**The Research Center for Chinese Ecological and Environmental History, Nankai University (Tianjin, China)**

With a longstanding commitment to exploring the relationship between humans and nature, the history discipline at Nankai University has, over the course of more than a century, evolved into a prominent institution of historical research, known for its intellectual depth and widely recognized within both Chinese and international academic communities.

The Center for Chinese Ecological and Environmental History was formally established in June 2008. It houses three core research areas: Chinese Environmental History, Global Environmental History, and the History of Disasters, Disease, and Public Health. Today, the Center is regarded as one of the leading research center in the field of environmental history in China.

The Center currently has more than ten affiliated researchers, over half of whom have been selected for national and ministerial-level talent programs. Members of the Center lead a number of major national research initiatives, including key projects under the National Social Science Fund and the national cultural heritage program. Their work has made significant contributions to theoretical developments in environmental history and produced influential research on topics such as the historical transformation of China’s ecology, the relationship between environment and socio-economic change, the history of epidemics and public health, and North American environmental history.

The Center established China’s first graduate program in environmental history, adopting an interdisciplinary approach to the training of both master’s and doctoral students. To date, it has awarded degrees to more than one hundred students, making significant contributions to the emergence of a new generation of environmental historians in China and to the continuity of scholarly traditions in the field.

Building on Nankai University’s strengths in environmental science, life sciences, and other related disciplines, the Center actively engages with contemporary environmental challenges and promotes interdisciplinary research and teaching. It aims to support policy innovation, historical understanding, and public education related to ecological civilization and environmental governance in China.

The Center also leads the design and implementation of the large-scale MOOC series Ecological Civilization, which brings together more than ten leading scholars from the humanities and sciences. The course presents a multidimensional and interdisciplinary perspective on the past, present, and future of ecological civilization in China. It has reached over 700,000 students across nearly one thousand universities nationwide, playing an important role in fostering ecological awareness and civic responsibility among young learners.