

Dr. Gillen D'Arcy Wood

*"The Year Without a
Summer, 1816":*

*Tambora, the Eruption That
Changed the World*



Monday, October 10

7:00-8:00 p.m.

Berthoud Hall 241

When Indonesia's Mount Tambora erupted in 1815, it unleashed the most destructive wave of extreme weather the world has witnessed in thousands of years. The volcano's massive sulfate dust cloud enveloped the Earth, cooling temperatures and disrupting major weather systems for more than three years. Communities worldwide endured famine, disease, and civil unrest on a catastrophic scale. In this talk, Dr. Wood brings the history of this planetary emergency to life, shedding light on the fragile interdependence of climate and human societies and offering a cautionary tale about the potential tragic impacts of drastic climate change in our own century.

Gillen D'Arcy Wood is professor of English at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where he directs the Sustainability Studies Initiative in the Humanities.

Light refreshments will be provided