



UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTONOMA DE MEXICO
CENTRO DE INVESTIGACIONES MULTIDISCIPLINARIAS
SOBRE CHIAPAS Y LA FRONTERA SUR
EDUCACIÓN CONTINUA



Centro de Investigaciones Multidisciplinarias sobre Chiapas y la Frontera Sur (Centre for Multidisciplinary Research on Chiapas and the Southern Border), UNAM

Coordination of Teaching and Continuing Education, CIMSUR-UNAM

Introductory course

Marine Borders: Conceptual Basis and Regional Overview

from 21 to 24 October 2024

Academic Director: Dr. Celia Ruiz de Oña Plaza

Organisers: Celia Ruiz de Oña Plaza, Researcher at CIMSUR-UNAM.

Dr. Víctor Velázquez Durán, Postdoctoral Researcher ECOSUR-Tapachula.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Type of activity: introductory course

Mode: distance learning, classes via Zoom platform.

Duration: 16 hours, 4 sessions of 4 hours each.

Capacity: maximum 15 students

Opening hours: 10:00 to 14:00 hours

Venue: CIMSUR-UNAM, María Adelina Flores # 34-A, San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas.

Cost: No cost activity

Language: Spanish

Introduction

In the vast and dynamic marine space, boundaries are not simply lines on a map: they represent complex processes of interaction between diverse political, social, economic and environmental forces. This basic introductory course on marine boundaries is designed to provide an initial and critical understanding of how these boundaries are conceptualised and studied in aquatic contexts. Its main objective is to promote interest among prospective and future students in coastal-maritime environments and their issues in transboundary spaces.

Over the course of four intensive days, participants will explore the theoretical foundations and practical applications related to marine boundaries. We will begin with a synthetic pre-



sentation of the conceptualisation of the marine boundary, with an emphasis on aquatic ontologies and their implications for the production of boundaries in marine spaces. This first day will also analyse the proposals for the development of seas and oceans of the so-called Blue Economy and the new political, social and environmental processes linked to this economic model. Finally, a critical view of the Blue Economy will be presented based on the principles of Blue Justice and its dimensions in the different associated governance orders.

The second day will be devoted to presenting different proposals for critical approaches to the study of marine boundaries. In a synthetic way, approaches beyond blue justice will be addressed, exploring decolonial, epistemic and intersectional justice. In addition, we will discuss political ecologies in marine environments, emphasising power, narratives, subjectivities and fishing identities. We will also approach the proposal to study water and marine boundaries from interdisciplinary historical perspectives. We will conclude this conceptual journey with the conceptions of posthumanism and non-human agencies in the configuration of marine boundaries.

The third and fourth days will be devoted to the presentation of case studies on marine borders and their problems in Latin American contexts, with the participation of various invited experts. These case studies will cover marine borders between Mexico and Guatemala, Colombia and Nicaragua, Peru, Chiapas, Costa Rica and Nicaragua, and between Chile and Peru. We will also address the production of internal borders from conceptions of *borders* of a different nature to the jurisdictional borders between nation-states. The diversity of issues that will be presented will provide students with a rich and multifaceted vision of marine borders in the region.

This course seeks to impart theoretical knowledge and also to foster a critical and constructive dialogue among participants, with the intention of promoting interest in future students in the topics covered. The activity is part of the training and dissemination tasks of the International Network for Environmental Justice (ENJUST), in its Mexico node. We invite those interested in learning about the academic, activist and artistic work of this network to approach the organisers of this course as active members of ENJUST.

General objective

To provide a basic yet critical understanding of marine boundaries and their conceptual approaches from critical geography, marine social science and posthumanist political ecology, in order to encourage interest among future students in the study of coastal-maritime environments and their issues in transboundary spaces.

Specific objectives:



- To explore the conceptualisations of marine boundaries and aquatic ontologies, as well as the production of boundaries in the seas and oceans, within the framework of the dynamics imposed by the Blue Economy.
- To understand the critical approaches to the study of marine boundaries based on the principles of Blue Justice.
- To present various case studies of marine borders in Latin American contexts in order to understand transboundary dynamics and their political, social and environmental implications in coastal-maritime environments.

Registration Profile:

- Students and professionals with an interest in Social Sciences and the study of Oceanic Fisheries Governance, Maritime Borders and Blue Justice.

Course application requirements

- Fill in the registration form attached to this call.
- Copy of official identification.

The files will be reviewed and the order of priority will be established if the maximum number of applicants is exceeded.

Requirements for permanence and graduation

- Attendance at 100% of the sessions (4 sessions) to be eligible for the evaluation.

Evaluation criteria

- Participation in the sessions (20%).
- Presentation of a creative essay (creative writing, academic, audio and video, cartographic map, concept map, artistic or digital design, poster) (30%).
- Follow-up of readings for each session (50%).

The student must cover a minimum of 60% in order to obtain a certificate of participation.

IMPORTANT DATES

Reception of applications: Monday 19 August to Thursday 10 October 2024, until 14:00.

