

The twenty-first century has thus far been marked by emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases: malaria, SARS, FMD, avian flu, HIV, MDR-tuberculosis, MERS-CoV and dengue pose some of the greatest challenges to health care worldwide.

As the example of SARS has illustrated, cities, with their high population density, complex human-animal interfaces and global connectivity, seem to play a crucial role in the emergence, distribution, and management of pathogens. Rising poverty and often poor sanitary conditions provide a fertile breeding ground for infectious disease outbreaks. Research on the complexity of disease ecologies has shown how urban areas and their hinterlands integrate each other mutually through processes of exchange and change: norms, standards and regulations as well as flows of commodities, animals, water, people and pathogens intermingle within and among cities, questioning any attempt to understand the urban as bounded or determinate space. These flows assemble the city as a place of becoming and uncertainty. Furthermore, the messy nature of globalised infectious disease aetiologies not only poses a threat to numerous city dwellers worldwide, but might contest conventional models of urban health governance, its institutional routines and norms.

Given the complexity and fragmentation of these epidemic entanglements, serious questions remain: How do categories of space, the urban or the local impact on the way public health thinks about infectious disease control? How are human-animal-pathogen interfaces enacted differently in various contexts? How are current ontological conceptions of the city reconfigured by locating biological agents inside the social production of urban space?

The interdisciplinary conference aims to open up the interrelation between cities and infectious disease as a focal point of interest for the social, medical and political sciences.

VENUE

Goethe University Frankfurt / Main
Campus Westend, IG 311
Grüneburgplatz 1
60323 Frankfurt / Main

REGISTRATION

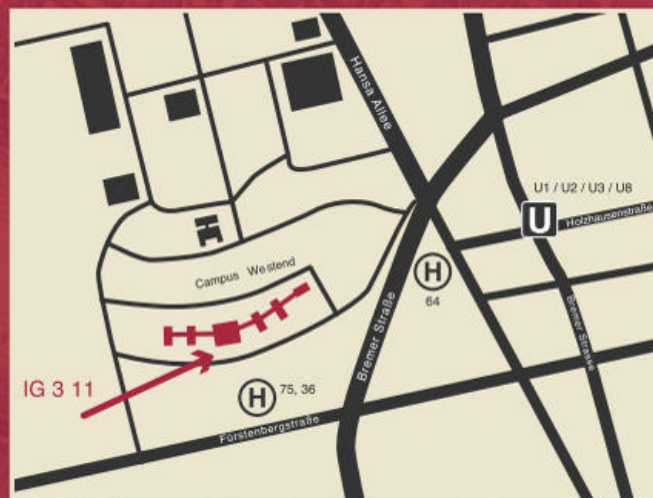
The conference is free of charge.
Registration via email is required:
hall@em.uni-frankfurt.de

ORGANISATION

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EPIDEMIC ENTANGLEMENTS

EXPLORING THE INTERRELATION BETWEEN
CITIES AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE

INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE
24TH – 25TH JULY 2014

Goethe University Frankfurt / Main
Institute of Cultural Anthropology
and European Ethnology



THURSDAY 24TH JULY

11:00 Registration

12:30 Welcome (Iwo Amelung, Dean of the Faculty)
Introduction (Meike Wolf, Kevin Hall,
Goethe University Frankfurt / Main)

SESSION 1 – DISEASE ECOLOGIES (CHAIR: MEIKE WOLF)

13:00 The politics of entanglement in urban
Nicaragua's dengue epidemics
(Alex Nading, Franklin & Marshall College)

13:30 Typhoid fever: the murderous product of the
natural, settlement and disease ecologies
that developed in nineteenth century Prahran
(Natasha Szuhan, University of Melbourne)

14:00 Beyond bioinsecurities? Reflections on
endemic human-virus relations
(Beth Greenhough, Queen Mary
University of London)

14:30 Coffee break

SESSION 2 – IMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH (CHAIR: BRITTA LUNDGREN)

14:45 Resistant bodies: local biologies of malaria
and the question of resistance/immunity
(Uli Beisel, University of Bayreuth)

15:15 Standardization of vaccination in the context
of democratization of expertise (Els Geelen,
Klasien Horstmann, Hans van Vliet,
Pieter de Hoogh, Maastricht University)

15:45 Disease securing and stigmatisation during
the 2005-2007 chikungunya epidemic in
Réunion (Karine Aasgaard Jansen,
Umeå University)

16:15 Coffee break

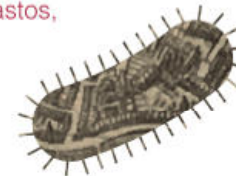
SESSION 3 – POLITICS OF INCLUSION / POLITICS OF EXCLUSION (CHAIR: ANDREW DONALDSON)

16:30 Biosecurity and the city. Post-SARS Hong
Kong and the governing of un/healthy
bodies (Henning Füller, Friedrich-Alexander-
Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg)

17:00 Buenos Aires at the time of cholera.
1867-1869. Fear, piety and urban space
(Antonio Carbone, Center for Metropolitan
Studies TU Berlin)

17:30 Brothels, hostals and hospitals:
the city streets of syphilis in early 20th
century Lisbon (Cristiana Bastos,
University of Lisbon)

19:30 Conference dinner



FRIDAY 25TH JULY

SESSION 4 – ARTICULATIONS OF EMERGENCE (CHAIR: KEVIN HALL)

09:00 Emerging infectious diseases: challenges for
understanding and communication of risks
(Márcia Grisotti, Federal University of Santa
Catarina)

09:30 Commerce or containment? Avian flu and
the politics of poultry market closures in
Hanoi (Natalie Porter, University of New
Hampshire)

10:00 Perspectives and problems of digital
epidemiology (Klaus Scheuermann,
Leon Hempel, Edward Velasco, Tim
Eckmanns, Human Technology Lab TU Berlin/
Robert Koch Institute)

10:30 Hong Kong as a sentinel post for pandemic
flu (Frédéric Keck, Laboratoire d'anthropologie
sociale / Musée du quai Branly)

11:00 Coffee break

SESSION 5 – BIOSECURITY AND PREPAREDNESS (CHAIR: ULI BEISEL)

11:30 Cities in an age of biosecurity:
infrastructures, ecologies and assemblage
(Andrew Donaldson, Newcastle University)

12:00 The object of regulation:
tending the tensions of food safety
(Nick Bingham, Open University)

12:30 Zombie survival: preparing for and acting
upon imagined epidemics (Maximilian
Mehner, Philipps-Universität Marburg)

13:00 Lunch

SESSION 6 – INTERNATIONAL LAW AND GLOBAL HEALTH (CHAIR: HENNING FÜLLER)

13:45 Back to the League of Nations – evaluation
of the environmental regime and the
campaign against diseases and plagues:
1919 – 1939 (Omer Aloni, Tel Aviv University)

14:15 Regulating epidemic space: the nomos
of global circulation (Sven Opitz,
Universität Hamburg)

14:45 Wrap up

15:00 End

