“Global Public Health: Tropical Diseases of Latin America”

College of Public Health, Kent State University
Course Coordinator: Dr. Mark James

Tentative Dates: May 12 - 25, 2019 | Credit Hours: 3
Application Deadline: December 15, 2018

Course Description: The principal objective of this 2019 summer intersession course is to immerse students into the history, culture and public health system of the Latin American country, Colombia. Students will have the opportunity to visit major cities, i.e., Cali, Medellin, and Cartagena, rural areas, and well-known tourist destinations. Students will gain an understanding of current scientific research on tropical diseases of local public health relevance, such as malaria. The course will focus on the basic biology of disease, mechanisms of transmission (epidemiology), and efforts to develop vaccines against malaria. The course will also feature diagnosis and treatment of so-called Neglected Tropical Diseases, and the renowned World Mosquito Program. The course is primarily for sophomores, juniors and seniors who are public health or biological science majors. Graduate students are also accepted. Knowledge of basic Spanish language is useful but not necessary.

Cities Planned: Cali • Buenaventura • Medellin • Cartagena

Learning Experiences Planned: History and Culture of Colombia • Explore Research Labs • Malaria Vaccine Development Process • Tour Colombian Universities • Tour Communities, Hospitals and Clinics • Expert Lectures by Local Scientists

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