Dear students,

Next summer Bolivian Professor Jose Martinez (Quechua) and I will be leading the University of Oregon’s 3-week-long Indigenous Rights and Environmental Justice study abroad program in Bolivia (https://geo.uoregon.edu/programs/bolivia/indigenous-rights-and-environmental-Justice-in-bolivia). We’d like to invite you to apply. Scholarships are available. The priority deadline for applications is February 15, which is also the deadline for the Scholarship Essay. We will only be able to take about 14 students, and encourage you to apply as soon as possible. Please check out the new 4 minute video about the program, which includes footage we filmed in Summer 2019: https://vimeo.com/378907597

We’re very excited to run the program for the second year. It will be a great mix of learning about environmental justice and indigenous rights, working on community-engagement projects prioritized by Guarayo and Chiquitano indigenous peoples, fun activities like viewing wildlife in the Pantanal Wetlands as well as art, dance, music, games and local sports. Professor Martinez and I have collaborated with Chiquitano, Guarayo and other Bolivian indigenous peoples for over 20 years. We are looking for a small group of students who are as adventurous as they are thoughtful. Please feel free to share this message and invite others to apply. International Studies majors can fulfil their 10 week intercultural experience requirement by participating in the program and either interning with a Bolivian organization for several weeks after the program or by working remotely on community projects.

Here is a link to the website and photo gallery. Also, here is a Powerpoint presentation with pictures of the study abroad sites, list of possible service learning projects, short videos about Guarayo and Monkox/Chiquitano indigenous peoples, community projects carried out in 2019 and course information.

Since the insurance covers the weeks before and after, we highly recommend you tour Bolivia while you’re there. Some ideas are wildlife tours in the Amazon or visiting the world famous Salar de Uyuni salt flats. We didn’t include these visits so as to keep costs down but they certainly are an option.

I’d be happy to connect you with indigenous and non-governmental organizations in Bolivia if you’re interested in an internship or the like after the program or just in general. Remote work from the U.S. or wherever you are would be a possibility too. Even if you can’t study abroad, all students are invited to collaborate remotely on ongoing community projects with students from the 2019 program through a student organization they founded called Students for Indigenous Rights and Environmental Justice in Bolivia (SIREJ). Here is a slide show about that: link

If you have any questions, please contact me or Crystal Galarza, the program advisor (cgalarza@uoregon.edu).

Thank you for your interest in the program!
Warm regards,

Derrick Hindery

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BOOK: “From Enron to Evo: Pipeline Politics, Global Environmentalism, and Indigenous Rights in Bolivia”, University of Arizona Press

Blog: link

Photostory: link

ANNUAL STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM IN BOLIVIA: Indigenous Rights and Environmental Justice in Bolivia

Program video

STUDENTS FOR INDIGENOUS RIGHTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN BOLIVIA (SIREJ): https://www.facebook.com/sirejbolivia/

WEBSITE: http://intldept.uoregon.edu/profile/dhindery
dhindery@uoregon.edu

I support UO Dreamers and all students regardless of national origin or immigration status.

The University of Oregon is situated on Kalapuya Ilihi, the traditional homelands and political territories of the Kalapuya People, the First Peoples of the Willamette Valley, whose descendants are now citizens of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians.