1.

The current progress of my thesis is in the statistical analysis, conclusion, and discussion sections. Finishing my thesis should not take the whole Fall quarter. I have had help with scripts and statistical anaylsis from a Cornell phd candidate, Cassandra Wattenburger. This helped move me into the data analysis. I have significant notes on other researcher’s findings to compare with my results and feel confident about being able to frame my findings within the greater body of literature and within the context of the local issue that I’m focused on. I don’t have any edits of writing returned yet to work with from my Spring quarter, however. Once I’m back in sound mind and have my affairs in order, I will complete this thesis through it’s versions and present.

2.

The reason for requesting an extension is that I am unable to finish it by the timeline provided. Multiple factors have formed this scenario:

#1: Work for a presentation to CREOi for funding took time away from thesis work.

#2: I am a self-employed business owner, my only employee, and the caregiver to my 1-year-old daughter on my 2 days off; limiting the time available for work on my thesis to part-time compared to the school year when I was working overtime on it.

#3: I had to research, source, and build equipment for more detailed microscopy for identification, that was available on campus, but I was not granted access to.

#4: I had to investigate and resubmit several samples for NGS which took time to process.

#5: I lost several loved ones in the past month, including my best friend, and need time to mourn and process the gravity of profound loss before I return to finishing my thesis.

#6: Due to my special extension student status, I am unable to postpone jury duty that I have been selected for this month. I will have to work extra hours to reclaim the loss of time to make sure my accounts’ needs are met for 1-2 weeks after this time so that my income isn’t impacted.

3.

Timeline:

September 30th: Completed copy turned in.

October 28th: Final copy turned in.

By December 2nd: Signed final copy is to be turned in for the graduation requirement.

The final presentation will be shared once scheduled.