

**Category**

SH Social Sciences and Humanities

**Session Number**

SH-9

**Session Title**

Polar research in the humanities and social sciences: approaches and challenges

**Session Description**

The polar regions are dynamic systems that face increasing challenges resulting from the interactions between climate change, increasing and diversifying levels of human activities, and economic and political pressures. Understanding and addressing these challenges requires contributions from humanities scholars and social scientists, which are well placed to contextualize and conceptualize the multifaceted dimensions of human engagement with the Polar Regions.

Even within the humanities and social sciences, research approaches and methods vary greatly, with some common themes (e.g. on text and document analysis, meta-analysis) but often different practices. Connected by a common interest in human interactions with the Polar Regions, humanities and social scientists have much to gain from sharing insights about their research methods, as well as the challenges they face and opportunities they seize. This session enables scholars to do that. Similarly, natural scientists with an interest in socio-ecological systems or the interplay between people and places are invited to contribute to this session. We invite abstracts that address aspects related to polar research methods and their limitations, novel approaches and paradigms, challenges faced when undertaking research in the polar regions, the analysis and management of textual, historiographical, qualitative and quantitative data, as well as changing disciplinary perspectives on the polar regions over time.

**Keywords:** Arctic, Antarctic, social sciences, humanities, cross-disciplinary, methods

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