# Western Washington University

# Honors 105

# Miller Hall 231/Ecuador/Galápagos Islands

# Summer Quarter 2024

**Instructor:** Amy Carbajal 650-7967 e-mail: Amy.Carbajal@wwu.edu

**Office:** Miller Hall 216B

**Texts:** Huasipungo-Jorge Icaza

 The Queen of Water-Laura Resau and Maria Virginia Farinango

## Description:

This is an interdisciplinary course on Ecuador. It is an exploration of the rich mosaic of the history, politics, literature, and culture of this country. It will include discussion of the many factors that make this country unique in Latin America.

## Organization:

We will begin our discussion of Ecuador with a brief history of the Incan empire as well as the Spanish conquest and colonial period. Later we will move to independence, economics and current politics. Each student will be assigned either a topic or time period and will write a brief (1 page) summary of the most important events or aspects of that topic or time period and give a presentation to the class. These historical presentations will serve as the framework within which our discussion of Ecuador will take place. At the end of each class period and day abroad, the students will submit a summary of the information presented/discussed on that day. These summaries will be 10% of the grade. There are no make-ups on these summaries.

Paper: Geography is destiny. What impact has the issue of land had on modern day Ecuador? Discuss historical factors, political factors, cultural factors and economic factors.

Each student will be required to submit a final paper.

1. This is **not** a research paper, and I do not expect, in fact I actively discourage any extensive library research.
2. The paper must be typed and double-spaced and may **not** exceed eight typewritten pages with a standard 12 point font and standard one-inch margins.

## Policies:

Your comportment while abroad will be measured based upon a mature standard.  Visitation in another county is both an honor and a privilege.  Any conduct that is detrimental to the friendly interactions with our hosts, to the overall pedagogical experience, or to the safety and well-being of the group will result in a reduction of your course grade.  **Blatant disregard of the basic rules may result in being dismissed from the course at any point, including while abroad**.

Mature and Culturally Appropriate Participation in Group Activities:Individual students will receive a grade on their participation and ability to engage as responsible members of the learning community while traveling abroad. Students are expected to participate in all activities and field experiences. ***Students must arrive on time***, remain fully attentive and culturally sensitive.

As a group, we must commit to being considerate and supportive of each other. This entails, among other things: doing the readings and assignments, listening to each other with an open mind, provided constructive feedback when relevant, and being respectful of diverse points of view. Please be sensitive and respectful with regards to differences in gender, race, ethnicity, class, religion, nationality, physical ability and sexual orientation. Remember, the ways in which we are a diverse group of people are not necessarily apparent or readily evident.

Group Behavior Contract:Additionally pre-departure, the class will collaboratively discuss group expectations as well as WWU rules for international travel programs and a rubric will be made to clarify expectations and scoring guidelines. As we are visitors in another culture, everything we say and do reflects on ourselves, our class, our university, and our country. **Therefore, respectable and safe behavior is expected at all times; disrespectful or unsafe behavior could mean a failing grade and/or an early trip home.**

Grade: Presentation-20%

Class Participation-50%

Daily summaries-10%

Paper-20%

## Class meetings:

**June 24 9:00-12:00**

**June 25 9:00-12:00**

**June 26 9:00-12:00**

**June 27 Mindfulness training 9:00**

**June 28 9:00-12:00**

**June 29-30 Off/Prep Day**

**July 1 Travel day**