



BROWN

The Committee of Modern Greek Studies

Presents

Alexis Rappas

Post-Doctoral Fellow in Hellenic Studies
Princeton University

*“Greeks Under European Colonial Rule:
The Practical Significance of National Allegiance
and Imperial Loyalty”*

This paper is based on the representations of Cypriots and Dodecanesians who sought the protection of either the colonial authorities or the Greek state in the 1930s. Greek colonial subjects found themselves caught within a web of conflicting expectations: while the colonial state demanded imperial loyalty, the community's elite, the Church, or the Greek state expected proofs of national allegiance. However, the analysis of the case studies suggests that most Greek colonial subjects seeking to meet their practical needs attempted to conciliate these expectations. The extent to which they were able to do so may shed some light on the efficacy of the constraints – administrative, ideological, political – bearing on Greek colonial subjects; specifically, they may enlighten us both with regard to the different systems of colonial rule (Italian/fascist as opposed to the British/liberal) and to the social and political cohesion of the local Greek-speaking orthodox communities in Cyprus and the Dodecanese.

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

5:30pm

Brian Room, Maddock Alumni Center
38 Brown Street (Corner of George)

Reception to follow

Alexis Sergio Haralambos Rappas received the degree of Ph.D. in 2008 in History and Civilization at the European University Institute, Florence, Italy. The title of his dissertation is *Elusive Polity: Social Engineering and the Reinvention of Politics in Colonial Cyprus, 1931-1941*. He was awarded the Ted and Elaine Athanassiades Fellowship for 2009-2010 at Princeton University's Program in Hellenic Studies where he is conducting a research project entitled “European Colonialism at the Margins of Europe.”