

The College of Arts and Humanities and the Latin American Studies Minor
present:

Entangled Empires: Spanish and Portuguese Networks in the 18th Century South Atlantic

This presentation examines the significance of trans-imperial networks of trade connecting Spanish Rio de la Plata to Portuguese Brazil in the late 18th century. Despite intermittent conflict and imperial rivalry, Portuguese and Spanish subjects developed powerful networks connecting Iberian territories in the Americas. The analysis of Montevideo's port records, population data, and merchant community reveals the centrality of trans-imperial interactions in shaping institutions and the political culture in the region. This presentation argues that trans-imperial trade (legal and illegal) was an integral variable in the making of colonial societies in the South Atlantic in general, and in Rio de la Plata in specific.



Dr. Fabricio Prado

He received his MA from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil), in 2002. During his Masters, Fabricio was a research fellow at the Emilio Ravignani Institute for Historical Research at Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina. His MA thesis was published in 2002 under the title *Colônia do Sacramento – the Southernmost Portuguese America (1716-1753)*. Fabricio received his Ph.D. from Emory University (2009) where he worked under Prof. Susan Socolow. His book manuscript analyzes trans-imperial networks of interaction among Spanish, Portuguese and British subjects in Rio de la Plata. Currently, Fabricio is researching the social and commercial networks linking New England to Rio de la Plata in the last decades of colonial rule in Latin America. Professor Prado teaches courses on Colonial Latin American History and the Atlantic World.



Original in the John Carter Brown Library

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