

**DONNA BRUNERO**

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Donna Brunero is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of History at the National University of Singapore. Her areas of research specialization and teaching include: the British Empire in Asia, colonial port cities of Asia, maritime history, heritage, and the Chinese Maritime Customs Service. She was the recipient of a Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Teaching Excellence Award in AY2014-15.

Selected publications:

*Britain's Imperial Cornerstone in China: The Chinese Maritime Customs Service, 1854-1949* (London: Routledge, 2006)

“To capture a vanishing era: the development of the Maze Collection of Chinese Junk Models, 1929–1948” *Journal for Maritime Research* (April 2015)

***Embracing the Ocean: New currents for Teaching Maritime History***

Maritime history, once viewed as closely linked to naval and national history narratives has arguably broken free of these constraints in recent decades and is being embraced as a potentially exciting means for studying world history. This paper explores some innovative approaches to teaching maritime history in a tertiary setting and in doing so draws on two case studies from existing modules offered at the National University of Singapore. I will share insights from modules on Asia's port cities and also a general education module on piracy and the maritime world.

Through these case studies I will highlight the key themes that emerge when teaching these modules and argue that teaching maritime history from a setting such as Singapore provides tremendous opportunities for student engagement beyond the classroom. Finally, this presentation will look at new directions for maritime history for educators and students.



**Baba House**