

The Department of History, in cooperation with the Departments of English, French, German, East Asian Studies, Italian, and the 1902 Lecture Fund, presents

Carlo Ginzburg

Rome 1735: Making Sense of the Chinese Rites Debates

Between the 16th and the 18th century the Jesuit missionaries to China adopted a highly unconventional strategy, allowing new converts to participate in the ceremonies related to the cult of the dead, and especially to the cult of Confucius. This flexible attitude towards the “Chinese rites”, first put forward by Matteo Ricci (1552-1610), elicited a long debate, concluded by the condemnation of the Jesuits’s approach (1742). The lecture will examine the last stage of the Chinese rites debate and its implications, on the basis of unpublished evidence preserved at the UCLA Research Library (Los Angeles) and the Archivio della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede (Rome).



Chinese edition of Euclid's Elements (幾何原本) (1607)

Thursday, Nov. 5, 4:15 p.m.

Carpenter, Room 21, Bryn Mawr College

Free and open to the public, reception to follow.

Carlo Ginzburg is internationally renowned both as a scholar of early modern European cultural history and for his more theoretical inquiries into the nature of historical research and narratives generally. In the United States he is perhaps best-known as author of *The Cheese and The Worms* (1976), a pioneering study in the field of “microhistory” that attempted to reconstruct the worldview of a provincial miller from records left by his trial at the hands of the Inquisition.



Sanjay Subrahmanyam, 2009 Mary Flexner Lecturer

Courtly Encounters:

Translating Courtliness in Early Modern Eurasia

NOV. 2, 9, AND 16, MONDAYS, 5 P.M., THOMAS GREAT HALL

The Mary Flexner Lectures
AT BRYN MAWR COLLEGE