SPAN 3330 – Cultural Studies in the Andes (Cuzco, Machu Picchu and Lima)

Instructor: Heraldo Falconi
Location: Perú: Cities of Lima, Ica, Pisco, Paracas, Chincha, Lunahuaná, Cuzco, Machu Picchu, Ollantaytambo, Chinchero.
Dates: May 6 –29, 2020

As a cultural crossroad, UNESCO World Heritage Site, and cosmopolitan city, Cuzco has something for everyone. Make it your own during this Maymester and explore one of the most fascinating tourist destinations in the world: Cuzco, Peru.

In this course, students will explore different forms of cultural production in the Hispanic world, with a focus on the Andean region and a strong emphasis on hands-on learning. Some of the issues discussed will be the lessons of cultural anthropology and archaeology to explore the past and understand the present, popular and elite artistic production, the importance of festive culture in the region, as well as questions of gender and society. As part of the Maymester, program participants will attend and study the festival of Corpus Christi, one of the most fascinating syncretic celebrations in the Spanish-speaking world. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to engage in a more experiential type of tourism that will include activities such as hiking through ancient ruins, participating in various celebrations, and visiting with traditional artisans. Students will lodge and study in the historic center of Cuzco, thus encouraging constant interaction and exploration of all the former Inca capital has to offer. The group will spend the first few days in Lima, a major cosmopolitan city and culinary capital of the Americas.

Students will receive credit for Span 3330: Cultural Studies in the Andes (Major: Culture/Elective; AXLE: INT; Prerequisite: Span 3301W and Span 3302.) Formal classes (taught in Spanish) will meet during the week and weekends will be dedicated to guided trips to Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley of the Incas and Lima, among others.

Course requirements: Spanish 3301W and Spanish 3302. Also, students should be physically fit, as they
will be expected to engage in hikes and walks at high altitude (around 12000 ft.).

**Itinerary and travel arrangements for the group:** Details to follow.

**Dates:**
May 6: Arrive in Cuzco
May 23: Cuzco-Lima
May 29: Return to the US from Lima

**Credits:** Students will receive 3 credit hours for Span 3330: Cultural Studies in the Andes

Additional financial support based on need and merit will be available for one recipient through the **Pugh-Hernández Award.** Preference will be given to students with declared majors/minors in Spanish.

**More information:** Contact Heraldo Falconi (h.falconi@vanderbilt.edu). Also, see last year’s class blog at [http://vandyincuzco.blogspot.com/](http://vandyincuzco.blogspot.com/).

Fees include tuition, class materials, lodging, at least one meal a day, entrance fees to all sites, as well as trips outside of Cuzco and Lima. Program fees will also include participation in unlimited group classes where students can mingle with locals and program participants alike. Past group classes included tango and salsa dancing, yoga, capoeira, public speaking, cooking and whitewater rafting (categories 2 and 3.) Fees do not include airfare into Cuzco (May 6), Cuzco-Lima (May 23) or returning to the US from Lima (May 29.) Spending money will depend on personal habits but last year's students spent a few hundred dollars on average.

**FEES:** Cost is approx. $8,454.17.