

SPRING 2023 CHARLAS CON CAFÉ

LIFE, DEATH, AND CONSERVATION VOLUNTOURISM IN HONDURAS' BAY ISLANDS

with Dr. Keri Vacanti Brondo

This talk explores the world of conservation voluntourism and relations of care between humans and vulnerable species on the Honduran Bay Island of Utila. I consider the impacts of alternative tourism markets that rest on the exchange of “affect” with other species to ask: how are human socialities made through interactions with other species? What lives and dies in affect economies? Why are some species killable? And, who gets to decide? Employing a decolonizing methodology based on landscape assemblage theory, I offer a framework of “thinking-like-a-mangrove” to attend to alternative worldings in ecologically fragile spaces in along the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef.



Dr. Keri Vacanti Brondo is a Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Memphis and Interim Associate Dean of Research in the College of Arts and Sciences. Her research and teaching interests include conservation and development, indigeneity, land rights, tourism and local livelihoods, feminist methodologies, and nature-based volunteerism. She is a former Fulbright scholar, National Geographic Explorer, and Title VI FLAS recipient. Her books include two ethnographies on her work in Honduras, *Voluntourism and Multispecies Collaboration: Life, Death, and Conservation in the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef* and *Land Grab: Green Neoliberalism, Gender, and Garifuna Resistance in Honduras*, and three anthropology textbooks, including the recently published *Anthropological Theory for the 21st Century* (with Lynn Bolles, Ruth Gomberg-Muñoz, and Bernard Perley).

Friday, April 28th, 1 - 2pm
Coffee and Snacks at 12:30 pm
Marshall Building, Suite 280

Register to join via Zoom



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