

The Department of Geography Presents



# Dr. Michael Mann

## Probability and the difficulty of demonstrating obvious and less than obvious things



Peoples' perceptions of climate change are affected by their local weather, right? Prove it...

Demonstrating the obvious can be quite difficult. Help me step through the complexities of a seemingly simple research question. For instance, how do you create a single metric for changes in the frequency of extreme weather events using only weather station data? Suddenly, simple ideas get more complicated.

I will walk you through the labyrinth of assumptions we made, and tools we used to address this important yet obvious question. A question basic enough to be published in prestigious, yet aptly titled, Proceedings National Academy of Sciences journal, PNAS. If your lucky, we will have time to play a game too

Michael Mann is an Assistant Professor of Geography at The George Washington University. Here he teaches classes on GIS, Python programming, Natural Hazards, and spatial modeling. His research has focused on the application of spatial data and econometric techniques to model human/natural systems interactions

**April 14th at 4:00 PM**  
**Old Main 219**

**Please RSVP at**  
**[go.gwu.edu/mann](http://go.gwu.edu/mann)**