Jo Ann Cavallo (Ph.D., Yale, '87) is a literary critic and cultural historian who has been on the faculty of Columbia's Department of Italian since 1988. Her primary field of specialization is the Renaissance romance epic. Professor Cavallo's most recent research concerns dramatic adaptations of medieval and Renaissance epics in diverse social realities: the epic *Maggio* (folk opera) in the isolated rural communities of the Tuscan-Emilian Apennines and *l'Opera dei pupi* (puppet theater) in the urban centers of Sicily. In the course of her fieldwork in Sicily and Emilia, Professor Cavallo has also documented these two traditions of popular “epic” theater through audio-visual means. She completed her first feature-length documentary on the *Maggio* in 2003 and is currently editing a second documentary on the puppet tradition, entitled *Where Have All the Brave Knights Gone? Sicilian Puppet Theater Today*.

Professor Cavallo has published studies on authors as diverse as Dante, Petrarch, Castiglione, Giordano Bruno, and Elsa Morante. Her latest book, *The Romance Epics of Boiardo, Ariosto, and Tasso: From Public Duty to Private Pleasure* (Toronto UP, 2004), offers a new history of the genre, especially regarding creative imitation, allegory, ideology, and political engagement. She has spent extended periods of time in Italy since 1980, including seven summers as a study-abroad program director and instructor. She returns to Sicily to share her passion for the island’s timeless cultural richness through formal lecturers and informal discussions.
Dear Columbian,

The cultural treasures of Sicily are unsurpassed. For 3,000 years, wave after wave of new cultures, new ideas, and new artistic techniques have swept over this beautiful Mediterranean island, leaving in their wake sublime temples, great cities, captivating villages, and extraordinary works of art. Next spring, we invite you to join Professor Cavallo, fellow alumni and friends on a special voyage around Sicily’s shores to explore the awe-inspiring places where great ideas and civilizations converged and flourished.

Our journey includes a treasure trove of riches—from the spectacular artistic achievements of the Byzantine era (with its magnificent frescoes, mosaics, and other opulent works of art) to the simplicity and grace of the Doric temples of the ancient Greeks, the exquisite architecture of the Moors, and the colossal works of the Romans. At Syracuse, Segesta, and other sites scattered throughout the island, see why Sicily is often called an “open-air museum” for its multitude of incomparable and well-preserved architectural remains. Also discover Sicily’s inviting towns, starting with grand Palermo and including medieval Erice, picturesque Cefalu, and Monreale, with its Norman Cathedral. And witness some of the most breathtaking vistas found anywhere in the Mediterranean: the glorious view from Agrigento, where superb Doric temples overlook the sea; beautiful Taormina, clinging to the edge of Mount Tauro, from where we have a majestic view of volcanic Mount Etna; and the Baroque towns of Noto, Ispica, Modica, and Ragusa, located amidst stunning landscapes.

The timing for this Mediterranean trip could not be better—the wildflowers of spring add a profusion of color to the pastoral countryside, the air is fresh and clear, and the influx of summer tourists has not yet begun. In addition, our voyage takes place aboard the private yacht, Callisto—the perfect way to circumnavigate this vivid island.

We hope you will join Professor Cavallo, fellow alumni and travelers from the National Trust for Historic Preservation next spring as we discover the many faces of Sicily: Crossroads of Mediterranean Civilizations.

Sincerely,

Eric J. Furda
Vice President for Alumni Relations

Call: 866-3-ALUMNI (866-325-8664)
E-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu
Itinerary
Friday, April 21, 2006
USA
Fly from the United States to Palermo, Sicily.

Saturday, April 22
PALERMO, SICILY, ITALY
Arrive in Palermo, Sicily’s capital and one of Europe’s most visually stunning and energetic cities. Transfer to the deluxe Grand Hotel Villa Igiea. The balance of the day is at leisure. This evening, enjoy a welcome cocktail reception at the hotel.

