

## Mapping the Routes of Science

Client: Tina Gianquitto, Division of Liberal Arts and International Studies

Location: Flexible/On Campus

Team Size: Flexible



### Introduction:

The purpose of this project is to continue the development of an interactive website that maps the botanical explorations of Ynes Mexia, an early 20<sup>th</sup> century woman scientist. The site is already under construction; the field session students will have a prototype built by students in S ø16.

In 1930, the 60-year old intrepid woman botanist Mexia, travelling only with a local guide and a boatman, explored thousands of miles of tropical terrain in South America, fording rivers and falling off cliffs, collecting over 100,000 plant specimens, writing hundreds of letters, and generally enjoying life. This field session will continue the work done by students in the Spring 2016 semester, developing an interactive website (with game-like elements) that maps these expeditions. In the process, we will discuss the history of women in science, science communication and the public, the history of mapping and mapping technologies, among other related topics.

### Skills / Interest

The ideal team will include students who are interested in creating an educational product aimed at middle-school girls. Students from the Mapping the Routes of Science (LAIS 498) Spring course will provide Wikipages on GitHub and Technical documentation and design documents describing how site will work.

### Why This Project:

The field session will aim to achieve the following objectives:

1. work on an educational project for a non-Computer Science audience;
2. develop skills in web design;
3. experience working with larger groups on one project;
4. learn more about the spatial representation of history by developing interactive digital maps;
5. learn how to write in a condensed, exhibit-style manner;
6. learn how to appeal to different (and popular) audiences.