



By the end of the nineteenth century, Europeans had come to see the Alps as the ideal place to fashion an alternative to the era's dominant energy source: coal. After 1850, Alpine water increasingly became "white coal": a power source with the revolutionary economic potential of fossil fuel. In this book, Marc Landry shows how dam-building in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries transformed the Alps into Europe's "battery"—an energy landscape designed to store and produce electricity for use throughout the Continent. (taken from the online book description)

The history of this energy landscape explores questions about the connections between energy, politics, technology, and the environment in Europe during this tumultuous period.

Book Talk with Prof Marc Landry
University of New Orleans

Mountain Battery

The Alps, Water, and Power in the Fossil Fuel Age

Moderation: Univ.-Prof. Patrick Kupper

12. November 2025, 17:15 – 18:45 Uhr
Ágnes-Heller-Haus (Innrain 52a), Seminarraum 12 (01G100)



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