

WEDNESDAY

MAR

15

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Calcott Room 104

WELL CONNECTED

Everyday Water Practices in Cairo

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Who is responsible for ensuring access to clean potable water? In this talk, I follow residents of Ezbet Khairallah, an informal neighborhood of Cairo, as they labor to exchange, value, and evaluate potable water and to eliminate wastewater. I argue that urban residents' practices are a locally specific form of the sociality of water, integral to the project of being well connected--to other people, to the neighborhood, and to state-run water infrastructures. While being well connected is often thought of as an elite project, I show how the deployment of connections is equally important to those who live on the urban margins.

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