HSCI RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES
SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

“COMMUNITY-BASED DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES TO ADDRESS CANCER DISPARITIES”

NATALIA RODRIGUEZ, PH.D., MPH
Assistant Professor
Public Health

Tuesday, October 1, 2019
BRNG 2290
4:30 p.m.

Bio:
Dr. Rodriguez is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Public Health. She is a Biomedical Engineer by training and holds bachelor’s degrees in Chemical Engineering and Biology from MIT, a PhD in Biomedical Engineering from Boston University, and an MPH in Global Health from the Harvard School of Public Health. She completed her postdoctoral training at the World Health Organization in the Medical Devices Unit providing technical support to the elaboration of the WHO List of Priority Medical Devices for Cancer Management. Dr. Rodriguez’s research program lies at the intersection of Public Health and Biomedical Engineering and combines community-based participatory research (CBPR) and human-centered health technology design (HCD) to understand and address disparities in women’s cancers

Abstract:
The application of CBPR and HCD to the development and implementation of cancer detection tools represents an enormous opportunity in cancer control efforts to address inequities in healthcare access and disparities in health outcomes by tailoring interventions to meet the specific needs of the intended end-user with meaningful consideration of the community, social structure, and cultural context. Her talk will focus on work in South Florida Hispanic immigrant communities that qualitatively explores needs, knowledge gaps, and access barriers to early detection of cervical cancer and the role of community health workers (CHW) in educating and navigating women to these services. This fieldwork is informing the adaptation of an existing human papillomavirus (HPV) rapid diagnostic test for CHW-administered cervical cancer screening with home-based HPV self-sampling.

Host: Dr. Sa Liu