In 2012, Field Projects international (FPI) began evaluating parasite richness and prevalence in our study population of tamarins, using microscopy and molecular screening techniques. Since then, our Wildlife Health program has grown in sophistication, broadened its pathogens of interest, and greatly expanded the taxa from which we sample to include birds, bats, small mammals and rodents, and primates. Hosting multiple concomitant parasite/pathogen infections is the norm for wildlife, so we are monitoring for statistically significant changes in prevalence, richness, or abundance of infections across years.

Participants will learn to navigate in the rainforest while tracking wildlife, how to administer safe and efficient capture-release protocols, how to record and manage data as well as preserve, process and analyze specimens, how to identify parasites and pathogens via microscopy, how to screen for methylmercury, how to measure levels of neopterin (a useful biomarker for immune system activation), and lastly, how to conduct genetic testing in a state-of-the-art field laboratory, including DNA/RNA extraction, PCR, Loop-mediated Isothermal Amplification (LAMP), and nanopore-based amplicon sequencing.

**Start dates:** May 30, June 6, June 13, June 27, July 11, July 25. (4-week minimum)

**Apply before:** April 1, 2021

**Program fee:** $1800 for 4 weeks; $450 each additional week (includes food and lodging, transportation to the field station from Puerto Maldonado and back)