

1. ACADEMIC PROGRAM

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Ecuador is one of the 17 countries classified as mega-diverse. Ecuador consists of 14 nationalities and 18 indigenous groups, turning it into a multiethnic and multicultural country. The east coast of Ecuador is the area of the rainforest, and in this area you will find the lowest percentages of population of the entire country.

The students will observe the Andean mountains, the valleys and the Amazon.

This program provides students a perspective about the relationship between the environment, use and management of natural resources and local communities through the study of cases involving peoples' rights over the environment, food sovereignty, water management, climate changes, sustainable development and local alternatives for the management and conservation of natural resources.

This program promotes that students have an experiential experience in contact with nature, understanding it as an active subject that interacts and manifests itself in different ways in their life. The program makes a theoretical review of basic concepts of forest ecology and agroecology; starting from a practical approach that allows students to understand the dynamics of the ecosystem under study. And learn about the importance of Ecuador's biological and cultural mega-diversity.

2. ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Sunday

Arrival Airport Pick up – Overnight at hotel

Monday

8:30	9:00	A Cimas staff will pick you up from the hotel	
9:00	13:00	Welcome and introduction meeting and Orientation: security and risks	CIMAS Staff
10:30	12:00	Ecuador a mega-diverse country	Professor
12:00	13:30	Lecture: Historical review of Ecuador	Professor
14:00	14:30	Welcome Lunch	
14:30	15:00	Lecture: Cultural diversity	

Tuesday

9:00	16:00	City tour and lunch	Cimas Staff
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Wednesday

7:00	8:00	Breakfast at Hotel	
8:00	13:30	Travel to Pambiliño Forest Preserve	Cimas Staff – Pambiliño team
13:30	15:00	Lunch at Pambiliño Forest Preserve	Pambiliño team
15:00	18:00	Pambiliño Forest Preserve	
18:00	19:00	Dinner	
20:00		Overnight at Pambiliño Forest Preserve	Pambiliño team

Thursday

7:00	8:00	Breakfast at Pambiliño Forest Preserve	
8:00	11:00	Community or research project	Pambiliño team
11:00	13:00	Research or Community Project	Cimas Staff
13:00	14:00	Lunch at Pambiliño Forest Preserve	
14:00	17:00	Hydro Electric Dam and Tour of Area	
18:00	19:00	Dinner at Pambiliño Forest Preserve	
20:00		Overnight in Pambilinho Preserve	

Friday			
7:00	8:00	Breakfast at Pambiliño Forest Preserve	
8:00	12:00	Activity	Pambiliño team
12:00	13:00	Lunch at Pambiliño Forest Preserve	
13:00	14:00	Prepare to return to Quito	Cimas Staff
14:00	17:00	Travel back to Quito	
17:00	18:00	Check in at Savoy Inn	
18:00		Evening/Dinner on your own	

Monday			
7:00	8:30	Breakfast at Hotel	
		Check-out of Savoy Inn and prepare for Travel to Pedro Moncayo	
8:30	9:00		
9:00	11:00	Travel to Pedro Moncayo	Cimas Staff
		Tour various locations, take soil samples (Mojanda, water irrigation pipe, CINCA, etc)	Agroecological Farm's Staff
11:00	13:00		
13:00	14:00	Lunch in LA ESPERANZA (products from CINCA)	Cimas Staff
14:00	15:00	Travel to Otavalo	
15:00	16:00	Check-in HOTEL	
16:00	18H00	Free time to explore Otavalo markets	Cimas Staff
18:00	20:00	Dinner at HOTEL ACOMA	

Tuesday			
6:00	7:00	Breakfast at Hotel	
7:00	8:00	Travel to Cotacachi Cayapas Ecological Reserve	Cimas Staff
8:00	12:30	Explore Cotacachi Cayapas Ecological Reserve	
12:30	13:30	Travel to Cotacachi	Cimas Staff
13:30	14:30	Lunch in Cotacachi	
14:30	17:00	Explore shops in Cotacachi	
17:00	17:30	Travel to Pakarinka Learning Center in Agato	Cimas Staff
		Ceremony and dinner with Guillermo Santillán in Agaoto	G.Santillán
17:30	22:00		
22:00	22:30	Return to HOTEL	

