

HIS 401
History of Climate Change

Professor Chris Sellers

Satisfies: WRTD, SPK, EXP+

Tu, 4:45PM - 7:35PM

This course looks at the history of climate change in the modern era. After looking at some earlier examples of the impact of climate changes on human history, we will focus on climate-related history from the 19th to the early 21st centuries. Focus will fall on those changes in energy usage, industry, cities, science, and politics that have contributed to our current climate crisis, and those sorts of disasters that our changing climate has been worsening. While earlier readings will concentrate on North American and European history, we'll then also include examples from Latin America, Asia, Africa, and elsewhere. Students will also undertake their own research projects into the history of a climate-related environmental disaster of their own choosing, writing up their research into a full-length (10 pp. or more) research paper.