## Climate in Words and Numbers: How Early Americans Recorded Weather in Almanacs

Joyce Chaplin, Professor of Early American History, Harvard University

With support from the Guggenheim Foundation, Joyce Chaplin is compiling a database of manuscript notes about weather in early American almanacs, 1637-1820. Her talk focuses on how people recorded weather in numbers (including degrees Fahrenheit) and in words, ranging from "dull" to "elegant!" These notations are significant as records of a period of climate change, the Little Ice Age, also as records of how people made sense of and coped with that climatic disruption.

3. Thunder! of lightning!

hail! rain! snow! in the show

think he way with in ey
5 11th, strow

4 12th - slight last night

with some hail

16./3th great - very cold

October 18, 2019

2:30-4:30 PM

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

**Building E51 - Room 095** 

Corner of Amherst and Wadsworth Street Cambridge, MA