THE SILK ROADS: TRAVEL, TRADE AND TREASURE

Resources for Research in the Queens College Libraries

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BENJAMIN S. ROSENTHAL LIBRARY

Video links curated by Adaliz N. Cruz Mena

Year of Silk Road website

History and Routes

The Journey along the Silk Road [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JCjsbImXiyg]

• Introduction to the Silk Road. Ken Ogata travels through modern day Silk Road routes and explains the history and significance of landmarks and events along the way.

Spice Routes and Silk Roads [http://search.alexanderstreet.com/view/work/1791870]

• Introduces us to the growth of Indian civilization as the spice routes and silk roads opened up.

The Ancient Silk Road of China [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LowP8zYHDYA]

• Narrated photo presentation featuring a modern day look at the history of the Silk Road.

The Silk Road 1 – 7 of 12 – Khotan Oasis of Silk and Jade [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I6Bz_RF2UOc]

• A very interesting look at the city of Khotan, home to the most sought after Silk Road trade goods, silk and jade.

The Silk Road and Ancient Trade: Crash Course World History #9 [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vfe-eNq-Qyg]

• A quick and entertaining summary on the history and importance of the Silk Roads.
People and Culture:


- “The Silk Road connected the Eastern and Western worlds in a vast trading network that lasted for centuries.” –The History Channel

The Silk Road: Connecting the Ancient World through Trade: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vn3e37VWcok](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vn3e37VWcok)

- A study in how the Silk Roads made cultural, economic, and religious interconnection between countries possible.


- This video is a moving homage to the special riches and revelations of a journey through time along the Silk Road.

Caravanserai [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XxIzS8sFuP4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XxIzS8sFuP4)

- Caravanserais were roadside inns where travelers along the Silk Road could rest and recover from their journey. They supported the flow of commerce, information and people across a network of trade routes of Asia, North Africa and South-Eastern Europe.

Lost in China Silk Road [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=neFd2PeI7wg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=neFd2PeI7wg)

- Video retracing the ancient Silk Road.

Silk Road II – Episode 12: The Glory of Samarkand [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fIIKInCin8A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fIIKInCin8A)

- This video allows us to see the beauty of Samarkand and its people.

Religions

The Silk Road made possible the diffusion of religions. Through this network of trading routes many religious ideas and practices crossed the European continent and established themselves in the homes and lives of Western Europeans.
Blue Islam on the Silk Road [http://search.alexanderstreet.com/view/work/1795442](http://search.alexanderstreet.com/view/work/1795442)

Buddha on the Silk Road [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AMn-s08zmyQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AMn-s08zmyQ)

Buddhism, Xuanzang and the Silk Road [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=84unoAToi8Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=84unoAToi8Q)

**Commerce**

Marco Polo [http://www.history.com/topics/exploration/marco-polo](http://www.history.com/topics/exploration/marco-polo)

- A fun and interesting view on Marco Polo’s life and how his travels through the Silk Road affected Western way of life.

The Silk Road: A New History [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HOnQN141hzE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HOnQN141hzE)

- A lecture shattering stereotypes surrounding the Silk Road and the preconceived notion that coins and paper currency was used in commerce.

The Glories of Ancient Chang’an [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qer5yTyYvI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qer5yTyYvI)

- This video is the first in a series telling the story of the rise and fall of ancient civilizations along the Silk Road.

Silk Road II – Episode 11: The Soghdian Merchants [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mal2jdYcXG4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mal2jdYcXG4)

- This video highlights the search for the descendants of the forgotten civilization of the Soghds, whose merchant caravans monopolized east-west trade over the Silk Road.

**Art and Music**

How was art and music spread throughout the world via the Silk Road and what was their role?

Journey into Music: South Through the Tian Shan Mountains [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OABWgUsqD_s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OABWgUsqD_s)

- Highlights the importance of music and instruments along trading routes, and the evidence left behind in cave paintings.

Cave Art by Ancient Uyghurs [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q9HqfqDg9f_8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q9HqfqDg9f_8)

- This video outlines the discovery of monastery ruins, wall paintings, statues, and valuable manuscripts at the end of the 19th century in a region along the Silk Road in Turkestan.
Thousand Buddha Caves [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ZD1JsDkNyw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ZD1JsDkNyw)

- A look at Buddhist art established in Mogoan Buddhist Cave Shrines, 366 AD.