HIST/MAST 2210 History of the Ocean
Professor Helen M. Rozwadowski
Spring 2015

Class hours: MW 8:00-9:15 a.m.
Location: Avery Point, ACD Room ___
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Catalog description:
Cultural, environmental and geopolitical history of the ocean from prehistory to the present. Examines the impact of migration, industrialization, modernization, and globalization on the relationships between people and oceans.

Informed by environmental history and cultural history, the course

- establishes human connections with the ocean from prehistory to the present;
- explores how industrialization and modernization dramatically expanded use of oceanic space and resources in step with globalization; and
- reflects on how knowledge and use of the sea has contributed to the mutual influence of people on oceans and oceans on people.

This course has three threads that are interwoven through the topics covered throughout the semester.

The first thread, “A Long Story,” establishes that the story of the human relationship with the sea dates back to evolutionary time, reflecting recent scholarship that finds evidence of human reliance on the sea for food and engagement in long-distance voyaging for global migrations since the emergence of *Homo sapiens*. Since prehistoric times, people have used the ocean not only for transportation and food resources, but also as a source of myth and culture. Use of the sea promoted relationships between groups of people along coasts and across seas, establishing patterns of movement and goods that affected not only coastal people but those far inland as well. People reshaped marine environments since they began using resources from the seas. Experience of voyaging has inspired art and literature, but even inland peoples have felt connections to the sea. The take-home message of this thread is that people have been deeply involved, both physically and culturally, with oceans for millennia.

The second thread, “Tightening the Connection,” chronicles the deepening interrelationship between people and oceans over time, exploring the changes wrought by initially by trade, and later on a dramatically greater scale by industrialization and modernization, which have increased the pace and intensity of the human relationship with the ocean. This segment includes study of fisheries and an understanding of how the oceans were known through work and, later, also through play. Industrial-scale use of natural resources had similar impacts on sea as on land, but these impacts were generally not as easily recognized or acknowledged. The economic and political importance of ocean resources and other uses of the oceans rendered the sea an important site for global geopolitics. The take-home message of this thread is that

connections between people and oceans have tightened over time and extend to every aspect of our lives and our globe.

The third thread, "Knowing the Ocean," analyzes how people have gained knowledge about the ocean and employed technology to mediate their use of the ocean and its resources. Knowledge has helped people exploit marine resources, control ocean space, extend imperial or national power, and attempt to refashion the sea into a more tractable place. That knowledge has derived not only from modern science but equally from other kinds of experience with the sea, such as prehistoric navigation techniques, knowledge of offshore banks gained by fishermen, or explorations of recreational scuba divers. The Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment, among their myriad effects, forged a link between the ocean and modern science that has not been adequately recognized by historians. The first government-funded science in western nations centered around navigation and charting. Since the late 18th century, science has continued to be a powerful agent in mediating the human relationship with the ocean. At the same time, knowledge of the sea also continues to be expressed and explored through the arts, through imagination and, importantly, though desire.

Academic Integrity

As a student at the University of Connecticut, you act in accordance with its guidelines for academic integrity, available at http://www.dosa.uconn.edu under the Office of Student Services and Advocacy. Cheating, plagiarizing, or otherwise taking credit for work not your own constitutes academic misconduct, and in this class I will prosecute it with consequences that include, but are not limited to, a zero on the assignment or failure in the course. If you have any questions about whether a particular behavior constitutes cheating, please come see me or one of the tutoring or administrative staff in the Academic Center.

Requirements

30%	Class Participation, including Discussion, Quizzes, In-class work, and occasional one-page written responses
20%	Midterm Exam
30%	Essays, 4 -- based on course readings (lowest grade dropped but you must do all 4)
20%	Final Exam

Grade conversions are as follows:

A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	59 and lower

Students with disabilities:
If you have a documented disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact your instructor and Student Services Director, Trudy Flanery, as soon as possible.

For help with technical and computer-related issues, including HuskyCT, see:
http://averypoint.uconn.edu/Learning_Commons.htm

Week 1
Introduction/Overview
Activity: Brainstorming session to explore the many uses that people make of the sea, including its surface and depths, its living and non-living resources.

Natural history of the ocean
Reading:
Callum Roberts, chapter 1, "Four and a Half Billion Years," in *The Ocean of Life: The Fate of Man and the Sea* (Penguin Books, 2013), 11-26 (15 pp).

