

Maria Isabel Espinoza | CV

28 Redcliffe Ave. Apt. 1B – Highland Park, NJ 08904

✉ mespinoza@sociology.rutgers.edu

📄 sociology.rutgers.edu/graduate/graduate-profiles/626-espinoza-maria

in maria-isabel-espinoza-b05320bb

Research Interests

- Environmental risk communication
- Environmental sociology
- Ethics of big data
- Medicalization of public health
- Sociology of climate change
- Science, Technology and Society Studies

Education

Rutgers University

Ph.D. candidate in Sociology
Completion expected Spring 2022

New Brunswick, NJ

2014–Present

Syracuse University

M.A. in Sociology
Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs

Syracuse, NY

2012–2014

Pontifical Catholic University of Peru

B.A. in Social Sciences

Lima, Peru

2003–2008

Doctoral Thesis (in progress)

Title: *Communicating about dengue and infectious diseases in a changing climate: The case of health professionals in Peru*

Committee: Steven Brechin (chair), Melissa Aronczyk, Norah Mackendrick, and Joanna Kempner

Description: This project seeks to understand how public health experts make sense of the environmental and climate connections to dengue and other infectious diseases.

Experience

Rutgers University

Instructor & Teaching Assistant

Served as an instructor and as a teaching assistant for undergraduate courses offered by the Department of Sociology and the Department of Human Ecology. Designed materials for traditional, hybrid, and online class settings.

New Brunswick, NJ

2014–Present

- Courses taught as Instructor: Health and Inequality, Introduction to Sociology
- Courses taught as Teaching Assistant: Politics of Environmental Issues

Rutgers University*Research Assistant & Fellow***New Brunswick, NJ**

2016–2019

Assisted Dr. Melissa Aronczyk on National Science Foundation (NSF) grant project, “The Role of Information & Influence Campaigns in Structuring Public Responses to U.S. Policy, 1988–2015.” Conducted archival work, interviews, literature reviews, content analysis, and maintained databases. Became a book project for Oxford University Press co-authored with Dr. Aronczyk, Dr. Robert Brulle titled *The Climate of Publicity*.

Syracuse University*Teaching Assistant***Syracuse, NY**

2012–2014

Served as Teaching Assistant for undergraduate courses. Led recitation sections. Supported instructor by grading and providing feedback for written and other assignments.

- Courses taught: Ethnic Inequality and Intergroup Relations, Social Problems, New York City in the 21st Century.

Metis Gaia S.A.C*Project Coordinator***Lima, Peru**

2009–2011

Designed and executed social assessment studies, including water use studies, local market dynamics, vulnerability assessments, and stakeholder analysis in rural and urban areas affected by mining activities in Peru. These studies were used in the Socioeconomic Baseline of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and related evaluation studies of projects Quellayeco, Michiquillay, Antamina, and Cormin.

Ashoka: Innovators for the Public*Venture Coordinator, Andean Region***Lima, Peru**

2008–2009

Performed searches for and analyses of social entrepreneurs in the Andean Region as viable candidates for an Ashoka fellowship. Succeeded in awarding 100% of pre-selected candidates with stipends for up to three years. Supported candidates with progress evaluation to achieve renewed funding from the Knight and the Lemelson foundations.

Publications

M.I. Espinoza. Conflicting diagnostic and prognostic framing of epidemics? newspaper representations of dengue as a public health problem. *Social Science & Medicine*, Under review.

M.I. Espinoza and M. Aronczyk. Big data for climate action or climate action for big data? *Big Data & Society*, 8.1, 2021. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2053951720982032>.

S.R. Brechin and M.I. Espinoza. Climate change investment is development: Insights from the Caribbean. *World Development*, Under review.

M. Aronczyk and M.I. Espinoza. *A Strategic Nature. Public Relations and The Politics of American Environmentalism*. Oxford University Press, Forthcoming.

M. Aronczyk and M.I. Espinoza. Sustainable communication: Green PR and the export of corporate environmentalism, 1989–1997. *Environmental Sociology*, 5(3):308–322, 2019. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23251042.2018.1564455>.

S.R. Brechin and M.I. Espinoza. A case for further refinement of the Green Climate Fund's 50:50 ratio climate change mitigation and adaptation allocation framework: Toward a more targeted approach. *Climatic Change*, 140(3-4):311–320, 2017. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10584-017-1938-8>.

M.I. Espinoza, R. Yurivilca, and G. Palacios. Reflexiones en torno a los conflictos socio ambientales: El plomo en el Calloa. *Revista Punto Medio*, 4:83–93, 2012.

Presentations

M.I. Espinoza. The stories we tell about flooding, climate patterns, and infectious diseases. media framing of a dengue epidemic in peru after el niño costero of 2017. Presented at the "Reproducing Knowledge" session at the IV International Sociological Association (ISA) Virtual Forum, February 2021.