Notification of acceptances: Friday 11 October 2024.



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Start of the course: Monday 21 October 2024.

Issuance of certificates: 24 to 31 October 2024.

Contact: Gabriela Camacho, educacioncimsur@unam.mx Tel. 967 678 1491, 967 678 2944, ext. 124.



PROGRAMME

| Sessions, date and number of hours | Topics | Rapporteur |
|--|--|---|
| Session 1 Conceptualisation of the Marine Border 21 October 2024 (4 hours) | Presentation of the course: objectives, topics and why to study marine boundaries State of the oceans and seas: social, environmental and economic issues How are | Celia Ruiz de Oña Plaza and Víctor Velázquez Durán |
| | Conceptualising the border: theoretical foundations for the study of borders | Tania Porcaro |
| | Marine Borders: definitions The production of borders in aquatic spaces: multiple cartographies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - international geopolitics and the new global order - Borderisation and territorialities in motion in the seas and oceans: | Celia Ruiz de Oña Plaza and Víctor Velázquez Durán |
| | Session 2 Critical approaches to the study of marine boundaries 22 October 2024 (4 hours) | Blue Justice and Governance Orders: Implications for Ocean Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beyond Blue Justice: Decolonial Justice, Epistemic Justice and Intersectional Justices (racism; zones of sacrifice) Political ecologies in marine environments: power, narratives, subjectivities and fishing identities Posthumanism and Non-Human Agencies in the shaping of marine boundaries |
| | Stratigraphy of the hydro-boundary landscape. A conceptual proposal for the historical study of the water frontiers of southern Mexico | Javier Eduardo Mejía Coyotl |
| Session 3 Presentations of case studies on marine | Certifying the seas of the Southern Border. Challenged sovereignty and extraterritorial legality in tuna fishing. | Víctor Velázquez Durán |
| | The role of Afro-indigenous legalities in the decolonialisation of maritime borders. A socio-legal study of the Colombian-Nicaraguan maritime area. | Catalina Garcia |



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| boundaries in Latin American contexts. Part 1 23 October 2024 (4 hours) | Ancestry in Action: Implications for the implementation of community mangrove management concessions | Sara Doolittle Llanos |
| | Marine Frontiers in Chiapas: the case of artisanal fishing in the Dead Sea, in the Isthmus-Costa region. | Rogelio Ramos |
| | Coasts as border spaces: the digital case. | Dora Elia Ramos Muñoz |
| Session 4 Presentations of case studies on marine boundaries in Latin American contexts. Part 2 24 October 2024 (4 hours) | The interscalar study of fishing territory in the experience of the Cucapa people in northern Mexico: between prohibitive geographies and legal and illegal economic activities | Yacotzin Bravo Espinosa |
| | Chile and Peru: socio-ecological inequalities at the maritime border | Damary Vilca |
| | Exclusion and slow violence in the Gulf of Fonseca. Overview of socio-ecological relations in artisanal fisheries | Ariel Quintanilla Magaña |
| | Coastal fishing and human mobility in the Guatemala/Mexico maritime transborder spaces | Giovanni Castillo Figueroa |

COURSE SPEAKERS

Dr. Celia Ruiz de Oña Plaza, CIMSUR-UNAM

D. in Ecology and Sustainable Development; a degree in Ecological Sciences from the University of Edinburgh and in Information Sciences, specialising in International Relations, from the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of the Basque Country. She addresses the intersection between Political Ecology and Border Studies, through the prism of Blue Justice. Her work contributes to the understanding of new forms of coastal appropriation based on neoliberal conservation strategies and the commodification of nature. She seeks to develop a posthumanist approach to socio-environmental conflict in the context of the climate and civilisational crisis. Member of the ENJUST Network.

Dr. Víctor Velázquez Durán, ECOSUR-Tapachula

Graduate in Human Geography from UAM Iztapalapa. Master and PhD in Geography from UNAM. He is a postdoctoral fellow at the Sustainable Management Area of Basin and Coastal Zones of ECOSUR-Tapachula. His interests are focused on understanding the environmental challenges faced by coastal populations in the face of catastrophic climate change scenarios, as well as their diverse strategies and social innovations to make sustainable use of the natural resources of their territories. She is currently researching the intertwining



of multiple marine-oceanic boundaries in the Southern Border of Mexico, where different actors are competing for the control of natural resources and generating dynamic processes of territorialisation. Member of the ENJUST Network.

Dr. Tania Porcaro, CIMSUR-UNAM

PhD in Geography from the University of Buenos Aires (Argentina). Postdoctoral fellow at CIMSUR- UNAM. She is a member of the Border and Regional Studies Group and the Andean Border Studies Network. Her doctoral research focused on the links between the production of state borders, cross-border spatialities and the valorisation of tourism in the tri-national border of Argentina, Bolivia and Chile. Her work has focused on the study of borders between nation states in recent times, first in northern Argentina and more recently between Mexico and Guatemala, with a focus on the cross-border relations of the local population and everyday spatiality on either side.

