Frederico Santos Soares de Freitas

*PhD Candidate, Dept. of Latin American History; Stanford University*

“Boundaries, Settlers and Forests: Occupation and Displacement in a Brazilian National Park”

In this presentation, Fredierico Freitas will focus on the land conflict between settlers and the Brazilian state at the Iguaçu National Park, created between 1939 and 1944 in southern Brazil, at the border with Argentina. In the late 1950’s, almost two decades after the creation on the park, hundreds of families of German-Brazilians moving northward from southern Brazil started to occupy the park, clearing land and building property. Private colonization companies with the support of municipal and state governments illegally sold parcels of national park land to the families arriving in the region. This later resulted in a conflicted process of removal and resettlement promoted by the Brazilian military dictatorship that extended itself throughout the 1970’s. In this presentation, Freitas investigates this process of settler removal as well as its effects on the landscape of the region and on other groups living outside the national park area.

**Frederico Freitas** holds a BA in History from the University of Sao Paulo, a MA in History from Stanford University, and is a PhD candidate in Latin American History at Stanford. He is also the principal investigator of the Boundaries of Nature project at the Center for Spatial and Textual Analysis at Stanford, where he uses a set of historical aerial photographs from the 1950s and 1980s to understand land change in and around national parks in Brazil and Argentina.

If you have any questions regarding our events, please contact:  

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