M.I. Espinoza and M. Aronczyk. Big data for climate action or climate action for big data? Presented at the "The Politics of Data" panel at the Social Science History Association (SSHA) conference, November 2019. Chicago, IL.

M.I. Espinoza. Climate change and public health: The social construction of dengue, zika, and the environment within peruvian newspapers. Presented at the "Abolitionist Approaches to Health" panel at the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) conference, August 2018. Philadelphia, PA.

M.I. Espinoza and M. Aronczyk. A data revolution for the public good?. mobilizing big data and crowdsourcing technologies for climate action and sustainable development. Presented at the "Community-Scale Science" panel at the Rural Sociological Society (RSS) conference, July 2018. Portland, OR.

M. Mercado-Diaz, M.I. Espinoza, and A. Kaplan. Material, symbolic, and epistemic desegregation, decolonization, and reparations. Presented at the "Fanon, Decoloniality, and the Spirit of Bandung –3rd Rencontres" conference, November 2018. New Brunswick, NJ.

M.I. Espinoza. Crowdsourcing environmental knowledge production: The rise of image communication apps for environmental management. Presented at the "Reformatting the World: An Interdisciplinary Conference on Technology and Humanities" conference at York University, February 2018. Toronto.

M.I. Espinoza. Indigenous' cases and individual burdens: Comparing the cholera and dengue outbreak narratives. Presented at the "Global Encounters: Life, Death, Criticism" panel at the Social Science History Association (SSHA) conference, November 2017. Montreal.

M.I. Espinoza. A longitudinal and cross-national examination of the social causes of cholera prevalence in low-income and lower middle-income countries, 1985-2014. Presented at the "Global Perspective on Public Health Policies" panel at the Sociology of Development Section of the American Sociological Association (ASA) conference, October 2017. Detroit, MI.

M.I. Espinoza and S.R. Brechin. A case against the green climate fund's concurrent 50:50 ratio climate change mitigation and adaptation strategy. Presented at the "Climate Change" panel at the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) conference, February 2017. Philadelphia, PA.

M.I. Espinoza. Controlling the population's health: The cholera epidemic in a neoliberal state. Presented at the "Invisible Work" conference of the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS), February 2014. Baltimore, MD.

Grants & Awards

2019: Off-Campus Dissertation Award	<i>School of Graduate Studies, Rutgers University</i>
2019: Small Grant Award	<i>Sociology Department, Rutgers University</i>
2019: Student Travel Award	<i>Social Science History Association (SSHA)</i>
2018: Gretel Weiss Collaboration Grant	<i>Sociology Department, Rutgers University</i>
2017: Conference Travel Award	<i>School of Graduate Studies, Rutgers University</i>
2017: Small Grant Award	<i>Sociology Department, Rutgers University</i>
2017: CLAS Small Grant Award	<i>Center for Latin American Studies, Rutgers University</i>
2016: EPIC Scholarship Award	<i>National Institute for General Medical Sciences</i>
2015: RCHA Fellowship	<i>Center for Historical Analysis, Rutgers University</i>
2015: C. Clogg Scholarship	<i>Inter-University Consortium for Political Science (ICPSR)</i>
2014: NSF Summer Scholarship	<i>STS & Environmental Sociology, Vanderbilt University</i>
2014: Roscoe-Martin Fund for Research	<i>Maxwell School of Citizenship, Syracuse University</i>

Service & Outreach

- 2021:** Co-author of "Who benefits from data for good?" for the LSE Impact Blog. May 04. <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2021/05/04/who-benefits-from-data-for-good/>
- 2021:** Participant at South West Creative Technology Network (SWCTN) Data & The Environment Panel. March 26. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1mc1uPbFaVs>
- 2021:** Roundtable co-organizer for ASA's 2021 Meeting, Environmental Sociology Section
- 2021:** Roundtable co-organizer for ISA's 2021 Meeting, Environment and Society Section
- 2019:** Co-organizer for the "Fanon, Decoloniality, and the Spirit of Bandung –3rd Rencontres"
- 2019:** Focus group moderator for the Humanities Action Lab's Climates of Inequality exhibit
- 2018:** Grant proposal writing group for Lazos America Unida
- 2017:** Volunteer at the "Environmental Justice and the Future of Environmental Health Research" symposium, Rutgers University
- 2017:** Co-organizer for "Teaching Against the Grain: Creating a Critical Classroom" workshop
- 2015:** Volunteer at the "Global Climate Change and Inequality" symposium, Rutgers University

Languages

Spanish: Mothertongue

French: Advanced

English: Fluent

Italian: Basic

Skills & Additional Training

- Certificate in Human Dimensions of Environmental Change, Rutgers University, 2017
- Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM), 2012-2017
- Certificate in Analysis, Management, and Resolution of Environmental Conflicts, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, 2011
- Data analysis software: STATA (advanced), MaxQDA (advanced), GIS (basic)