

**Knowing the Americas:
Travelers' Contribution to Science in Europe and the Americas, ca. 1750-1900
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From the eighteenth through early twentieth centuries, Latin America attracted scientific travelers from Europe and North America interested in advancing and applying scientific knowledge in both hemispheres. Some travelers collected new data for analysis at home, while others brought specialized knowledge to develop projects in the countries they visited. The papers in this session consider the direct and indirect impact of scientific travelers from Mexico to Brazil, both in evidence presented to scientific and popular audiences, and in changes they produced on the ground. Vera Candiani looks at how Spanish engineers' status as outsiders impacted their ability to shape late colonial Mexican water management projects. Nadia Prevost-Urkidi queries the relationship between nineteenth-century French scientific travelers as collectors and Parisian experts as evaluators of archaeological data. Ernesto Capello considers the key role played by the Catholic Church in the success of the second French geodetic survey in early twentieth century Ecuador. Together these papers consider the broad impact of scientific travel within the scientific community, on government institutions and Latin American societies, and on other actors including the Catholic Church.

Paper Titles

Traveling technicians: military engineers, water and colonialism

Dr. Vera Candiani, Department of History, Princeton University

**Reflexiones alrededor del estatuto científico del « erudito-viajero » durante el siglo XIX.
Casos concretos de viajeros franceses a América.**

Dr. Nadia Prevost Urkidi, FRAMESPA, Université de Toulouse-II

Catholics and Cartographers: European Geographers and the Catholic Church in Ecuador

Dr. Ernesto Capello, Department of History, Macalester College