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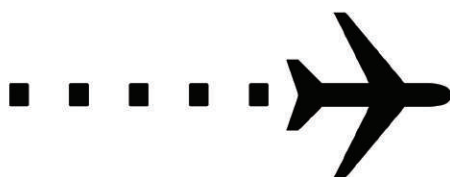
Center for Community (C4C) S355

Photo credits: Carol Conzelman



3 credits over **2.5** weeks

June term



Program requirements:

2.50 GPA
at time of application

Sophomore
class standing by program start

*"We all felt like we were part of the town
by the end of the course. Even other
Bolivians were impressed by my
knowledge and the people I had met."
- past participant*

bolivia

democracy &
development

Global Seminar



Be Boulder.



The Program:

Throughout this Global Seminar you will gain an inside perspective on the political history, cultural traditions, and indigenous livelihoods in both urban and rural communities.

We will study pertinent scholarly research with the benefit of films and guest speakers, observe local farmers, families, teachers, development workers, and community leaders, maintain detailed field notes, and choose a particular topic of interest to analyze for a final research paper.



Living in Bolivia:

The South American nation of Bolivia is situated high in the Andes Mountains and extends deep into the Amazon rainforest. Its majority indigenous population speaks the languages and carries on many traditions of ancient civilizations. People from around the world go off the beaten path to seek adventure in this place and to experience its varied landscapes, striking beauty, and rich cultural heritage. Bolivia has deep cultural traditions, a unique historical trajectory, and long-term relationships with the United States and Europe—both of which have wielded enormous influence in this small South American country. As part of Latin America's New Left, current Bolivian politics are dynamic and innovative.

The program will take place in the capital city of La Paz and the Yungas mountain region.

We will stay in comfortable hotels in La Paz and Coroico, both with walking access to town centers. Breakfasts and several other meals are included in the program fee.

Highlights:

- Gain a holistic perspective of life in the rural Andes mountains
- Earn three credits in just over two weeks in-country
- Conduct fieldwork like an anthropologist by researching a topic of your interest
- Gain an inside understanding of Bolivian history, Aymara cultural traditions, and current political economic issues
- Learn about agricultural livelihoods, rural development, and climate change from local farmers
- Learn how community democracy works and generates social movements
- Enjoy mountain hikes, swimming in waterfalls, and stunning vistas

Coursework:

On this Global Seminar you will explore the livelihood strategies and political organization of rural Yungas communities with a unique cultural and agricultural history. The program also provides grounded context for Bolivia's national political economic trend called the New Left. During three 3-hour sessions in Boulder before your departure, we will review the history of Bolivia and the Yungas region. Then, for the two weeks that we are in the Yungas region, we will observe and talk to people about how indigenous locals are conceptualizing and promoting their own models for rural development. We will consider why an anthropological approach is necessary in the study of democracy and development.

The course does not require Spanish proficiency, although students will find this helpful. The course will appeal to those majoring in anthropology, international affairs, geography, environmental studies, political science, economics, and other related disciplines.



Meet the Director:

Carol Conzelman:

The program is directed by Caroline S. Conzelman, Ph.D., Anthropology Instructor with the Global Studies Academic Program (G-RAP) and the Sustainability and Social Innovation RAP at CU Boulder. Dr. Conzelman has traveled extensively around the world and has conducted ethnographic fieldwork in the Yungas of Bolivia since 1997. Her university courses cover such topics as globalization, democracy, social change, drug policy, immigration, climate change, Latin American history, community engagement, and service learning.



*"It was a crash course in how to conduct field research and everyone on the course was able to focus on whatever topic they wanted."
- past participant*



Learn More:

<http://studyabroad.colorado.edu/?go=BoliviaGS>

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