HIS 300.30 Modern History of Adventure [SBS+]
Elena Mutu-Blackstone

Are you ready for adventure? But what exactly does ad-venture mean to you? This course explores the concept and meanings of adventure as it has developed across the last three centuries. Did adventure mean travelling, discovery, exploration but also empire and conquest? Was adventure the outcome of the Western Europeans’ early modern attempts at knowing and controlling nature and space? To the historical context of Western European imperial expansion and scientific endeavor, we will add gender and race to test the meaning of adventure. How did women and non-Europeans participate in the making of ad-venture? Course requirements include weekly readings and participation in online discussions on Blackboard; the course will conclude with a final essay.