



KONFUZIUS-INSTITUT LEIPZIG

莱比锡孔子学院

Der Ort für chinesische Sprache und Kultur

SINOLOGISCHER VORTRAG:

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LAWS OF THE LAND:

Fengshui and the State in Qing Dynasty China

Prof. Tristan Brown (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Fengshui, literally „Wind and Water,“ was deeply intertwined with public life and law during the Qing dynasty (1636-1912). Facing a growing population, dwindling natural resources, and an overburdened rural government, judicial administrators across China grappled with disputes and petitions about fengshui in their efforts to sustain forestry, farming, mining, and city planning. Employing archival materials from Mainland China and Taiwan that have only recently become available, this talk, based off of Tristan Brown’s forthcoming book on the subject, discusses fengshui’s fascinating roles in the law and politics of the last dynasty through archival cases and divination manuals.

