

HIS 300
Water and Power

Satisfies: GLO, SBS+

Thematic Concentration: "Health, Science & Environmental Change"

T/Th 11:00am-12:20pm

Professor Tamara Fernando

We all depend on water. And yet, the politics, infrastructures, and technologies that mediate this access are often hidden from view. Using the frames of world history and science and technology studies, in this course we will meet inland seas that completely disappeared, luxury condominiums that arose from marshland, and the world's largest deltaic ecosystems. Based on a range of case-studies from across the world, we will become more familiar with human interventions into rivers, deltas, and arctic landscapes, focusing especially on the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. As water access, equity, and use become even more fraught issues in the climate crisis, this course provides deeper historical context to the politics of water management.