Extended Study to Uganda (Spring 2015)

ENST 333: Environment, Health and Community: A Case Study in Rural Uganda

Directors: Peter Scull, Frank Frey

On-campus course: ENST 233: Global Environmental Health Issues

Tentative travel dates: May 19-June 10, 2015

Course credit: 0.5 credit

Prerequisites: none

Application deadline: Monday, October 27, 2014

Applications available from: www.colgate.edu/off-campus-study/extended-study

INFORMATION SESSIONS: Wednesday, October 22, 12-1 pm in 238 Ho Science Center; Thursday October 23, 4-5 pm in 328 Ho Science Center.

Overview:

Environmental health is a field of interdisciplinary study that integrates human society and behavior with ecological processes to understand the environmental dimensions of human health. This 0.5 credit course focuses on knowledge generated in the natural and social sciences that concerns human-environmental interactions and its implications for human health. It introduces students to the conceptual and empirical underpinnings of the direct and indirect relationships between environment and health, approaches to measuring these relationships, and the ways in which health policies, programs and clinical practices have been organized to reduce risk at various geographic scales: locally, nationally and internationally. Regional implications of global climate and other global processes provide an important context for this course. This course also explicitly demonstrates the importance of an interdisciplinary approach to investigating questions in global environmental health and the complexity of environmental analysis.

Revised 9/23/14
Coursework:

The majority of this 0.50 credit extended study is held in villages proximate to Bwindi Impenetrable National Park in southwestern Uganda. The curriculum focuses on health issues including disease prevalence and access to health care in remote villages adjacent to national parks. Ecological dimensions of human health are considered, including infectious disease transmission, sanitation and access to water, nutrition and household environment. Students participate in the following educational projects with a diverse array of community leaders: 1) training workshops in research methods for clinical and community health; 2) field studies with health professionals to improve health data collection; and 3) community outreach to understand environmental and community health assets and needs in the region.

Ideally, students should bring background and interests in environmental studies, biology and geography