Wednesday			
7:30	8:30	Breakfast at Hotel	
8:30	10:30	Departure to the Valle del Chota community	
10:30	12:30	Converstory on the situation of the Afro-Ecuadorian people in the Chota Valley	
12:30	14:05	Lunch	
14:00	16:00	Cultural activity in the Valle del Chota community: Afro-Ecuadorian music and dance	
21:30	22:00	Overnight in Chota Valley	

Thursday			
7:00	9:00	Breakfast	
9:00	12:00	Trip to Otavalo	
12:00	13:30	Lunch in CAYAMBE	
13:30	14:30	Check in CABAÑAS OYACACHI this is an ecotourism community project oriented to the environment conservation. It is located in a community that manage the hot springs. (The water of the hot springs are similar to the ones in Papallacta)	
14:30	17:00	Free time to Enjoy the Hot Springs	
18:00	19:00	Dinne at the Oyacachi community project	

Saturday			
7:30	8:30	Breakfast	
8:30	13:00	Visit Salve Faccha - Dam Cayambe-Coca Reserve and water dam	Cimas Staff
13:00	14:00	Lunch in Papallacta	
14:00	16:00	Travel to Amazon Basin	
16:00	17:00	Check into hotel	
18:00	19:00	Dinner at Hotel	

Sunday			
8:00	9:00	Breakfast	
9:00	9:45	Transportation to Jatun Yaku	
10:00	17:00	Raftin, visit Quichua village, traditional lunch	
18:00	19:00	Dinner in Tena	

Monday			
8:00	9:00	Breakfast	
9:00	13:00	Hike through primary jungle	
13:00	14:00	Lunch	
14:00	16:00	Pusuno for make chocolate, demonstration on panning glod and swimming,	
16:00	18:00	Travel tu Puyo	
18:00	19:00	Check in to Hotel Cabaña Valle Encantado	
19:00	20:00	Dinner	

Tuesday			
8:00	9:00	Breakfast	
9:00	11:00	Visit Sacha Yaku wild animal rescue center	
11:00	12:00	Visit Tree house	
12:00	13:00	Travel to Río Verde	
13:00	14:00	Luch	
14:00	16:00	Visit Pailón del Diablo - Pastaza Water fall and Dumb	
16:00	18:00	Traver to Casa Condor Community Center - Chimborazo Volcano	
18:00	19:00	Dinner	
19:00	20:00	Assignment: Reflection on case Study	

Wednesday			
8:00	9:00	Breakfast	
9:00	12:00	Visit local initiatives to preserv Paramo Ecosistem	
12:00	13:00	Lunch	
13:00	16:00	Visit the Chimborazo Protected Area 5000 meters over the sea	
16:00	18:00	Travel to Salinas	
18:00	18:30	Check in Hoteria el Refugio (comunity initiative)	
19:00	20:00	Dinner	

Thursday			
8:00	9:00	Breakfast	
9:00	12:00	Visit local El Salinerito and other small comunitary enterprices	
12:00	13:00	Lunch	
13:00	15:00	Travel to Quilotoa Volcano - Lagoon	
15:00	18:00	Explore Ilinizas Ecological Reserv	
18:00	18:30	Check in Samay Kirutoa Lodge	
19:00	20:00	Dinner	

Friday			
7:00	8:00	Breakfast	
8:00	10:00	Travel to Cotopaxi Volcano	
10:00	12:00	Visit Cotopoxi National Parck	
13:00	14:00	Lunch	
14:00	16:00	Travek to Quito	
17:00	19:00	Debreifing	
19:00	21:00	Farewell Dinner	
21:00	22:00	Transport to Airport and Check in	

Sunday Return to USA			
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