Week 2
Prehistoric voyaging: Island of Flores (Indonesia) case study
Reading:
F. Aziz, et al. "Archaeological and paleontological research in central Flores, east Indonesia: results of fieldwork 1997-98." *Antiquity* 73.280 (1999): 273. *Academic OneFile*. Web. 2 July 2012Brumm et al Nature 2010.
M. J. Morwood, et al., "Further Evidence for Small-Bodied Hominins from the Late Pleistocene of Flores, Indonesia," *Nature* 437(13 October 2005): 1012-1017 (5 pp).
Brown et al Nature 2004.
Daniel E. Lieberman, "Further Fossil Finds from Flores," *Nature* 437(13 October 2005): 957-958 (2 pp).
Excerpts from Jon M. Erlandson, "The Archaeology of Aquatic Adaptations: Paradigms for a New Millenium," *Journal of Archaeological Research* 9(4)(December 2001): 287-350 (83 pp).

Prehistoric use of marine resources: Mossel Bay, South Africa, and Channel Islands, California case studies
Reading:
John Noble Wilford, "Key Human Traits Tied to Shellfish Remains," *The New York Times*, Oct. 18, 2007.
Curtis W. Marean, et al., "Early Human Use of Marine Resources and Pigment in South Africa During the Middle Pleistocene," *Nature* 449(18 Octoer 2007): 905-908 (3 pp).
Jon M. Erlandson and Torbin C. Rick, "Archaeology Meets Marine Ecology: The Antiquity of Maritime Cultures and Human Impacts on Marine Fisheries and Ecosystems," *Annu. Rev. Mar. Sci.* (2010)(2): 231-251 (20 pp).

Week 3
Kelp Highway

Reading:
Jon M. Erlandson, et al., “The Kelp Highway Hypothesis: Marine Ecology, the Coastal Migration Theory, and the Peopling of the Americas,” *Journal of Island and Coastal Archaeology* 2(2007): 161-174 (13 pp).
John R. Gillis, chapter 2, “Coasts of the Ancient Mariner,” in *The Human Shore: Seacoasts in History* (University of Chicago Press, 2012), 39-67 (28pp)

Early Human Impacts on Oceans?
Reading:
Callum Roberts, chapter 5, “Plunder of the Caribbean,” in *The Unnatural History of the Sea* (Island Press/Shearwater Books, 2007), 57-69.
Debra G. Corbett, et al., chapter 3, “Aleut Hunters, Sea Otters, and Sea Cows: Three Thousand Years of Interactions in the Western Aleutian Islands, Alaska,” *Human Impacts on Ancient Marine Ecosystems: A Global Perspective*, ed. by Torben C. Rick and Jon M. Erlandson (University of California Press, 2008), 43-76 (33 pp).

Week 4
Prehistoric Navigation and Oceania
Reading:
Thomas Gladwin, chapter 2, The Way of the Voyager,” in *East is a Big Bird: Navigation and Logic on Puluwat Atoll* (Harvard University Press, 1970), 33-64 (31 pp).
Paul Rainbird, chapter 5, “Oceania: Pohnpei and the Eastern Carolines,” *The Archaeology of Islands* (Cambridge University Press, 2007), 90-113 (23 pp).

Different Seas
Reading:
John Mack, chapter 1, “Different Seas?” in *The Sea: A Cultural History* (Reaktion Books, 2011), 36-71 (35pp).
Philip E. Steinberg, chapter, “Ocean Space in Non-Modern Societies,” in *The Social Construction of the Ocean* (Cambridge University Press, 2001), 39-67 (28 pp).

Week 5
European Discovery of the Sea in the 15th and 16th centuries
Reading:
J.H. Parry, chapter 2, “Finding the Way at Sea,” in *The Discovery of the Sea* (University of California Press, 1974, 1981), 24-41 (17pp).
John R. Gillis, chapter 3, “Islands as Mental Stepping Stones in the Age of Discovery,” in *Islands of the Mind: How the Human Imagination Created the Atlantic World* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2004), 45-64 (19pp).

Midterm Exam

Week 6
Imperialism, Freedom of the Seas, and Knowledge of the Ocean
Reading:

Michael Reidy & Helen M. Rozwadowski, “The Spaces In-Between: Science, Ocean and Empire,” [forthcoming in *Isis*, spring 2014]
Chandra Mukerji, chapter 2, “The Development of State Interest in Science in the 19th Century,” in *A Fragile Power: Scientists and the State* (Princeton University Press, 1990), 22-38 (16pp).

Pacific World
Reading:
David Igler, chapter 4, “The Great Hunt,” in *The Great Ocean: Pacific Worlds from Captain Cook to the Gold Rush* (Oxford University Press, 2013), 99-128 (29pp).
David L. Howell “Foreign Encounters and Informal Diplomacy in Early Modern Japan [forthcoming in summer 2014 in *Journal of Japanese Studies*; used with permission of author].
Matt Matsuda, chapter 1, “Civilization without a Center,” in *Pacific Worlds: A History of Seas, Peoples and Cultures* (Cambridge University Press, 2012), 9-22 (13pp).

