

Lesson Plan: "The Ancient Spice and Herb Trade"

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Learning Objectives:

Upon the completion of this module, you should have a solid understanding of:

- some of the ancient uses of spices;
- types of spices from the Mediterranean, India and the Americas;
- the relationship between the spice trade and the European Renaissance;
- the influence of the nutmeg trade on European culture and culture of the Banda islands
- the impact of globalization on ancient cultures

Reading Assignment:

- Pages 132-141 from *Plants, People, and Culture: The Science of Ethnobotany* by Balick and Cox
- "Spices and Silk: Aspects of World Trade" by Michael Loewe, *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* (1971), 103: 166-179. Pay special attention to the coverage of the ancient spice trade (pages 173-178)

Tasks:

- Watch the short (10 minute) video on myrrh: <http://youtu.be/GGYLYSWKWOU>

Assessment:

- Take the quiz covering the material presented in this module.