

Why Bolivia? Why Peru?

There are still wild places left on earth. Though people have colonized almost every corner of our planet, some places still are rich in diversity. This course will take you to some of those places in the wonderfully diverse landscape that is Bolivia and Peru. We will see tropical rainforest through the eyes of indigenous guides whose people have lived with the forest for 300 years. We will hike in the foothills of the 18,000 foot Cordillera Real mountains, and walk on the shores of Lake Titicaca, one of the highest navigable lakes in the world. We will visit the ruined city of Machu Picchu and other Inca and pre-Inca sites, and will experience the largest salt flat in the world, the other-worldly Salar de Uyuni. Through all of these places, our unifying theme will be the experiences of local peoples in conserving the natural resources upon which they rely. This Community-Based Conservation is a source of hope for wildness in a world of ever-more people.

Estimated Cost: TBD

Priority Registration: April 1-15, 2014

Preferred Class Size: 10-20 Students

Jon Grinnell took students to Bolivia in January 2011, then returned to spend his sabbatical year there in 2012-2013.

Joel Carlin has led January courses to Ecuador and the Galapagos. He is on sabbatical in China 2013-2014.

A biodiversity hot spot: Madidi National Park



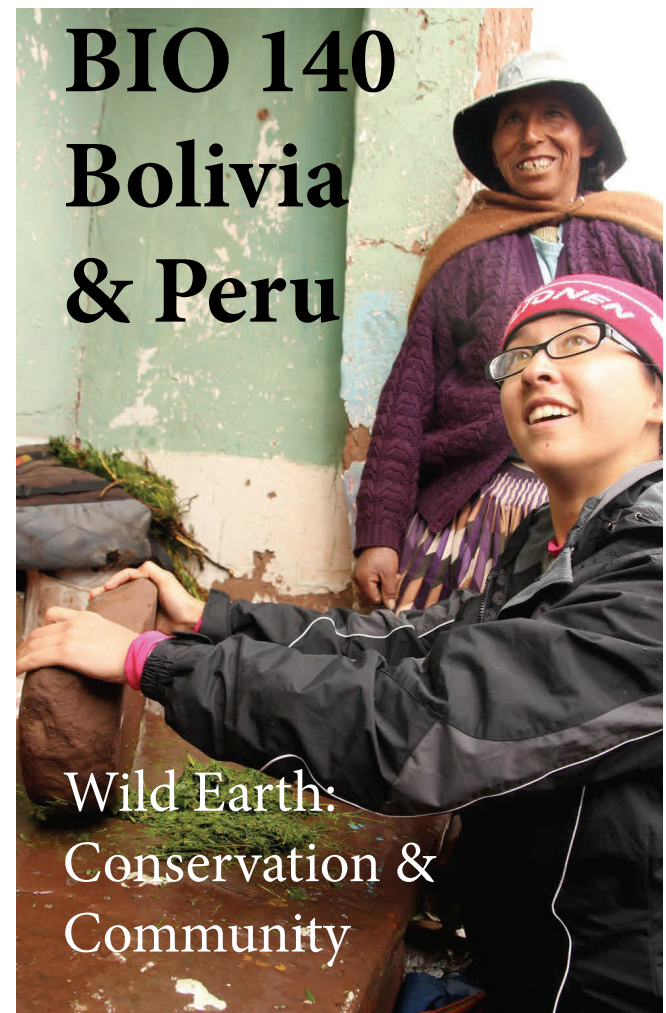
Gusties examine the buttresses of a rainforest tree.

The world's largest salt flat: *Salar de Uyuni*



Salar de Uyuni, from Isla Incahuasi

BIO 140 Bolivia & Peru



Wild Earth:
Conservation &
Community

Keisha grinds herbs with a traditional healer.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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CENTER FOR
INTERNATIONAL AND
CULTURAL EDUCATION



Join us in a multidisciplinary adventure into a diverse land of wild places, deep history, and modern challenges.

Wild Places

Madidi National Park has been called one of South America's most intact ecosystems, stretching from the Andes to the Amazon. Jaguars, tapirs, macaws, and thousands of other plants and animals live here. We will stay at the community-run Chalalan ecolodge.

Salar de Uyuni is a wonderland of salt, dotted by desert islands and volcanoes. It is also home to the world's largest known reserves of lithium, setting the stage for large-scale mining to feed batteries for cell phones and electric cars.

Lake Titicaca, at 12,500 feet, is a splash of emerald surrounded by the Altiplano. Titicaca was sacred to the Incas and cultures and preceded them, and remains of their inhabitations still dot its shores.

Machu Picchu was the 15th century estate of the Inca king Pachacuti and remains a testament to the Inca Empire.



Machu Picchu, Peru



Onto the waters of Titicaca.



Local conservationists welcome a Gustie.



Piranha fishing... barefoot.

Indigenous Cultures

Bolivia and Peru are rich in cultural as well as biological diversity. Though many countries colonized by the Spanish saw most of their indigenous peoples exterminated or evicted, Bolivia and Peru still are about 50% indigenous, primarily Quechua and Aymara. Though these original peoples have gained more rights in recent years, Spanish descendants still control most land and power. Thus, another theme we will explore is one of environmental and social justice.

Where we'll be

Madidi National Park (Amazon basin)
Cochabamba (city of eternal spring)
Oruro (heart of tin mining)
Salar de Uyuni (largest salt flat)
La Paz (administrative capital of Bolivia)
Lake Titicaca communities
Cusco (Incan city turned Spanish colonial)
Machu Picchu (scenic Incan retreat)



Andes mountains near La Paz, Bolivia