Week 7
Submarine Telegraphy and the Discovery of the Depths
Reading:
Helen Rozwadowski, "Technology and Ocean-scape: Defining the deep sea in the mid nineteenth century," *History and Technology* 17(2001): 217-247 (30pp).
Sabine Höhler, “Depth Records and Ocean Volumes: Ocean Profiling by Sounding Technology,1850-1930,” *History and Technology: An International Journal* 18(2)(2002):119-154 (35 pp).
Excerpts from John Gordon Steele, *A Thread Across the Ocean: The Heroic Story of the Transatlantic Cable* (Walter & Company, 2002).

Industrialization of Fisheries
Reading:
Jeffery Bolster, chapter 6, “An Avalanche of Cheap Fish,” in *The Mortal Sea: Fishing the Atlantic in the Age of Sail* (Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2012), 223-264 (41pp).
Glenn M. Grasso, “What Appeared Limitless Plenty: The Rise and Fall of the Nineteenth-Century Atlantic Halibut Fishery,” *Environmental History* 13(January 2008): 66-91 (25 pp).

Week 8
Monsters in the Sea
Reading:
Richard Ellis, chapter, “Sea Serpents,” in *Monsters of the Sea: The History, Natural History, and Mythology of the Oceans’ Most Fantastic Creatures* (Alfred A. Knopf, 1994), 37-74 (37 pp).
Michael Capuzzo, *Close to Shore: A True Story of Terror in an Age of Innocence* (New York: Broadway Books, 2001), 68-98(30 pp).
Excerpts from Wayne Soini, *Gloucester’s Sea Serpent* (Charleston & London: The History Press, 2010).

Domesticating the Ocean
Reading:
Bernd Brunner, chapter, "A Strong Intensive Desire," *The Ocean at Home: An Illustrated History of the Aquarium* (New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 2003; first published in English in 2005), 38-58 (20 pp).
Trevor Norton, chapter, "The Man With the Amazing Tube: John Ernest Williamson, 1881-1966," in *Stars Beneath the Sea: The Pioneers of Diving* (New York: Carroll & Graf Publishers, Inc., 1999), 176-197 (21 pp).
Gregg Mitman, chapter 7, "A Ringside Seat in the Making of a Pet Star," *Reel Nature: America's Romance with Wildlife on Film* (University of Washington Press, 2nd ed., 2009), 157-179 (22 pp).

Week 9
20th century Whaling and Guano Industries
Reading:
Kurkpatrick Dorsey, chapter 3 on world war and world's whales, *Whales & Nations: Environmental Diplomacy on the High Seas* (University of Washington Press, forthcoming November 2013).
Cushman, Gregory T. "The most valuable birds in the world': International Conservation Science and the Revival of Peru's Guano Industry, 1909-1965." *Environmental History* 10(3)(2005): 477-509 (32 pp).

World War and Oceans
Reading:
Kathleen Broome Williams, chapter 2, "Mary Sears, Oceanographer," in *Improbable Warriors: Women Scientists and the U.S. Navy in World War II* (U.S Naval Institute Press, 2001), 28-66 (38 pp).
Jacob Darwin Hamblin, "The Navy's 'Sophisticated' Pursuit of Science: Undersea Warfare, the Limits of Internationalism, and the Utility of Basic Research, 1945–1956," *Isis* 93:1 (2002): 1–27.
Ronald Rainger, "Science at the Crossroads: The Navy, Bikini Atoll, and American Oceanography in the 1940s," *Historical Studies in the Physical and Biological Sciences* 30(2) Military Patronage and the Geophysical Sciences in the United States (2000): 349-371 (22 pp).

Week 10
Cold War Ocean
Reading:
Jacob Darwin Hamblin, "Environmental Diplomacy in the Cold War: the Disposal of Radioactive Waste at Sea during the 1960s," *International History Review* 24:2 (2002), 348–375 (27 pp).
Gary Kroll, chapter 6, "Technophobia and Technophilia in the Oceanic Commons: Thor Heyerdahl and Jacques Cousteau during the American Cold War," in *America's Ocean Wilderness: A Cultural History of Twentieth Century Exploration* (University Press of Kansas, 2008), 152-188 (36 pp).

