

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

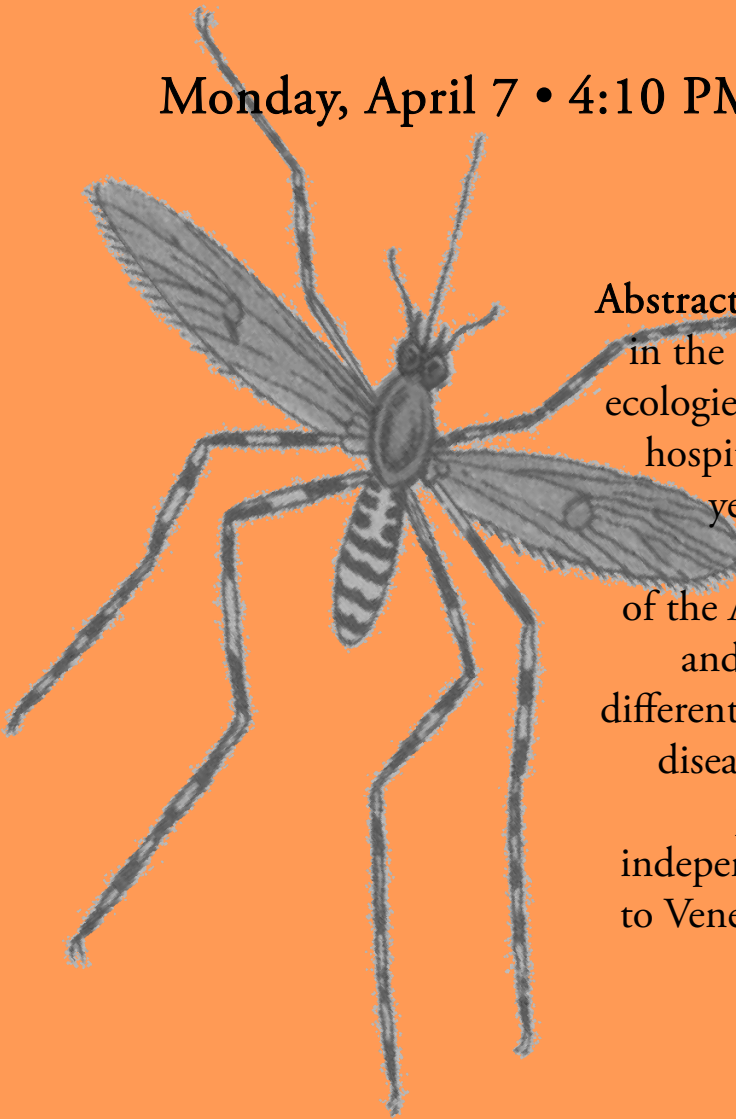


“Revolutionary Mosquitoes in the Americas, 1776-1898”

Professor John R. McNeill

Georgetown University's History Department and School of Foreign Service

Monday, April 7 • 4:10 PM • Sinclair Auditorium



Abstract: The creation of plantation economies in the Caribbean and American South altered ecologies in ways that made these regions more hospitable to the mosquito species that carry yellow fever and malaria. These diseases became routine in the plantation zones of the Americas after 1650. Both yellow fever and malaria affected different populations differently, and so became politically important diseases, helping American-born and raised peoples to win revolutions and wars of independence. From the Chesapeake to Haiti to Venezuela, mosquitoes and diseases shaped the fates of nations.

John R. McNeill is a University Professor at Georgetown University's History Department and School of Foreign Service. His latest work, *Mosquito Empires: Ecology and War in the Greater Caribbean, 1640-1914*, has received the Albert J. Beveridge Prize of the American Historical Association and the PROSE Award. McNeill's career and past publications have received a Toynbee Prize, a MacArthur Genius Grant, a Guggenheim Fellowship, a number of Fulbright Fellowships, and other distinguished recognitions.



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