

Spring 2024 course

Geography 431: *Lake Sediments and Environmental History*

Lecture: Monday and Wednesday, 3:00–3:50 in 401 BGB
Lab: Tuesday 12:45–2:40 or 2:55–4:50 (some labs at local lakes)
Instructor: Sally Horn, shorn@utk.edu

Concern over future global change has increased interest in understanding past changes in climate and their effects on both the environment and human society. Some aspects of past climate and environmental change can be studied using meteorological or historic records, but in other cases we must rely on *natural archives* such as lake sediments, tree rings, and corals. In this course, we will focus on lake sediments as archives of information on how climate, vegetation, fire regimes, natural disturbances, and human activities and impacts have changed over time. Weekly labs will be hands-on, and readings will be online (no text to buy).



Geography 431 is in the **Landscapes and Environment** and **Climate and Climate Change** concentrations in the **Geography Major** and in three Arts and Sciences connection packages: *Biodiversity and Humans*, *Humans Living on a Dynamic Earth*, and *Understanding Climate Change*.