Dr. Alexis Merdjanoff is a Clinical Assistant Professor in Social and Behavioral Sciences at New York University’s College of Global Public Health and Director of Research for the Population Impact, Recovery and Resilience (PiR2) research program. She is a public health sociologist who explores how population health is affected by exposure to environmental hazards, including hurricanes, floods, extreme heat and oil spills. Dr. Merdjanoff is particularly interested in how social inequalities shape the impact of environmental hazards on health, recovery, and resilience for vulnerable populations.

Her current research explores how erosion and flooding susceptibility in high-risk coastal communities shape decisions to age in place. She hopes to identify the individual, household, and social resources that older adults and communities need to be resilient, as well as the social and physical infrastructures needed to successfully prepare for future environmental risks. With this work, her hope is to gain a deeper understanding of the resources older adults need to successfully adapt to and prepare for coastal erosion, frequent flooding, extreme heat and environmental hazards.