Port City Lives: Mobilities, Networks, Encounters

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS

As vibrant and dynamic urban centres, as nodes in long histories of colonialism and globalisation, and as zones of interaction and exchange, port cities have been important sites of research in the humanities and social sciences. This two-day conference, organized by the Centre for Port and Maritime History and to be held in the historic port city of Liverpool, will bring together researchers from across the social sciences and humanities who work in and on port cities, to discuss current and future research into the communities and individuals who have inhabited these complex social and cultural spaces of encounter.

Rationale

Port city research has a long history across various academic disciplines. Building on this tradition, the aim of this workshop is to foment a critical discussion about the interdisciplinary potential of the port city as a space of encounter and a hub in multiple, intersecting histories and geographies. A key aim of the workshop is to think together about how participants’ research might help to develop new theoretical and methodological frameworks for studying port cities.

Participate!

Proposals are invited for both individual and joint presentations on Port City Lives throughout history and across the world, with no chronological or geographical limitation. We especially encourage methodological and theoretical reflections, as well as informal presentations of current research projects, at whatever stage of development. We are open to a range of formats, including poster presentations, data demonstrations, roundtables, and project overviews.

Potential topics might include (but are not limited to):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>theories &amp; methodologies</th>
<th>trade &amp; other exchanges</th>
<th>microhistories</th>
<th>first-person accounts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cultural representations</td>
<td>globalisation</td>
<td>material cultures</td>
<td>everyday life</td>
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<td>travel &amp; tourism</td>
<td>networks</td>
<td>crime &amp; social control</td>
<td>museums &amp; heritage</td>
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<td>imperialism &amp; decolonisation</td>
<td>homes &amp; interiors</td>
<td>the business of port/ports of business</td>
<td>languages, slang, bilingualism</td>
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</tbody>
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Please send a 250-word abstract and brief CV by 30 April 2012 to:

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