Sunday, April 23
PALERMO | MONREALE | PALERMO
Built around a spacious bay against Mount Pellegrino, Palermo, the ancient Panormus, was founded by the Phoenicians in 827 B.C. Already the hub of the island since the 9th century A.D. when it came under Saracen rule, Palermo became one of Europe’s greatest cities by the 12th century when the Normans took control. Renowned for the wealth of its court, Palermo has inherited a tremendous artistic legacy. A morning tour includes the Archaeological Museum, whose collection contains the metopes (stone carvings) from the Selinunite temples; La Martorana church, noted for its beautiful mosaics; and the glorious Cappella Palatina, one of Italy’s finest works of art. In the afternoon, travel to the small medieval town of Monreale to visit its famed Norman Cathedral and elegant Cloister. Constructed from 1174 to 1184 by William II, the interior contains a magnificent series of mosaics. Return to Palermo in the early evening with time at leisure to wander its streets independently. This evening, enjoy a private dinner hosted by Principessa Raffaldi at her elegant villa, accompanied by her husband and nobility. (B, L, D)

Monday, April 24
PALERMO | CEFALU | EMBARKATION
Travel to the small medieval port town of Cefalu, nestled between the sea and a rocky promontory. The Romanesque cathedral dominates the town’s landscape, towering over its network of narrow streets and ascending terraces. A collaborative effort of Arab, Byzantine, and Norman artisans, the cathedral’s interior contains a splendid vault covered with beautiful Byzantine mosaics. Embark Callisto in Cefalu and set sail for Messina. (B, L, D)

Tuesday, April 25
MESSINA | TAORMINA | MESSINA
After a morning at sea, Callisto navigates the Strait of Messina, the mythological site of Scylla and Charybdis, and docks in Messina for an excursion to one of the most beautifully situated towns in Italy. Clinging to the edge of Mount Tauro, Taormina looks out to the sea and the dramatic cone of Mount Etna. A Greek colony was founded here in 403 B.C. and prospered throughout the Hellenistic and Roman periods. Visit the magnificent Greek Theater, which offers dramatic views of Etna and the Sicilian coastline. Also enjoy time at leisure to stroll along the town’s streets and alleyways and admire Taormina’s impressive architecture.
The Norman Cloister of Monreale
and lovely gardens. Spend overnight aboard ship docked in Messina.  
(B, L, D)

Wednesday, April 26
SYRACUSE
Spend the morning cruising along the east coast of Sicily to arrive at Syracuse, which once rivaled Athens as the most important city of the ancient world. Visit the spectacular 15,000-seat Greek Theater, among the most impressive to survive from antiquity; the elliptical Roman Amphitheater, one of the largest of its kind; and the Archaeological Museum, which contains an extensive collection of rare Sicilian artifacts. Also enjoy a walking tour of Syracuse’s old town, situated on the island of Ortygia. Spend overnight aboard ship docked in Syracuse.  (B, L, D)

Friday, April 28
LICATA | PIAZZA ARMERINA | LICATA | PORTO EMPEDOCLE
From Licata, drive inland to tour Sicily’s finest Roman site, the Imperial Roman Villa. Located outside Piazza Armerina, a town situated amid wooded hills, the villa was built in palatial proportions in the 3rd century A.D., as the summer home of a wealthy owner. The floors of the building are decorated with multicolored mosaics of superb quality. Following lunch at a local restaurant, return to Licata, from where Callisto will sail for Porto Empedocle.  (B, L, D)

Saturday, April 29
PORTO EMPEDOCLE | AGRIGENTO | PORTO EMPEDOCLE | MARSALA
This morning we take an excursion to nearby Agrigento. Set on a ridge facing the sea, Agrigento’s series of superb Doric temples are perhaps the most captivating of Sicily’s Greek ruins. View the Temple of Hercules, constructed in the 6th century B.C.; the remarkably preserved Temple of Concord; and the Temple of Juno, noted for its graceful proportions. Also visit the Archaeological Museum, whose extraordinary collection is devoted to finds from the surrounding area. Return to Porto Empedocle to reboard Callisto and spend the afternoon sailing along the coast of Sicily. Arrive at Marsala, where the ship remains docked overnight.  (B, L, D)