Dr. Ariel Quintanilla Magaña, University of Rhode Island, USA

Degree in Sociology from the University of El Salvador, San Salvador. Master in Human Geography from the Colegio de Michoacán, La Piedad, Mexico. He is currently enrolled in the PhD programme in Biological and Environmental Sciences, specialising in Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems at the University of Rhode Island, United States. His research interests are focused on society-nature relations in coastal areas of Latin America, focusing his efforts on community-based ecosystem management, ecosystem-based fisheries management, local ecological knowledge, environmental history of the coast, political ecology in coastal areas, uses of geotechnology tools (GIS, Remote Sensing and Artificial Intelligence) for spatial analysis of the coast.

Dr. Catalina Garcia, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Researcher in Marine Social Science. Her research, situated in critical ocean studies and legal geography, focuses on ocean justice and ocean governance in disputed marine areas. She is currently a PhD student at the Department of Geography and International Development at the University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Dr. Sara Doolittle Llanos, University of Bremen, Germany

She is a PhD candidate in Feminist Political Ecology at Artec Centre for Sustainability Research at the University of Bremen, Germany. She is part of the Enjust network for environmental justice issues, and is a visiting lecturer at the University of Bremen in the subject



Historical Political Ecology. She is interested in the political ecology of coastal activities within extractive landscapes, and is currently working on marine-coastal resource governance and its consequences on gender relations in Peru, with a focus on everyday resistance and socio-environmental justice.

Dr. Rogelio Ramos, CIESAS-Southeast

Master in Political Science and PhD in Social Anthropology. He works from the perspective of political ecology, studying the political dimensions and dynamics of power in the processes of disaster risk construction, violence, socio-environmental conflicts and social movements, especially in coastal contexts.

Dra. Yacotzin Bravo Espinosa, Universidad Iberoamericana, CDMX

Lawyer and anthropologist. Academic in the Department of Social and Political Sciences at the Universidad Iberoamericana, CDMX. The projects in which she participates are PRO-NACE-CONAHCYT 319155 *Multiple violence and racism in Guerrero: towards a transformative justice that contributes to the construction of peace* and PRONAI- CONAHCYT 318959. Socio-environmental reappropriation for the integrated and community management of the Atoyac-Zahuapan basin. She belongs to the 2022-2025 Working Group "*Critical Legal Thinking and socio-political conflicts*" and is a member of the Academia Joven de México.

Dr. Damary Vilca, National Research and Development Agency of Chile

Sociology from the Universidad Arturo Prat and PhD in Social Sciences from the Universidad de Tarapacá, Chile. She holds a scholarship from the National Agency for Research and Development (Agencia Nacional de Investigación y Desarrollo). Her main lines of research include: 1) Border Studies, 2) Territorial Studies and 3) Political Ecology. She is a member of *Ocean Expert* and the Interdisciplinary Social Science Network. She is currently researching the effects on the maritime border following the ruling on the border dispute between Chile and Peru, in the context of the climate crisis. He has published articles in international journals such as *Geopolitics*.

Lic. Javier Eduardo Mejía Coyotl, CIMSUR-UNAM

Graduate in History from UNAM, specialising in topics related to the foreign policy of the Mexican state during the second half of the 20th century, the history of Mexico's southern borders and environmental transformations in the Suchiate river basin. He has collaborated in various research projects in academic institutions dedicated to the study and dissemina-



tion of historical knowledge. She is finishing her master's studies at CIMSUR-UNAM with an interdisciplinary research on the water frontiers of southern Mexico that combines ethnographic techniques, historical analysis and geographic information systems.

Dra. Dora Elia Ramos Muñoz, ECOSUR- Sede San Cristobal de Las Casas

Industrial Engineer by training (ITESM 1989) with a PhD in Ecology and Sustainable Development (Ecosur 2002). Researcher specialising in Working Life Studies. My publications are on women's work, heritage, hydrocarbon industry, artisanal fishing and information technologies; I have conducted research in Mexico and Guatemala and taught in Mexico, Guatemala, Germany and Finland. Social consequences of science and technology, social change, women's work and participatory methodologies.

Dr. Giovanni Castillo Figueroa, ECOSUR-Sede San Cristóbal de Las Casas

Postdoctoral researcher at El Colegio de la Frontera Sur, San Cristóbal de Las Casas unit, Department of Society and Culture, Academic Group on Migration Studies and Cross-Border Processes. Anthropologist (Universidad Nacional de Colombia), Master and PhD in Anthropological Sciences (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Iztapalapa). Research interests: Anthropology of fishing; human mobility and fishing work; migration and maritime transborderisation.



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Zalik, Anna (2018). "Mining the seabed, enclosing the Area: ocean grabbing, proprietary knowledge and the geopolitics of the extractive frontier beyond national jurisdiction", vol. 68 (Issue 229-230), pp. 343-359.