



# The Politics of Surf Tourism

## Professor Scott Laderman, University of Minnesota, Duluth, USA

Scott Laderman is Professor of History at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. Born and raised in California, Scott spent much of his life in the ocean before moving to the Midwest in 1998 to pursue his Ph.D. in American Studies at the University of Minnesota. He now lives on Lake Superior, where he has discovered the pleasures – and challenges – of cold-water surfing.

Professor Laderman is the author of *Empire in Waves: A Political History of Surfing* (University of California Press, 2014). He is currently the Fulbright Visiting Professor of American Studies at the University of Hong Kong.

### SEMINAR

Surfing exploded in popularity in the years following World War II, and, with the advent of the commercial jet age, travel became a foundational element of modern surf culture. Crowds at home inspired surfers to go abroad, with the promise of unriden waves pushing surf tourists to the farthest reaches of the planet. Yet surfers, who often reckoned themselves an inherently rebellious bunch, seemed remarkably oblivious to the political struggles that marked decolonization and the global Cold War. And when they did pay attention, their responses could appear shockingly repellent.



### DATE

Tuesday 3 May 2016

### TIME

12.10-1.10 pm

### VENUE

Meeting Rooms A&B  
Te Kura Toi Tangata Faculty of  
Education  
University of Waikato

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