Sunday, April 30
MARSALA | ERICE | SEGESTA | CASTELLAMMARE DEL GOLFO | PALERMO
From Marsala drive to the town of Erice, perched on a high plateau with glorious views of the sea. The site was famed in antiquity for its temple dedicated to the goddess of love—the Phoenician Astarte, Grecian Aphrodite, or Roman Venus. Leisurely explore the shops and streets of this beautifully preserved medieval town. Continue to Segesta to view its unfinished temple, situated on a rural hill. Begun in 424 B.C., it is one of the grandest Doric monuments to survive from antiquity. Reboard the ship in the afternoon at the small port of Castellammare del Golfo and cruise around the northwestern tip of Sicily to Palermo, arriving in the evening.  (B, L, D)

Monday, May 1
PALERMO | DISEMBARKATION | USA
Disembark from Callisto this morning and transfer to the airport for return flights to the United States.  (B)
The Sun Deck provides a perfect vantage point for enjoying passing vistas.

The luxurious private yacht Callisto, accommodating just 34 guests, is ideal for Travel Dynamics International’s unique approach to cultural cruising. Her small size allows visits to unspoiled ports, pristine beaches and intimate coves inaccessible to larger cruise liners. The limited guest list assures a group large enough to bring together an interesting mix of travellers, but small enough to foster a genuine spirit of camaraderie. All 17 exterior cabins resemble guest rooms in a fine home—beautifully furnished, comfortably arranged, and complete with the amenities one would expect from a thoughtful host: large windows (portholes on Daphne Deck); air-conditioning; generous storage space; telephone; satellite TV/VCR/DVD; mini-refrigerator; and marble bathroom with shower.

The yacht’s public areas, which include an elegant restaurant surrounded by large picture windows; a spacious lounge and bar; and a library and internet center surrounded by floor-to-ceiling windows, are furnished with rich fabrics, handsome woodwork, gleaming brass, antiques and fine works of art—warm, inviting places where travelers meet for conversation and refreshments, or to spend a pleasant hour with a good book. The yacht also includes two broad decks for sunbathing and a swimming platform.

The Star Deck provides a perfect vantage point for enjoying passing vistas.

Program Inclusions

- Two nights in Palermo at the Grand Hotel Villa Igiea
- Seven-night cruise aboard the 34-guest yacht Callisto
- Welcome and farewell receptions aboard ship, hosted by the captain
- All meals aboard ship including breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, and dinner
- Complimentary house wine, beer, and soft drinks with lunch and dinner aboard ship
- Complete program of tours and excursions as described in the itinerary
- Educational program of lectures and discussions with accompanying Columbia faculty member Jo Ann Cavallo
- Professional Travel Dynamics International tour staff
- Complete pre-departure materials including destination information, travel portfolio, document wallet, and name tag
- Transfers and baggage handling aboard on the designated program departure and arrival dates
- Port dues and embarkation taxes
- Gratuities to porters, guides, and drivers

NOT INCLUDED: Airfare; visas; passports; luggage, cancellation, and accident insurance; meals, soft drinks, and alcoholic beverages other than those specified above; personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls, faxes, and e-mail service; and gratuities to shipboard personnel

Odysseus Circle
Your Passport to Savings

People who voyage with Columbia University and Travel Dynamics International share the same passion for discovery as the mythological adventurer Odysseus. We believe you are more than our guest—you are also a partner in our quest for discovery and learning. To thank you for choosing to travel with us, we invite you to share in the benefits of our rewards club, Odysseus Circle, an innovative, straightforward program that is exactly what you would want it to be—rewarding—with no membership fees or cumbersome restrictions. Earn Nautical Miles per distance sailed on each voyage, and redeem them for phenomenal savings on future journeys with Travel Dynamics International.

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Membership is as easy as a phone call. Details will be sent to you upon registration.

On this voyage you will earn 460 nautical miles.

