

Marine Environmental History

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Abstract: This presentation will introduce the emerging field of marine environmental history, which combines maritime history and fisheries science in new ways in order to understand the dynamics of fisheries. Marine environmental history is relevant both to historians and fisheries biologists. The field examines the drivers of change within historical fisheries and coastal communities. It asks what caused changes and examines both human aspects such as economy, politics and social relations, as well as natural aspects, such as ecosystem changes and changes in fish stock abundances. The paper argues that maritime environmental history has a strong potential for enhancing our understanding of dynamics in past maritime societies by incorporating ecological aspects into a historical analysis. Furthermore, the paper demonstrates the relevance of marine environmental history to the ongoing environmental debate, by asking if the present state of marine ecosystems is unprecedented in a long-term, historical perspective. Marine environmental history allows historians and biologists to estimate past fish stock abundances.

For more information please see: <http://www.sam.sdu.dk/ansat/rtp>

Zeit: Donnerstag, 6. November 2008, 19.00 bis 21.00 (ACHTUNG SPÄTERER BEGINN)
Ort: IFF, 1070 Wien, Schottenfeldgasse 29, 6. Stock, Seminarraum 6