



**SFB 754**

**Sonderforschungsbereich 754  
Climate-Biogeochemistry Interactions in the Tropical Ocean**

SFB 754 colloquium: Thursday, 9th October 08:30h  
Large conference room (GEOMAR west shore).

**Prof. Steve DiMarco**, Department of Oceanography, Texas  
A&M University, <http://oceanography.tamu.edu/profile/SDiMarco>

Title:

*Ocean Observing in a troubled Gulf: Hurricanes, Deadzones, and Oil spills in the Gulf of Mexico*

Abstract:

The marginal sea of the Gulf of Mexico is of vital economic importance to the US as it is a home to millions of residents, provides haven to thousands of recreational and commercial industries and fisheries, and is home to several of the largest shipping ports in the western hemisphere. The Gulf of Mexico also is home to multiple environmental threats that can threaten coastal communities and negatively impact economic well-being. These threats include both natural (hurricanes) and anthropogenic (coastal hypoxia, oil spill) processes, which can be further influenced under predicted climate change scenarios. For more than a century, oceanographic observations have been systematically collected in the Gulf of Mexico. In recent decades, ocean observing systems have been maintained to provide insights into the processes sustaining coastal hypoxia and oil spill mitigation. Emphasis in this seminar is on the interplay of natural and anthropogenic causes of coastal hypoxia of the northern Gulf and on recent findings from observations near the Deepwater Horizon spill site of April 2013.