeoBingo game
11/21	<i>Captain Cook Maps the World/ Modern Space Exploration</i>	The elusive southern hemisphere; Captain Cook's voyages; The last frontier – human exploration of space