Callisto | Privileged Mediterranean Yachting for Just 34 Guests

Intimate Elegance

The luxurious private yacht Callisto, accommodating just 34 guests, is ideal for Travel Dynamics International’s unique approach to cultural cruising. Her small size allows visits to unspoiled ports, pristine beaches and intimate coves inaccessible to larger cruise liners. The limited guest list assures a group large enough to bring together an interesting mix of travelers, but small enough to foster a genuine spirit of camaraderie. All 17 exterior cabins resemble guest rooms in a fine home—beautifully furnished, comfortably arranged, and complete with the amenities one would expect from a thoughtful host: large windows (portholes on Daphne Deck); air-conditioning; generous storage space; telephone; satellite TV/VCR/DVD; mini-refrigerator; and marble bathroom with shower.

A Private Yacht Experience

The yacht’s public areas, which include an elegant restaurant surrounded by large picture windows; a spacious lounge and bar; and a library and internet center surrounded by floor-to-ceiling windows, are furnished with rich fabrics, handsome woodwork, gleaming brass, antiques and fine works of art—warm, inviting places where travelers meet for conversation and refreshments, or to spend a pleasant hour with a good book. The yacht also includes two broad decks for sunbathing and a swimming platform.

Sublime Dining

Callisto’s hotel staff requisitions fresh provisions from many ports of call. So you will enjoy just-baked bread, caught-that-day fish, and all of the very ripest produce from the local markets, resulting in menus of classic regional specialties as well as creative Continental fare prepared by expert European chefs, and served at a single unassigned seating in the restaurant, or al fresco on the sun deck. Fine wines are complimentary with lunch and dinner.
The Library and Internet Center overlook the Sun Deck

The Dining Room is surrounded by large windows

Relax with a cocktail in the elegant Lounge and Bar

Enjoy the peace and comforts of your cabin

Marble-appointed cabin bathroom

Deck Plan

Outside cabins on Leto Deck with two picture windows $9,295
Outside cabins on Leto Deck with picture window $8,895
Outside cabins on Daphne Deck with portholes $8,295
Outside cabins on Daphne Deck with portholes $7,895

Cruise and Land Rates | per person, double occupancy

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<td>A</td>
<td>Outside cabins on Leto Deck with two picture windows</td>
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**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:** A limited number of singles are available in Categories B & C for an additional charge of $2,495.

**AIRFARE:** Airfare is not included in the cost of the program. Please call Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc. (VWTI), the agency handling air arrangements for this program, for competitive airfares to/from Palermo, Sicily, in your selected class of service. To reach VWTI, kindly call toll-free 877-711-9896 or 212-592-1340 for reservation and ticketing information, and please have your program tour code handy for reference: 6813.

Length: 170 feet | Beam: 27.8 feet | Draft: 10.8 feet | Gross Tonnage: 499
Main Engines: Mannheim 2x840 H.P | Rebuild/Renovated: 2000/2005 | Flag: Greece
Cabin: 17
General Information

Payment Schedule: A deposit of $1,000 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour. For your convenience, you may charge your deposit to your American Express, Visa, Discover, or MasterCard. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Credit cards are not accepted for final payment. However, personal checks are accepted for both deposits and final payment.

Cancellations & Refunds: All cancellations of confirmed reservations are subject to a $300 per person administrative fee. Additionally, passengers are subject to any cancellation fees assessed by the purveyors of services, including airlines or hotels used in the itinerary. Cancellations received 61-90 days prior to departure will be assessed a penalty equal to 50% of the total program cost per person. Cancellations received within 60 days of departure are subject to 100% cancellation penalties. Requests for cancellations must be made in writing. No refunds will be made for any part of this program in which you choose not to participate. Service fees may apply to deviations and are non-refundable.

Insurance: We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance through a company of your choice. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Further information will be sent upon registration.

Itinerary: The itinerary, accommodations, and arrangements are subject to change at the discretion of Travel Dynamics International.

