

What: Frontiers: Global capital & disease hot spots

Keywords: Food justice > Health equity / disparity, Ecology

When/Where: April 23, 2014
Institute on the Environment, UMN

Who: Rob Wallace is a visiting scholar with the Institute for Global Studies. He studies the sociogeography of public health crises, including the evolution of infectious diseases as they move through the built environment.

Why: In this talk, Dr Wallace examines how changes in the political economy of global capital have facilitated the rapid spread of infectious diseases across species and spaces. He emphasizes the role that industrial scale agriculture and food production has played in recent global outbreaks.

How: Dr Wallace traces genetic sequences to track the evolution of infectious diseases over geographic space. He also uses data on global capital flows to show how investment in large scale agriculture projects coincides with the emergence of human epidemics.