

Gentry Hanks

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Dr. Traci Arden
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Dr. Traci Ardren,

I hope this letter finds you well. Please consider this as part of my application for the position of lecturer in Anthropology advertised on the University of Miami website. I'll try to leave out the most atrocious cover letter cliches to keep this short as you must have many applications. My MA in human geography is from the Department of Geography & Anthropology at LSU. I am currently a PhD candidate in the department of Geography at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario Canada. I recently moved to Miami, where I am writing my dissertation on medical, historical, cultural and emotional landscapes of diabetes.

The University of Miami has a wonderful teaching and research reputation. The same commitment to critical pedagogy that inspires my teaching also propels my research and my insatiable quest for knowledge, its creation and how it becomes legitimate certainly inspires my teaching. My diverse teaching experiences and the pertinence of medical anthropology to my own work in cultural and health geographies makes me a dynamite candidate for this position! I have taught undergraduates since 2011 as a teaching assistant and guest lecturer (see CV for details). Prior to teaching at Queen's University, I taught Latin and Spanish in secondary education for 4 years and ESL abroad for 2 years. In my dissertation research I use qualitative methods such as body mapping and text mining of public online forum discourse. qualitative research on personal biomedical waste for The Canada Waste Flow Project has lead to a collaboration on a book for Ashgate titled *Throw Away Societies: People, Place & Waste*. My contribution, chapter 1, *Diabetic Debris: Social Media Discourses on Personal Biomedical Waste Flows in North America* uses social media data to examine the gap between practices of disposing personal biomedical waste in everyday life and waste policy in North America.

If I have piqued your interest and you feel I am a qualified and appropriate candidate for this position, I would be quite keen to meet with you. Contact information for my references is included in my CV, but please do let me know if you would like me to request that a letter from each be sent under separate cover. Upon your request, I am more than willing to send additional materials. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Gentry Hanks

encl: Curriculum Vitae