

Ecuador: Cuenca

Semester:

Spring 2010

Program Focus:

Country Study

Prerequisite Courses:

Spanish 201 with a "B" average or better in language study

Recommended Courses:

HIST 141: Colonial Latin

American History

SOAN 266: Latin America

Cultural Persp.

Application Deadline:

February 06, 2009

Program Design:

Academic study will focus on intensive language study, and the history, culture, and socio-economic institutions of Ecuador. Following an orientation program in Quito, the program is centered in Cuenca and includes field trips to Jatun Sacha (primary rain forest) as well as local areas of interest. Students live with host families while in Cuenca.

Requirements Fulfilled:

Fulfills the two-course international studies requirement.

Credits:

4 courses per semester/16 credits

Curriculum:**IS 241: Contemporary Ecuador:**

This course explores different aspects of Ecuador through an anthropological optic. The main purpose is to provide students with information, conceptual tools, and methods with which to investigate and interpret their Ecuadorian experience. Class discussion and questions from students are very important.

The specific topics covered in the course are chosen anew each semester, in order to address current affairs and new anthropological work.

Globalization, Andean prehistory, traditional medicine, identity politics, indigenous rights movements, gender roles, religion and society, race, ethnicity, witchcraft, agricultural economics, transnational migration and Plan Colombia are some of the topics included in recent courses. Social structure and culture in Cuenca are also included.

The course includes day trips and a weeklong fieldtrip. Some class assignments require students to investigate and report on questions about Cuenca and its environs.

Course material is presented in required readings and class lectures. There are films and occasionally guest speakers to complement this material. Grades are based on exams, short writing assignments, and a term paper.

IS 242 Biodiversity in Ecuador:

This course is an introduction to Ecuador's ecology and to conservation biology with an emphasis on Latin America and Ecuador in particular.

The first part of the course will be an overview of Ecuador's main ecosystems and introducing students to the general concepts of conservation biology and biodiversity at the species, genetic, and ecosystem levels before going on to examine in more detail the geographical and evolutionary factors responsible for Ecuador's outstanding biodiversity. We will then explore the ecology, community structure, and ecological importance of each of Ecuador's main geographical regions.

The second part of the course will overview the threats to Ecuador's

biodiversity and the various problems faced by small populations of endangered species. Consideration for conservation strategies will be explored for individual species and for ecosystems both from theoretical and practical standpoints.

2 Spanish Language Courses*Additional Information:***Passport Details:**

During the early portion of the semester prior to departure, you will be required to submit your passport to the Overseas Office. Your passport will be returned to you just prior to your departure. If you plan to use your passport to travel during this time frame, please notify the Overseas Office of your plans.

Please make sure your passport is valid for 6 months BEYOND the end of your program (November 2010). If it expires before then, please renew it as soon as possible to avoid expediting fees.

Passport Services and**Information:** Please visit

● http://travel.state.gov/passport_services.html or University Station Post Office, 1505 SW 6th Street, Portland.

Passport photos (8 required):

We recommend Action Fast Photo, located at 9889 SW Barbur Boulevard next to Barbur Foods, (\$7.50 for 2/\$.43 for each additional). Please provide your LC student ID in order to receive the discount.

Visa:

A visa will be granted once you are on-site in Ecuador.

See reverse for more info...

Health:

Please make an appointment with the student health services center to get an updated list of immunizations that are recommended or mandatory for this program.

Insurance:

Students are insured by Aetna/Chickering Insurance Company, an affiliate of USI Insurance Services Corporation. Program insurance is mandatory and included in the comprehensive fee.

International Student Identity Card:

The card is optional for the program. You will be notified of how to obtain it when we are making your travel arrangements.

Fees To Plan For:

Fees for the following items are not included in the comprehensive program fee:

- Passport fees
- Required photographs
- Visa fees
- International Student I.D. Card
- Immunizations and health exams
- Books/Supplies
- Transport to city of departure

Leader information:

Narcisa, Mayra and Lynn

Dr. Lynn Hirschkind, Director of English component of program.

Dr. Hirschkind first saw Ecuador in 1971, when she was 21 years old, during one of her stints as a

college drop-out. After a year in Quito, she went on to see the rest of South America, spending another two years before deciding finally and definitively to finish school. That decision took her through a PH.D. in anthropology in 1980. She returned to Cuenca, Ecuador to carry out her dissertation field research, from 1978 to 1980. In 1982 she bought a ranch, between four and countless hours northeast of Cuenca; weather and road and political conditions played constant havoc with the time/distance ratio. There, for 17 years, she raised sheep and cows, made yarn and cheese, and acquired many godchildren. During this time she began giving lectures to Lewis and Clark College students. Eventually the lectures grew into a formal anthropology course, and Lynn began to organize a complete academic program, including a history or ecology course, field trips and speakers. The purpose of the academic program is to offer students a broad and deep knowledge of Ecuador, one that enhances the experiential impressions gained from living here while also providing conceptual and analytic tools with which to interpret this deluge of information. To this end, the anthropology class is reinvented each semester with different emphases and content, and the history or ecology class has likewise changed focus each year, from geography to art to conservation.

Ms. Narcisa Ullauri, Resident Director.

Ms. Ullauri is a native of Cuenca, Ecuador. She holds a bachelor's degree in Social Communication from Universidad de Cuenca and two master's degrees, one in Education Communication from Universidad Politécnica and the

other in Cultural Studies from Universidad del Azuay. She has a diverse background in her work experience, ranging from being a professional tour guide in Ecuador, to being a professor at Universidad del Azuay, where she also is a member of the Academic Council in the Philosophy department. Ms. Ullauri is responsible for all aspects for the program ranging from homestay placement, arranging academic excursions and assuring the well being of program participants.

Ms. Mayra Cardoso, Director of Spanish Language component of program.

Ms. Cardoso received her degree in Education from Universidad Estatal de Cuenca from the Philosophy Department. She updates her teaching skills by attending education workshops sponsored by Oxford University Cambridge. She has taught Spanish to Brazilians at Colegio Pitágoras, was the Academic Coordinator for Spanish and English sections at Centro Binacional Abraham Lincoln de Cuenca. She has been the Director for Spanish component of the Lewis & Clark College program since 1994. She is also responsible for the recruitment and retention of Spanish language instructors, organizing other aspects of the program such as sports activities, conferences, meals and other duties as they become necessary.

Campus Contact:

Lucrecia Choto Assistant Director of Overseas & Off-Campus Programs at choto@lclark.edu or ext. 7296.