

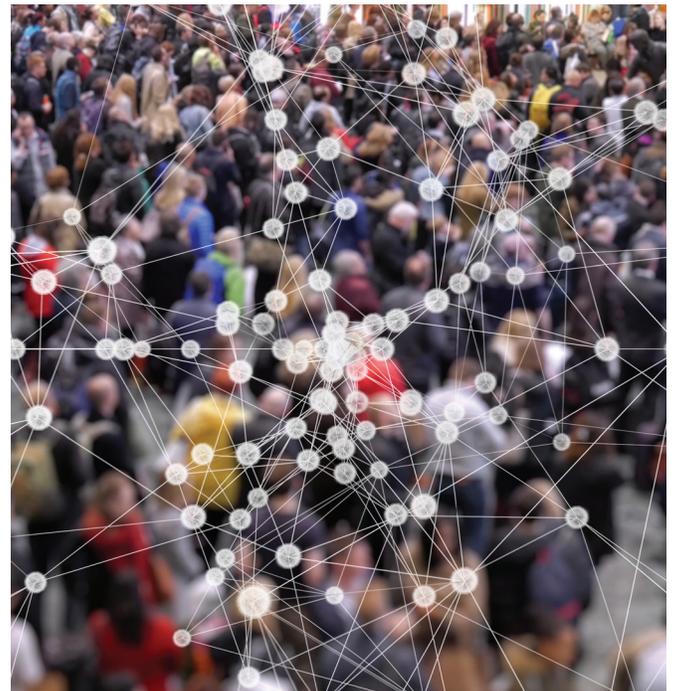


Exploring the Impact of COVID-19 Through Innovative Research

During the COVID-19 pandemic, faculty researchers at Northeastern's **College of Social Sciences and Humanities (CSSH)** are tackling critical questions: How is the crisis affecting the economies of Boston and the United States? What are the consequences of sudden, drastic lifestyle changes on mental health? How can we document the people's vastly different experiences throughout this historic moment?

With the COVID-19 crisis spreading rapidly on an enormous scale, the need for proper documentation of this challenging moment is greater than ever. Encouraged by a student, **Victoria Cain** assembled a team to curate the #Covid19Archive digital repository, **A Journal in the Plague Year**. This repository is a collaborative effort with universities across the country, and aims to create a lasting record of the global experiences of COVID-19 through oral histories, images, and more.

To have a successful response to COVID-19, there must be access to real-time, reliable data on new outbreaks. **David Lazer** is conducting a year-long rolling national survey, and is collecting social media data to examine behaviors in the U.S. during the pandemic. This data will improve the country's response to the virus to help prepare us for future pandemics. In addition, Lazer is studying the social implications of COVID-19 by investigating how people adapt and the impact that COVID-19 has on their daily lives. His findings will assist Northeastern's **Network Science Institute** in advising officials as they continue to reopen the economy and resume business activities while mitigating the risk to human health.



The COVID-19 pandemic is exacerbating health disparities experienced by disadvantaged and marginalized groups.

Alisa Lincoln is assessing the discrepancies in mental and physical health that are arising and persisting for people with a serious mental illness. Lincoln hopes to inform the development of innovative practices and policy solutions to alleviate those impacts, and to promote health and well-being.

Alicia Sasser Modestino is studying labor and health economics, and aspires to mitigate the severe damage from the pandemic. Through data collection, she is examining the impact of working from home on childcare; her analysis will help to inform public policy creation around labor and employment. She is also collaborating with colleagues in the **School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs** to investigate Boston's policies of tenancy and evictions for landlords and renters. Modestino's expertise in youth labor and employment has positioned her to play a pivotal role with the City of Boston as it re-imagines its summer youth employment program in the COVID-19 era.

Dan O'Brien is combining digital technologies with individual surveys to gather data on social distancing in Boston to understand implications on the transmission of COVID-19. This information captures a more complete picture of how the virus has been spreading within communities hardest hit by the pandemic, and is used to inform public policies to slow the rate of infections and deaths.

The faculty researchers at Northeastern's **College of Social Sciences and Humanities** are working tirelessly during this uncertain time to discover essential solutions to global challenges. **To learn more about the important research being done, contact Carol Giusti-Cahalane, Director of Development and Philanthropic Partnerships, at 617.373.4792 or c.giusticalane@northeastern.edu.**

