



## Fall Semester 2010

### CCI Colloquium Series Calendar

**Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 17:00 in G-160**

*Theodore Roosevelt and New York: The Future President's Urban Roots.*

"Theodore Roosevelt has become an icon of the American West, frequently portrayed in history as a cowboy, hunter, and cattle rancher. This image obscures the fact that Roosevelt was born and raised in New York City, the most thoroughly urbanized part of the United States. Moreover, he made his early political career in New York, serving in the state assembly, running for mayor, and serving as police commissioner. While many Roosevelt biographers seek to place Roosevelt and his future policies in a western context, it is really New York City that shaped his ideas about America and launched his political career."

--Speaker, Dr. Edward Kohn,

--Bilkent University Department of History, Chairman of Department of American Culture and Literature.

**Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 17:00 in G-160**

*Family Worship for Dummies: Defoe's Trusted Brand, the Family Instructor Conduct Books"*

"The Crusoe sequels, *The Farther Adventures of Robinson Crusoe* (1719) and *Serious Reflections on the life of Robinson Crusoe* (1720), receive little critical attention, a neglect attributed to the increasing formal disparity between the later novels and *Robinson Crusoe* (1719). Reading Defoe's Family Instructor series of conduct books (*The Family Instructor* [1715], *The Family Instructor II* [1718] and *A New Family Instructor* [1727]) alongside the Robinson Crusoe series reveals a larger scheme at work. Defoe reuses titles and characters to create unlikely partnerships between texts in order to bring a general readership to theologically sophisticated work. These formal disparities do not signal artistic lapses; they represent Defoe's attempt to use earlier texts as brand-like entities."

--Speaker, Dr. Margaret France

--Bilkent University, Program in Cultures, Civilizations & Ideas

**Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 17:00 G-160**

*The Irony of American Tragedy*

"We have heard, often, that in America, a country in which a belief in betterment, optimism and individual triumph reign supreme (at least, this is the narrative), tragedy is not possible. Most often, though, the criteria for tragic status stems from a single work of philosophy: Aristotle's *Poetics*, rather than from attentive consideration of Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides' wildly divergent tragedies. I will argue that we have seen, in this last decade, an upswing in American tragedies rooted in, "the irony of American history," (to borrow Reinhold Niebuhr's famous title) and in the media of episodic television and film. To understand this upswing, though, we need to look carefully at the individual Athenian tragedies themselves."

--Speaker, Dr. Christoher Love

--Bilkent University, Program in Cultures, Civilizations & Ideas

**Tuesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 17:00 G-160**

*Unwritten History or Unwriting History: On Armenians, Greeks and Jews in Turkish literature.*

"The contributions made by non-Muslim authors to Ottoman Turkish literature have largely been ignored by mainstream literary historians and critics. This papers aims to present Armeno-Turkish, Judeo-Turkish and Karamanli literatures and to explore the challenges it represents for Turkish literary historiography and criticism."

--Speaker, Dr. Laurent Mignon

--Bilkent University, Department of Turkish Literature

All talks will take place in the CCI Seminar room (G-160, above the Garanti Bank branch in the G building).

Light refreshments will be served, and all are welcome to attend.

Spring Semester participants will include: Dr. Selim Ferruh Adali (Bilkent HART), Dr. Denis Ferhatovic (Bilkent CCI), Dr. Andrew Peacock (The British Institute, Ankara), Dr. Mehmet Kalpakli (Bilkent HIST), and Dr. Matthew Gumpurt (Bogazici Foreign Languages and Literatures), Dr. Gul Kurtulus (Bilkent ELIT)