



SESYNC Feedbacks

News from the National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center

NEW TUTORIAL | Futures Thinking in Socio-Environmental Systems

Don't Miss Our Newest Tutorial: Introduction to Futures Thinking in Socio-Environmental Systems

In the latest installment of our **SES modeling tutorial series**, Dr. Jamie Ashander, of Resources for the Future, presents "Introduction to Futures Thinking in Socio-Environmental Systems." Here, Dr. Ashander explains futures modeling of socio-environmental systems (SES), including:

- The SES features that make analyses of the future difficult
- The purpose of futures modeling
- The three main approaches to futures modeling for SES.

Watch it now.



And don't miss the rest of the tutorials in this series! [You can catch them here.](#)

INTERVIEW | Preserving Species by Protecting Habitats



Audio Interview: Preserving Species by Protecting Habitats with Dr. Varsha Vijay

By: Erin Duffy

Protecting habitats is essential to the preservation of species, and as such, conservationists stress the importance of not only maintaining—but expanding—what are known as protected areas. However, at the same time, there is an increasing demand for food production. As cropland is responsible for widespread habitat loss, this presents an increasingly urgent issue, especially in areas with both high biodiversity and high food insecurity. In this audio interview, Dr. Varsha Vijay, a former SESYNC postdoctoral fellow, discusses findings from her article "Pervasive cropland in protected areas highlight trade-offs between conservation and food security, published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. Here, Varsha explains how the findings from her research can help ensure the long-term efficacy of protected areas in meeting both ecological and socio-economic goals of conservation. [Listen now.](#)



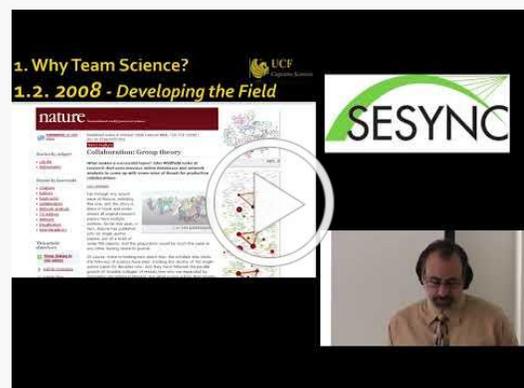
NEW VIDEO SERIES | Science of Team Science

An Introduction to The Science of Team Science

Check out our newest video series, presented by Dr. Steve Fiore of the University of Central Florida.

Part 1: Why Team Science?

In the first video of this three-part series, Dr. Fiore introduces the science of team science. He explains how this field of study originated from the need for increased interdisciplinary collaboration and more effective teamwork, while describing the development of the field and its relationship to interdisciplinary research.



Part 2: Conducting Team Science and Measuring Outcomes

In the second video, Dr. Fiore explains what is meant by teamwork in science, how to facilitate teamwork in science, and how to measure it. He

also describes how to:

- Lead teams in science collaboration
- Conduct a training needs analysis for teams
- Use team/task competencies as training objectives
- Applying interpersonal skills/competencies for science collaboration.



Part 3: Understanding Teams

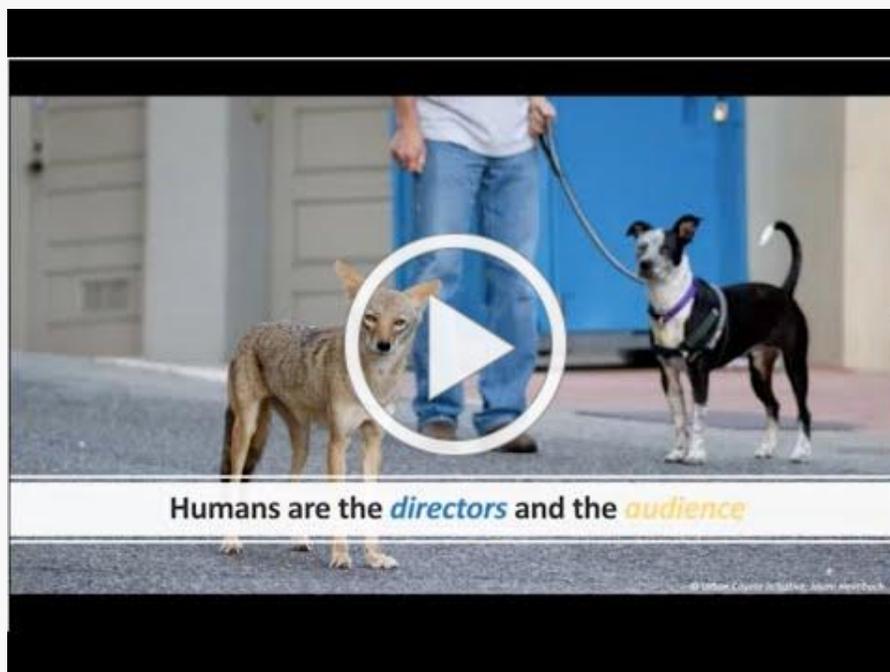
In the final video of this series, Dr. Fiore explains some defining characteristics of teams, phases of teamwork, and multi-team systems. He also explains the heuristic technique used in team research to understand the attitudinal, behavioral, and cognitive components of team collaboration. He finishes with some real-world examples of teams adopting team science research to improve their outcomes.



Be sure to **subscribe** to SESYNC's YouTube channel to receive notifications whenever we add new videos.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT | Seminar Recording Available

If you missed our most recent SESYNC seminar with Dr. Christopher Schell, you can catch it below. Here, Dr. Schell presents "**Coyotes, Conflict, and Cities: Exploring the Role of Social Heterogeneity in Shaping Coyote Behavior**"—discussing how social heterogeneity in the built environment contributes to human-carnivore conflict using lessons from the coyote (*Canis latrans*).



NEW PUBLICATIONS | SESYNC in the Journals

"Rethinking the design of resilience and adaptation indicators supporting coastal

communities." Published in *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management* by Jesse M. Keenan and Keely Maxwell. This paper resulted from the Workshop, [Socio-environmental systems indicators for climate change adaptation & resilience in the U.S.](#)

"Private land conservation decision-making: An integrative social science model."

Published in *Journal of Environmental Management* by Rebecca S. Epanchin-Niell, Douglas B. Jackson-Smith, Robyn S. Wilson, Matthew Ashenfarb, Ashley A. Dayer, Vicken Hillis, Gwennlian D. Iacona, Ezra M. Markowitz, Sandra T. Marquart-Pyatt, Tyler Treakle. This paper resulted from the Pursuit [Advancing Behavioral Models of Private Land Stewardship to Improve Environmental Policy.](#)

"Cost/benefit assessment of green infrastructure: Spatial scale effects on uncertainty and sensitivity."

Published in *Journal of Environmental Management* by Bardia Heidari, Arthur R. Schmidt, Barbara Minsker. This paper resulted from the Venture, [Role of Green Infrastructure.](#)

"Urbanization and agrobiodiversity: Leveraging a key nexus for sustainable development."

Published in *One Earth* by Karl S. Zimmerer, Chris S. Duvall, Edward C. Jaenicke, Leia M. Minaker, Thomas Reardon, and Karen C. Seto. This paper resulted from the Pursuit, [Linkages of agrobiodiversity in urban systems and food-producing landscapes.](#)

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