



SESYNC Feedbacks

News from the National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center



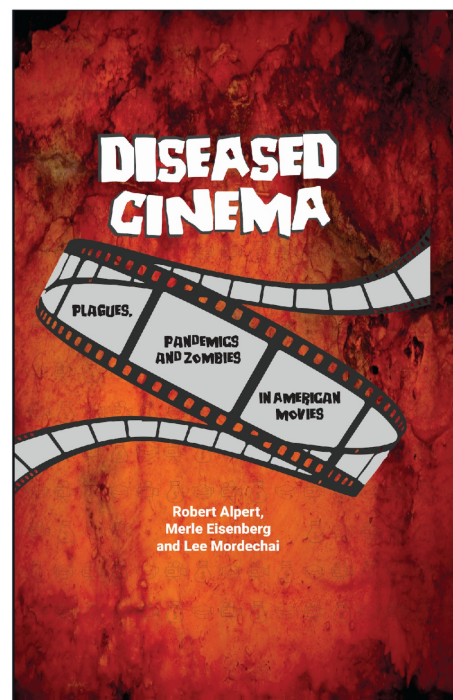
NEW BOOK | Stories We Tell: Health, Environment, & Disease

SESYNC Researchers Publish New Book on Movie Maladies

Two former SESYNC postdoctoral fellows, Dr. **Merle Eisenberg** and Dr. **Lee Mordechai**, have published a new book that examines the stories we tell about diseases and how those narratives reflect changing socio-environmental conditions.

The book builds upon the work they started at SESYNC, **studying the Justinianic Plague**, a 6th-century pandemic long believed to have had catastrophic effects. As an extension of their research project, Eisenberg and Mordechai decided to investigate if and how popular culture ties into society's understanding of stories about disease. They settled on looking at one form of popular culture in particular: films.

In their book, ***Diseased Cinema: Plagues, Pandemics and Zombies in American Movies***, they found a significant shift over time in how movies depict disease, reflecting how society thinks about public health more broadly. The book shows how that in the context of disease, socio-environmental systems are extremely complex and have many factors: humans, the environment, and disease, and those are fundamentally structured into the way society works. Read more about the book and the



RESOURCES | Seeing Disease as a Socio-Environmental Issue

Learn More about the Connections between Human Health, Social Dynamics, and the Environment with these SESYNC Resources

Lesson: Understanding Disease and Illness as a Socio-Environmental Problem

This lesson explores how environmental factors such as biodiversity loss, climate change, and habitat degradation are closely tied to the increase in the emergence of zoonotic illnesses, i.e., diseases that originate in animals. It also describes how the nexus of the three dimensions of risk (vulnerability, hazard, and exposure) is a major determinant of socio-environmental sustainability and resilience. [Read more](#).



Explainer: Sustainability, Resilience, and the Dimensions of Risk: Hazard, Exposure, Vulnerability

This explainer provides an overview of the three dimensions of risk: hazard, exposure, and vulnerability, and how ecologists, social scientists, and those studying socio-environmental systems and their problems apply the idea of resilience. [Read more](#).

Audio Interview: Air Quality Inequality

In this audio interview, SESYNC's Erin Duffy talks to Dr. Kelly Jones about her research looking into the role of the neighborhood environment on children's respiratory health outcomes. [Learn more](#).



Air Quality Inequality

Succinct Science—Audio Interviews from SESYNC • Sep 23, 2021



00:00



Share

24:41

EXPLAINER | What Are Ethnographic Methods?

Our Latest Explainer Introduces Ethnographic Methods and Their Benefits for Socio-Environmental Research



What Are Ethnographic Methods?

This brief explainer article introduces some common ethnographic methods and overviews how socio-environmental research can benefit from studying norms and variations across cultures. It also provides examples of ethnography-driven research questions, as well as real-world research examples of applied ethnographic methods. [Read more](#).

"Approaching the Early Medieval Iberian Economy from the Ground Up." Published in *Al-Masāq: Journal of the Medieval Mediterranean* by former SESYNC postdoc Merle Eisenberg and colleagues Paolo Tedesco and Jamie Wood.

"Contemporary climate analogs project strong regional differences in the future water and electricity demand across US cities." Published in *One Earth* by former SESYNC postdoc Renee Obringer and colleagues Roshanak Nateghi, Jessica Knee, Kaveh Madani, and Rohini Kumar.

www.sesync.org



SESYNC | 1 Park Place, Suite 300, Annapolis, MD 21401

[Unsubscribe communications@sesync.org](mailto:communications@sesync.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by communications@sesync.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!