

The following information will be published on the Courses page of the Summer Sessions Website :			
Course Title:	Cultural Studies in the Andes (Cuzco, Machu Picchu, and Lima)		
Course Number:	Span 3330	Credit Hours:	3
First Instructor:	Heraldo Falconi	First Instructor Email:	h.falconi@vanderbilt.edu
Second Instructor:	Click here to enter text.	Second Instructor Email:	Click here to enter text.
Program start date:	May 8	Program end date:	May 30
Program destination(s): (Each city, country - start/end date)	Perú: Cities of Lima, Ica, Pisco, Paracas, Chinchá, Lunahuaná, Cuzco, Machu Picchu, Ollantaytambo, and Chinchero.		
Does this course fulfill any AXLE credit? If so, what?	International		
What are the academic pre-requisites (if any) for enrolling in this course?	Span 3302, or equivalent Can be waived after interview with instructor		
What are some are some conditions or challenges that students will face? (Ex. Hiking long distances, extreme temperatures, rocky terrain, etc.)	Students should be prepared to acclimate to high altitude (7000-12000 ft.) Every side excursion will involve a few hours of hiking.		
What is covered in the student budget:	At least one meal a day, lodging, private transportation, entry fees, all weekend excursions, and extra-curricular activities.		
Lodging (Total nights + included amenities):	All 23 nights, including retaining accommodations (or private storage) while out of the city where we are based out of at the time (Lima or Cuzco)		
Meals:	Total breakfasts: 23 Total lunches: 10 Total dinners: 6		
Transportation (Airfare, public transit, etc.):	Train, boat, private and local buses (all included in fees)		
Supplies (Textbooks, gear, etc.):	Educational materials and textbook(s) will be supplied by the program. Personal gear (ie: hiking shoes, raincoat, etc.) will be supplied by student.		
Excursions (Tour fees, admission fees, etc.):	Excursions are all included in student fees. 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.) Excursions are all curated to align with the program academically or to provide students with familiarity with interdisciplinary activities like experiential tourism (like lodging with local rural families), sustainability and conservation (like visiting an island reserve that is the northernmost habitat of the Peruvian penguin), etc.		

What is <u>not</u> covered in the student budget:	Airfare (into Peru, Lima-Cuzco, and return to the US), and additional meals not supplied by the program.
Lodging (Total nights):	All 23 nights are covered by the program
Meals:	Total breakfasts: 0 Total lunches: 13 Total dinners: 17
Transportation (international airfare, public transit, etc.):	Airfare (into Peru, Lima-Cuzco, and return to the US)
Supplies (Textbooks, gear, personal items, etc.):	Personal items and personal gear (ie: hiking shoes, raincoat, etc.)
Excursions (Optional activities, tour fees, admission fees, etc.):	All excursions are included. Select optional activities available at some sites are <u>not</u> included (ie: tree canopying, horseback riding, paragliding, etc.)
Visa needed for US passport holders?	No
Is the cost of the visa included in the student fee?	Not applicable
Does the course have a service-learning component:	Possibly. Will depend on student interest and availability. Details will be announced at a later date.
Please provide the course description below:	

**Spanish 3330: Cultural Studies in the Andes (Cuzco, Machu Picchu and Lima)
May 8-30, 2026**

Instructor: Heraldo Falconí



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

Course requirements: Spanish 3302 or equivalent (can be waived after an interview with the instructor.) Also, students should be physically fit, as they will be expected to engage in hikes and walks at high altitude (highest is around 12000 ft.)

Fees: \$ TBD. 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 Lima (May 8), Lima-Cuzco (May 14) or returning to the US from Cuzco (May 30.) Spending money will depend on personal habits, but last year's students spent a few hundred dollars on average.

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

Dates:

May 8: Arrival in Lima from the US

May 14: Lima-Cuzco

May 30: Return to the US from Cuzco

Additional financial support based on need and merit will be available 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). See last year's class blog at: <https://peruvuando.wixsite.com/my-site-5>. Or follow us on Instagram @PeruVUando.