Role of Scientists and Consumers in Fisheries

Reading:
Carmel Finley, chapter 5, “Shaping Fisheries Science,” in *All the Fish in the Sea: Maximum Sustainable Yield and the Failure of Fisheries Management* (University of Chicago Press, 2011), 82-99.
Andrew F. Smith, chapter 2, “Looks like Chicken,” in *American Tuna: The Rise and Fall of an Improbable Food* (University of California Press, 2012), 26-45 (19pp).

Week 11
Undersea Frontier
Reading:
Michael S. Reidy, Gary Kroll and Erik M. Conway, chapter 7, “Human Exploration Under the Sea,” in *Exploration and Science: Social Impact and Interaction* (ABC Clio, 2007), 189-217 (28pp).
Helen M. Rozwadowski, “Arthur C. Clarke and the Limitations of the Ocean as a Frontier,” *Environmental History*, 17 (3)(2012): 578-602 (24 pp).
Brad Matsen, chapter 14, “World Without Sun,” in *Jacques Cousteau: The Sea King* (New York: Pantheon Books, 2009), 160-168 (9 pp).

Offshore Oil and Inner Space
Joseph A. Pratt, Tyler Priest and Christopher Castaneda, chapter 8, “Inner Space Pioneer: Taylor Diving and Salvage,” in *Offshore Pioneers*, pp. 137-157 (20 pp). UConn E-book.
Helen M. Rozwadowski, chapter 10, “Engineering, Imagination, and Industry: Scripps Island and Dreams for Ocean Science in the 1960s,” in *The Machine in Neptune’s Garden: Historical Perspectives on Technology and the Marine Environment* (Science History Publications/USA, 2004), 315-353 (38 pp).
Ben Hellwarth, chapter 10, “The Tiltin’ Hilton,” in *Sealab: America’s Quest to Live and Work on the Ocean Floor* (Simon & Schuster, 2012), 124-135 (11 pp).

Week 12
Whales and the Environmental Movement
Excerpts from D. Graham Burnett, chapter 6, “Shots Across the Bow,” in *Sounding of the Whale: Science and Cetaceans in the Twentieth Century* (University of Chicago Press, 2012), 517-646.
Frank Zelko, chapter 8, “The Reenchanted Whale,” in *Make it a Green Peace!: The Rise of Countercultural Environmentalism* (Oxford University Press, 2013), 181-194 (13 pp).

Women and (Science of) the Sea
Reading:
Kathleen Crane, chapter 7, “The First Search,” in *Sea Legs: Tales of a Woman Oceanographer* (Westview Press, 2003), 59-70 (11 pp).
Excerpt from Cindy Van Dover, The Octopus’s Garden: Hydrothermal Vents and other Mysteries of the Deep Sea (Helix Books, 1996). Or Phil Trupp, chapter 7, “Brave Hearts,” in Sea of Dreamers: Travels with Famous Ocean Explorers (Fulrum Publishing, 1998), 131-187 (or 131-163 for just Van Dover).

Naomi Oreskes, "*Laissez-tomber*: Military Patronage and Women's Work in Mid-20th-century Oceanography." *Historical Studies of the Physical Sciences* 30(2)(2000): 373-392 (19 pp).

Week 13
Shifting Baselines
Reading:
Daniel Pauly, "Anecdotes and Shifting Baselines Syndrome of Fisheries," *Trends Ecol. Evol.* 10(1995): 430.
Carl Safina, chapter 2, "A Shoreline Remembrance," in Shifting Baselines: The Past and Future of Ocean Fisheries (Island Press, 2011), 13-20 (8 pp).
Farley Mowat, chapter 11, "King Cod and the Regal Salmon," in Sea of Slaughter (Mariner Books, 1996),151-170 (19 pp), or Colin Woodard, chapter 3, "Run on the Banks," in *Ocean's End: Travels Through Endangered Seas* (Basic Books, 2000), 56-95 (39 pp).

The Whole Ocean and All Its Parts
Reading:
Juliet Eilperin, chapter 8, "Fish Fight," in *Demon Fish: Travels Through the Hidden World of Sharks* (Anchor, 2012), 202-223 (21 pp).
Carl Safina, "Epilogue," in *Song for the Blue Ocean: Encounters Along the World's Coasts and Beneath the Seas* (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1997), 435-440 (6 pp).

Week 14
Alien Ocean
Reading:
Stefan Helmreich, chapter 7, "Extraterrestrial Seas: Astrobiology and the Nature of Alien Life," in *Alien Ocean: Anthropological Voyages in Microbial Seas* (University of California Press, 2009), 250-284 (34 pp).

The Sea Without Us?
Reading:
Alan Weisman, chapter 19, "The Sea Cradle," in *The World Without Us* (New York: Picador, 2007), 328-344 (16pp).

Final Exam - TBD