

Seminar on Conceptual History
University of Southern Denmark, Odense
April 24-25 2008

Organisers:

Concepta – International Research School in Conceptual History and Political Thought
Institute of History and Civilization, University of Southern Denmark
Danish Research School in History

Transcending Concepts: The History of Experiences, Interpretations, and Argumentation

Originally a German invention connected to the history of ideas and the publication of lexicons, the history of concepts (or conceptual history) has in recent years turned into an important part of the so-called linguistic turn in the social and human sciences. In this two-day seminar, an international and interdisciplinary variety of scholars will discuss the future of the field with special emphasis on the exploration of new methodological ground. In three main sessions, the relationship between conceptual analysis and the history of experiences ('Erfahrungsgeschichte'), interpretations, and argumentation will serve as take-off for such discussions. In addition, the seminar features two separate workshops with presentations of ongoing doctoral work.

Key-note speakers

Jörn Leonhard, University of Freiburg
Lars Erslev Andersen, Danish Institute for International Studies
Hans Erich Bödeker, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin

Thursday, April 24

10.00-12.00: Experiences (1st session)

Professor, Dr. Jörn Leonhard (University of Freiburg)
Experiences and Language: Towards a Comparative Dimension

Researcher, Dr. Helge Jordheim (University of Oslo)
Studying Literary Experiences of Contemporaneity and Incomtemporaneity

Associate Professor, Dr. Sebastian Olden-Jørgensen (University of Copenhagen)
Probing the experience of the silent majority by means of trash literature: Danish popular ballads and the war experience of ordinary people during the Thirty Years War

12.00-13.00: Lunch

13.00-15.00: Interpretations (2nd session)

Senior Researcher Lars Erslev Andersen (Danish Institute for International Studies)
How to Apply Hans-Georg Gadamer's Theory of Interpretation in Conceptual-Historical Research on Contemporary International Politics

Researcher, Dr. Burkhard Conrad (University of Hamburg)
Conceptual History, Metaphorology, and the Political Interpretation of the World

Assistant Professor, Dr. Jakob Feldt (University of Southern Denmark)
A Conceptual History of Culture: Methodological Reflections

15.00-15.30: Coffee

15.30-17.00: Workshop (3rd session)

Ph.D.-student Diana van Vugt (University of Helsinki)
Conceptual History and the Analysis of International Legal Concepts
Commentator: Sami Syrjämäki (University of Tampere)

Ph.D.-student Anna Björk (University of Jyväskylä)
Studying Citizenship Tests in the Light of Conceptual History
Commentator: Alexandre Escudier (Sciences Po, Paris)

Ph.D.-student Juan Louis Simal (Autonomous University of Madrid)
Projects of Civic Nation and Patria in the Central American Federation in the Aftermath of Independence
Commentator: Jörn Leonhard (University of Freiburg)

Friday, April 25

10.00-12.00: Argumentation (4th session)

PD Dr. Hans Erich Bödeker (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin)
Begriffsgeschichte and/ as History of Discourse and Argumentation

Ph.D.-student Frank Beck Lassen (University of Aarhus)
Metaphors as Arguments: 'Begriffsgeschichte' and Hans Blumenberg's 'Metaphorologie'

Ph.D.-student Darina Martykanova (Autonomous University of Madrid)
Progress as Faith and Rhetoric in Corporate Discourse: The Case of 19th-Century Spanish Engineers

12.00-13.00: Lunch

13.00-15.00: Workshop (5th session)

Ph.D.-student Oana Paltineanu (Central European University)
Conceptual History in Romania Before 1989
Commentator: Nere Basabe (Complutense University of Madrid)

Ph.D.-student Maria Ryabova (European University, Skt. Petersburg)
The History of the Concept 'prichina' (cause) in 17th-Century Russian Law
Commentator: Evgeny Roschin (European University, Skt. Petersburg)

Ph.D.-student Christian Olaf Christiansen (University of Aarhus)
Conceptual history exploring new fields: How conceptual history might contribute to a narrative of 20th-century management and organizational ideas
Commentator: Henrik Stenius (University of Helsinki)

Ph.D.-student Daniel Ciunajcis (University of Poznan)
Time and Experience in Reinhart Koselleck's Theory of History
Commentator: Helge Jordheim (University of Oslo)