

# TEDC SKILLS LABS

**QUICK WORKSHOPS ON PRESSING ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, TAUGHT BY TEDC AFFILIATED FACULTY, OPEN TO ALL.**

Participants who join two or more skills labs will receive a specially designed 'Skills Lab Record of Attendance and Participation'

**APRIL 25, 12PM -1:30PM**  
79 5th Ave Room 1618

**EL NINO 101: WHY CARE ABOUT SEA-AIR INTERACTIONS IN THE TROPICAL PACIFIC OCEAN?**

**Taught by Ivan Ramirez, Assistant Professor of Environmental Health**

Currently we are in the midst of one of the strongest El Niño events within the last 50 years. El Niño is one phase of a climatic cycle called El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) which occurs every few years and stems from sea-air interactions in the tropical Pacific Ocean. In this skills lab, participants will gain a basic understanding of El Niño and ENSO physical dynamics, including its life cycle characteristics and teleconnections with global weather and climate, impacts on societies. In addition, specific historical and social science dimensions will be shared, which are important for understanding attribution (i.e., should we blame El Niño?).

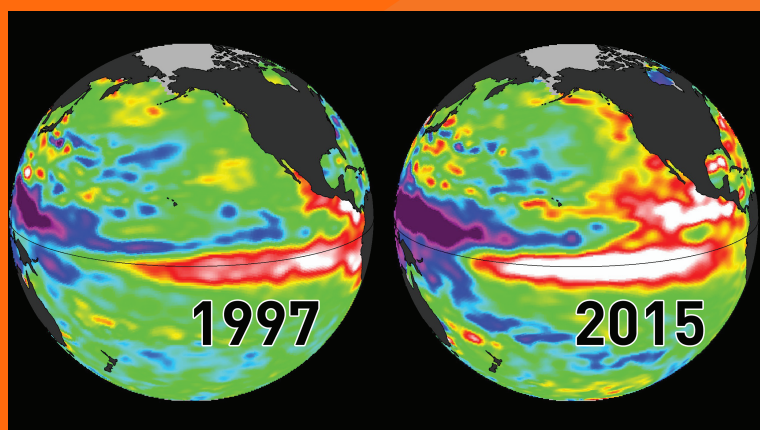


photo credit: NASA JPL

**APRIL 27, 12P-1:30PM**  
79 5th Ave Room 1618

**FROM COLUMBUS TO THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL: HOW ECOLOGICAL IMPERIALISM ORIGINATED INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE EXPLOITATION AND BIOPIRACY**

**Taught by Fabio Parasecoli, Associate Professor and Director of Food Studies**

Five centuries of colonial and neocolonial enterprises have constantly looked at genetic wealth and agrobiodiversity of the Global South as opportunities to impose specific scientific approaches and delegitimize local epistemologies, while both exploiting and discounting the cultural and technical achievements of whole populations. This skills lab focuses on how contemporary debates about intellectual property and indigenous knowledge still deal with this negative legacy.



photo credit: Percy Ramirez/Oxfam America

**APRIL 28, 3:30PM-5PM**  
University Center room 201

**PLANT POSITIVE**

**Taught by Barent Roth, Part-time Lecturer, Product Design**

Preventing the Climate Change by avoiding its single greatest cause: Animal Agriculture. Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO's) are environmental disasters but any consumption high on the food chain exacerbates resource depletion and exponentially magnifies global warming. This skills lab will examine the ecological problems created by continuing to produce animals for food as well as the healthy delicious solutions by alternatively eating plant based meals.



photo credit: epa.gov

**MAY 2, 2PM-3:30PM**  
79 5th Ave Room 1618

**TRANSFORMING OUR TRASH SYSTEMS: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND ZERO WASTE POLICIES**

**Taught by Ana Baptista, Assistant Professor of Professional Practice in Environmental Policy and Sustainability Management**

Garbage is one of the most visible manifestations of environmental injustice in our society. From the manufacturing of toxic, wasteful products that harm workers and communities - to the transportation, transfer and disposal of trash in communities of color - waste management systems are well known for disproportionately burdening low income and communities of color. In this skills lab, participants will learn about the innovative approaches to improve the current waste management systems in NYC and the concept of Zero Waste and Zero Waste policies for the region that can be pursued to achieve environmental justice.



photo credit: Bloomberg

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