

Environmental History in the Americas

Prof. Kristin Wintersteen

HIST 3396 – TTH 2:30-4 p.m.



Felipe Guaman Poma de Ayala, "Trabajo en Tahuantinsuyu," from *El primer nueva corónica y buen gobierno* (1615/1616).

How have environmental processes shaped human societies in North America, Latin America, and the Caribbean? How have humans, in turn, transformed the land- and seascapes in which they live? How and why are human-nature relationships important for our understanding of contemporary environmental challenges in this region and beyond? This course explores major themes in environmental history using case studies from across the Americas, focusing on colonialism, commodity production, and environmental risk in urban areas. We will examine primary, secondary, and visual sources that challenge us to transcend rigid geopolitical and disciplinary boundaries in order to reimagine how humans and nature have interacted in dynamic New World environments.