

Language and Culture PLUS – Cuenca, Ecuador

Centers for Interamerican Studies (CEDEI) Course Descriptions

Business

BUS327 Comercio Exterior (3)

Taught in Spanish.

BUS349 Strategic Management and Policy (3)

The study of the formulation and implementation of corporate and business strategies to achieve the objectives of the organization. This emphasizes environmental, industry and competitor analyses and includes stakeholder analysis of government, community, consumers, employees and the natural environment.

BUS372 Managing Across Cultures (3)

Introduction to the fundamentals of international management. Addresses the challenges of doing business internationally including cultural dimensions, the strategic and structural issues, and human resources issues.

BUS377 International Business (3)

Reviews the historical causes of differences in national environments, as well as geographic, religious, cultural, political and economic influences on current business environment.

BUS399 Topics in Business (3)

Selected topics on various themes. Students may repeat course on a different topic.

Environmental Studies

ENV301 Environmental Studies of the Andes (3)

Review of natural and cultural assets of the Andean region; environmental policies and international agreements; roles of governmental, non-governmental, residential, educational and religious sectors. Includes field trips in Ecuador and Peru.

ENV340 Conservation Biology (3)

An introduction to Conservation Biology and discussion of readings covering a variety of topics, including Taxonomic Diversity, Diversity and Dynamics, Conservation Genetics, Threats to Biodiversity, and Preventing Extinction. Also includes practical field exercises in Ecuador and Peru.

Internships & Service Learning

ISL201 International Service Learning: Theory and Practice (3)

An interdisciplinary course designed to explore the theory and practice of service learning using a two-pronged approach: on-site volunteer service work in Cuenca, Ecuador, combined with a classroom seminar. By combining formal study with service to the local community in an intercultural/international setting, students find their learning has both greater depth and scope. Students will complete 30 hours of community service designed to create substantive links between coursework and service. In class, students will actively seek out answers to questions arising from their service experience and relate them to service learning issues that are of interest to scholars and to society. In this way, the students will be able take ownership of the learning process and tackle real-world problems that transcend the classroom setting. To this end, the course will employ a classroom approach known as problem based learning, whereby problems drive the curriculum. The key problem we will examine is this: What is international service learning and what implications does it have for society, citizenship and self

ISL380 Micro-Internship: Placement (2)

Full-time internship placement in a local business or community-based organization. Involves 180-320 hours (6-8 weeks) at the placement site and completion of a journal and an institutional report. Must be taken concurrently with ISL381. Prerequisites: junior or senior standing, three years of college Spanish or equivalent, acceptance into the program by the internship committee.

ISL381 Micro-Internship: Analysis (2)

Analysis of the internship experience. Must be taken concurrently with ISL380. Prerequisites: junior or senior standing, three years of college Spanish or equivalent, acceptance into the program by the internship committee.

ISL390 Internship: Placement (5)

Full-time internship placement in a local business or community-based organization. Involves 360-600 hours (9-15 weeks) at the placement site and completion of a journal and an institutional report. Must be taken concurrently with ISL391. Prerequisites: junior or senior standing, three years of college Spanish or equivalent, acceptance into the program by the internship committee.

ISL391 Internship: Analysis (3)

Analysis of the internship experience. Must be taken concurrently with ISL390. Prerequisites: junior or senior standing, three years of college Spanish or equivalent, acceptance into the program by the internship committee.

Political Science**PSC310 Political Economy of Latin America (3)**

A discussion of the political economy of Latin America from the end of colonialism to the modern day.

Quichua

QUI301 Introduction to Quichua (4)

Introduction to the language, culture and worldview of the Quichua-speaking communities. Fundamental listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, and elements of grammar. Prerequisite: SPA310 or equivalent.

QUI302 Intermediate Quichua (4)

Continued practice in listening, speaking, reading and writing, and elements of grammar. Prerequisite: QUI301 or equivalent.

Spanish

SPA101-102 Beginning Spanish I-II (8)

Intensive. Fundamental skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Elements of grammar, oral practice and elementary composition. Emphasis on active participation. For students or other adults with little or no Spanish experience students with more than two years of high school Spanish or one year of college Spanish should not take this course.

SPA199 Directed Study Project (1-3)

Opportunity to study a particular topic under the direction of a faculty member. May be taken concurrently with SPA101-102.

