

Spring 2023 course

Geography 432: *Environmental History from Tree Rings*

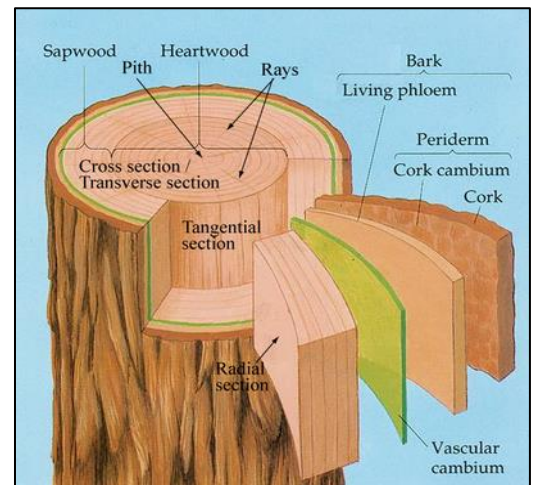
Lectures: MWF 12:40–1:30 in BGB 401

Labs: M 3:30–5:25 or T 10:50–12:45

(Usually in BGB, some in SERF/around campus/in your local community)

Instructor: Dr. Matthew Kerr (mkerr6@utk.edu)

Trees are nature's ultimate environmental monitoring stations. They are immobile, they assimilate events from the environment, they have their own special language, and they can't lie (although sometimes they make searching for the "truth" quite challenging). Dendrochronology, one of the most versatile disciplines in the physical and cultural sciences, is a methodological approach that uses tree rings dated to their exact year of formation to analyze temporal and spatial patterns and processes in the physical and cultural environments. In this course, you will learn how to read the language of trees and how to use this information to learn about past and present processes in Earth's climate, environments, and human activities.



GEOG 432 is in the **Climate and Climate Change** concentration in the **Geography major** and in two Arts and Sciences connections packages: **Humans Living on a Dynamic Earth** and **Understanding Climate Change**.