The CEMS presents:

Cruelty in the Early Modern Period

a conference

March 2nd, 2012 9am - 5pm
room 232 of the Pyle Center

What is cruelty? Is it historically determined? Do its meaning, representation, and reality differ in various religious or national communities? What is the relationship between cruelty and justice? To whom can one be cruel? These are the questions this conference will address, from the point of view of early modern European culture.

9:00 am Ullrich Langer (UW-Madison), Director, CEMS: Opening remarks

9:30 am Kathleen Perry-Long (Cornell University): "Literary Dissonance: Cruelty and the Reader in d'Aubigné's Les Tragiques"

10:30-10:45 am Break

10:45 am Steven Hutchinson (UW-Madison): "Cruel Turks in Early Modern Alteritist Discourse"

12:00-1:30 pm Open Lunch

1:30 pm Mitchell Merback (Johns Hopkins University): "Massacre of the Innocents: Cruelty Tropes, Sanctified Emotions, and Shared Symbols in Medieval and Renaissance Art"

2:30 pm Lesley A. Skousen (UW-Madison): "Branding Sin into the Skin: Punishment and Mercy in Early Modern England"

3:30-3:45 pm Break

3:45 pm Sabine Moedersheim (UW-Madison): "Cruelty in Emblems"