



GLINT TALKS Series

Parasite Infection and Immune System Development: Exploring Relationships between Economic Development, Climate Change and Human Health

November 15th, 2019

12 P.M. - 1 P.M.

UC 122

Dr. Tara Cepen Robins

Assistant Professor, Anthropology Department
Boettcher Investigator

In this talk, Dr. Robins will highlight her work on two research projects: one among an indigenous population from Amazonian Ecuador and another among children from rural, low-socioeconomic status regions of the Southern United States.

She'll discuss how economic development, social change, and socioeconomic status all affect parasite exposure and immune system development, and how changing climates may be altering these relationships now and into the future.

Dr. Robins uses novel and integrative methods to test the Hygiene Hypothesis and Disappearing Microbiota Hypothesis, which posit that decreased exposure in parasites and bacterial diversity, respectively, have resulted in the increase in allergic and autoimmune disorders that we are seeing in economically developed nations.



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