Recent Trends in Climate, Vegetation and Food Security in Northern Burkina Faso

Colin West, Assistant Professor, Anthropology

Friday, October 11
12:30 to 1:45 p.m.

New East Reading Room
205 East Cameron Ave, Chapel Hill
(2 buildings east of the Old Well)

beverages & light dessert provided

The Sahel of West Africa is a region commonly associated with desertification, droughts, political instability, and famine. Like many parts of Africa, the Sahel faces significant social, economic, and environmental challenges, and we mostly hear about this area during infrequent but extreme crises. We rarely learn about the much more common, yet less newsworthy, every day and routine ways in which societies of the Sahel are adapting to climatic and social change. This talk will present findings based on ethnographic fieldwork in northern Burkina Faso. It will discuss recent positive trends in climate, vegetation, and food security among rural Mossi smallholders.

Co-sponsored with the Institute of African American Research

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