

Books About Pandemics, Epidemics and Viruses

CRISIS IN THE RED ZONE: THE STORY OF THE DEADLIEST EBOLA OUTBREAK IN HISTORY, AND OF THE OUTBREAKS TO COME (2019)

By Richard Preston

Call # 614.57 Preston

Chronicles the 2013-2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa and the global efforts of health professionals to contain the virus, and provides an urgent wake-up call about the future of emerging viruses.

VIRUSES: A VERY SHORT INTRODUCTION (2d ed., 2018)

By Dorothy Crawford

Call # (In MLN)

Concise introduction for those interested in viruses.

EPIDEMICS AND SOCIETY: FROM THE BLACK DEATH TO THE PRESENT (2019)

By Frank M. Snowden

Call # (In MLN)

A wide-ranging study that illuminates the connection between epidemic diseases and societal change, from the Black Death to the coronavirus. This sweeping exploration of the impact of epidemic diseases looks at how mass infectious outbreaks have shaped society, from the Black Death to today. Frank M. Snowden reveals the ways that diseases have not only influenced medical science and public health, but also transformed the arts, religion, intellectual history, and warfare.

PANDEMIC: TRACKING CONTAGIONS, FROM CHOLERA TO EBOLA AND BEYOND (2016)

By Sonia Shah

Call # 614.5 Shah

By tracking the story of cholera, a science journalist and award-winning author explores the origins of epidemics and discusses modern pathogens that have the potential to follow in the disease's pandemic footsteps.

PANDEMIC CENTURY: ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF PANIC, HYSTERIA, AND HUBRIS (2019)

By Mark Honigsbaum

Call # 614.49

Chronicles the last century of scientific struggle against deadly contagious disease--from the 1918 Spanish influenza pandemic to the recent SARS, Ebola and Zika epidemics--examining related epidemiological mysteries and the role of disease in exacerbating world conflicts.

VACCINE RACE: SCIENCE, POLITICS, AND THE HUMAN COSTS OF DEFEATING DISEASE (2017)

By Meredith Wadman

Call # 614.523 Wadman

Documents the controversial story of the development of the first widely used normal human cell line, paving the way for some of the world's most important vaccines, against a backdrop of the devastating rubella epidemic of the mid-1960s.

VIRUS: AN ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO 101 INCREDIBLE MICROBES (2016)

By Marilyn J. Roossinck

Call # 579.2 Roossinck

Stunning array of viruses, some of which are beneficial.

SPILLOVER: ANIMAL INFECTIONS AND THE NEXT HUMAN PANDEMIC (2012)

By David Quammen

Call # 614.43 Quammen

Examines the emergence and causes of new diseases all over the world, describing a process called "spillover" where illness originates in wild animals before being passed to humans and discusses the potential for the next huge pandemic.

FLU: THE STORY OF THE GREAT INFLUENZA PANDEMIC OF 1918 AND THE SEARCH FOR THE VIRUS THAT CAUSED IT (1999)

By Gina Kolata

Call # 614.518 Kolata

Describes the great flu epidemic of 1918, an outbreak that killed some forty million people worldwide, and discusses the efforts of scientists and public health officials to understand and prevent another lethal pandemic.