Responsibility: Please read carefully the following terms and conditions, which constitute the sole, legally enforceable agreements between the passenger and Columbia University, its agent, TSS LLC, and operator, Travel Dynamics International. The passenger is also advised to review higher separate ticket purchase contract with the vessel’s owner/operator, which will constitute the sole, legally enforceable agreements for carriage for this tour and is available from Travel Dynamics International. Columbia University, its agent TSS LLC, and operator, Travel Dynamics International act solely as agents for the passenger with respect to all transportation, hotel and other tour arrangements. In that capacity, we exercise all reasonable care possible to ensure the passenger’s safety and satisfaction, but, we neither assume nor bear any responsibility or liability for any injury, death, loss, accident, delay or irregularity arising in connection with the services of any ship, airplane, train, automobile, motor coach, carriage or other conveyance, or the actions of any third-party, involved in carrying the passenger or in affecting these tours. We, Columbia University, our agent TSS LLC, and operator, Travel Dynamics International are not responsible for damages, additional expenses, or any other losses due to cancellation, delay or other changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, civil disturbances, acts or threats of terrorism, travel warnings or bans, termination or suspension of war risks or other carrier insurance, quarantine, acts of God or other causes beyond our control. All such losses must be borne by the passenger, and tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. In the event of cancellation, delay or rescheduling mandated by any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by us, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as we are able to recover on the passenger’s behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, we shall not have any obligation or liability to the passenger beyond the foregoing. We reserve the right to make alterations to the tour’s itinerary and to substitute hotels or ships if this is required. We reserve the right to cancel, delay, or reschedule any tour prior to departure, and, so long as this is not due to any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall be entitled to a full refund of all monies paid to that point if he/she so desires. No refund shall be made for any unused portion of any tour. By forwarding their deposit(s), the passenger certifies that he/she and/or their dependents, minors or others covered thereby do not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that could create a hazard for them or other passengers. We reserve the right to decline to accept or to decline to retain any person as a member of any tour should such person’s health, condition or actions adversely affect or threaten the welfare or safety of other passengers or impede the tour. Baggage or valuables brought on the tour shall be transported, handled or stored at the passenger’s risk entirely, and, we shall bear no liability or responsibility for any damage or other loss thereto. Resolution of any disputes arising hereunder shall be affected exclusively in the state or federal courts presiding in the City of New York, pursuant to applicable New York law. We cannot guarantee the size of the Columbia Alumni Travel Study group. We reserve the right to substitute study leaders.

Rates: Tour costs are based upon current airfares, tariffs, and currency values. While we do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. Due to fluctuations in fuel costs, a fuel surcharge may be levied.

Ship’s Registry: Greece

CST #204 3599-40 TDI

Registration

Enclosed is my check or credit card no. for $ __________ ($1,000 per person) as a deposit to hold ___ place(s) on Sicily.

Please make check payable to: Travel Dynamics International and mail to: Columbia University, Alumni Travel Study Program, P.O. Box 169 New York, NY 10028. Or, fax to 212-517-7770. Phone: 866-3-ALUMNI (866-325-8664) or 212-472-4365 in New York City

E-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu

I understand that final payment is due ninety (90) days prior to departure.

☐ AmEx ☐ Discover ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

No________________________________ Exp. _______

PLEASE SELECT CABIN CATEGORY IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE:

☐ Twin Beds ☐ Single Occupancy ☐ Double Bed ☐ Share (cannot be guaranteed)

DR./MR./MRS./MS. FIRST LAST

SCHOOL/YEAR DATE OF BIRTH

DR./MR./MRS./MS. FIRST LAST

SCHOOL/YEAR DATE OF BIRTH

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

TELEPHONE (DAY) (EVENING)

E-MAIL

☐ Yes, please send my pre-departure materials via e-mail.

Each participant must sign below: I/We have read the “General Information” section and agree to its terms.

SIGNATURE DATE

SIGNATURE DATE
For further information about this travel program, please contact the Columbia University Alumni Travel Study Program. You may reach us toll-free at 866-3-ALUMNI (866-325-8664). New York City area residents may reach us at 212-472-4365.
fax 212-517-7770 • e-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu

Explore Sicily,
Europe’s Open-Air Museum

The picturesque village of Cefalu