UNC-Chapel Hill Applicant

Name: Amanda Thompson

Title: Associate Professor

School/Department: College of Arts & Sciences, Department of Anthropology

Collaborating Faculty and Partner Institution

Collaborating Faculty: Dr. Diego Quiroga, Vice-President of Research and Co-Director of the Galapagos Academic Institute of Arts and Sciences (GAIAS), Anthropology

Partner Institution: University of San Francisco Quito

Previous Engagement with Faculty or Institution: I have been collaborating with USFQ since 2015 through the Center for Galapagos Studies and the Galapagos Science Center in San Cristobal, Galapagos. I have on-going research collaborations with USFQ faculty, including an NIH grant with a USFQ co-PI (Dr. Enrique Teran) and other faculty at USFQ. I also co-taught Study Abroad in 2015 with Enrique at GAIAS. I have not directly collaborated with Dr. Quiroga previously, but we interact as part of the Advisory Committee for the Galapagos Science Center and have discussed collaborating on teaching projects in the past. This COIL project would help move forward our plans for a future Study Abroad and bring about a new collaboration between USFQ and UNC in Anthropology. This collaboration will be beneficial for students in our new major in Medical Anthropology.

COIL Activity

UNC-Chapel Hill Course: Anthropology 190: Introduction to Biocultural Medical Anthropology

Course at Partner Institution: ANT-3303E - MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Semester Taught: Fall 2020

Planned COIL Activity: We have planned several COIL activities including shared readings and discussions and a small group project that will occur throughout the semester. Students from USFQ and UNC will read several of the same articles and discuss them in small, virtual recitation sections. In addition, they will collaborate on a final research project around Covid. Students will work in small groups to compare the social, cultural, health care system, and government responses to the Covid epidemic (and/or other disease events) in the US and Ecuador. They will create a final report and presentation on an aspect of this comparison that will be presented to both classes.
Anticipated Number of Students Involved: 90

Type of Support Requested: ___ Faculty  ___ Graduate Student  ___ Faculty and Graduate Student

Describe the student’s role: A graduate student will help facilitate the small group discussions and guide student projects. Her help will be critical in developing module contents, since this is a new course and a rapidly developing health situation, and facilitating student engagement. The TA role will be especially important since the UNC section will be taught remotely as a large class over 50 students.