SPA201 Intermediate Spanish I (4)

Discussion of literary and cultural texts, and conversation practice. Prerequisite: SPA102 or equivalent.

SPA202 Intermediate Spanish II (4)

A continuation of SPA201.

SPA299 Directed Study Project (1-3)

Opportunity to study a particular topic under the direction of a faculty member. May be taken concurrently with SPA201-202.

SPA310 Advanced Spanish Composition and Conversation (3)

Intensive oral and written work, including the study of idiomatic forms and selected literary texts. Prerequisite: SPA202 or equivalent.

SPA311 Advanced Spanish Grammar and Syntax (3)

Intensive study of grammar and syntax with emphasis on grammatical analysis. May be taken concurrently with SPA310.

SPA325 Culture and Civilization of Latin America (3)

Latin American culture from Pre-Inca period through the Spanish conquest to the present. Examines political, economic, social, and artistic aspects of Latin America. Prerequisites: SPA310 and SPA311, or permission of instructor.

SPA330 Modern Latin America (3)

An introduction and examination of contemporary Latin America through a combination of sociological and political perspectives. Topics include dualism in the social structure; underdevelopment: definitions, causes, and cures; ideas of culture; possible futures. Prerequisites: SPA310 and SPA311, or permission of instructor.

SPA335 Spanish American Literature (3)

An introduction to the literature of Spanish America from conquest to the present. Prerequisites: SPA310 and SPA311, or permission of instructor.

SPA399 Directed Study Project (1-3)

Opportunity to study a particular topic under the direction of a faculty member. May be taken concurrently with SPA310.

SPA401 Indigenous Literature and Culture of the Andes (3)

The Cosmo vision, thought, oral literary tradition, and daily lives of the indigenous people of the Andes. Special fieldwork is required. Prerequisites: SPA310 and SPA311, or permission of instructor.

SPA402 History of Latin America, Conquest and Colonization (3)

An intensive study of Latin American history during the Conquest and later, Colonization. Prerequisite: SPA330.

SPA403 Andean Literature (3)

The study of the literature principally of Ecuador, Bolivia and Peru in its cultural context Includes poetry, the novel, the short story and the essay, with a focus on "Andean" as a cultural term. Prerequisites: SPA310 and SPA311, or permission of instructor.

SPA404 Business Spanish (3)

Introduction in Spanish for the Business World; a review of useful terms, vocabulary and customs. Prerequisites: SPA310 and SPA311, or permission of instructor.

SPA405 Topics in Latin American Literature (3)

The study of different trends in Latin American Literature; the short story, women authors, poetry, etc. Prerequisites: SPA310 and SPA311, or permission of instructor.

SPA499 Directed Study Project (1-3)

Opportunity to study a particular topic under the direction of a faculty member. Prerequisite: SPA310 or equivalent.

World Literature

WLI305 Latin American Short Story (3)

Stories from the Colonial period through the 20th century. Authors include Fray Bartolomé de las Casas, Juan Rodríguez Freyle, Esteban Echeverría, Domingo Faustino Sarmiento, Ricardo Palma, Rubén Darío, Horacio Quiroga, Ricardo Güirades, Rómulo Gallego, Jorge Luis Borges, Alejo Carpentier, Miguel Angel Asturias, Juan Rulfo, Julio Cortázar, Carlos Fuentes, Gabriel García Márquez, Mario Vargas Llosa, to name a few.

WLI310 Topics in World Literature: The Other America (3)

The course will examine the various ways that the idea of America has been constructed and represented in literary texts, focusing especially upon competing visions of the New World and the ways in which those visions have shaped and continue to shape New World reality. Readings include essays and excerpts from various journals and chronicles; poems by Elizabeth Bishop, Pablo Neruda, Cesar Vallejo, Gabriela Mistral, among others. Texts include "Nothing to Declare: Memoirs of a Woman Traveling Alone" by Mary Morris, "At Play in the Fields of the Lord" by Peter Matthiessen, "One Hundred Years of Solitude" by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, "Other Fires: Short Fiction by Latin American Women" edited by Alberto Manguel, and "Memory of Fire: Century of the Wind" by Eduardo Galeano.

WLI315 Selected Readings from Latin American Literature (3)

Readings selected from 20th century Latin American texts, including poetry, drama, the essay, the short story and the novel. Discussion of works and their importance in contemporary Latin American culture.