

ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS IN ECUADOR (EC³)

Goshen College
May Term 2015



Ecuador is rich in biological, economic and cultural diversity. Its rain forest is home to countless species of native flora and fauna. The nation exports petroleum, bananas, cut flowers, shrimp, cacao, coffee, lumber and fish. And more than a dozen distinct indigenous groups still reside in the mountains and jungles, seeking the benefits of economic development while attempting to maintain the traditions and customs that have sustained their communities for thousands of years.

Course Title

ECON 375 EC: Ecological Economics in Ecuador

Dates

Wednesday April 29 – Wednesday May 20, 2015

Instructor

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The forest that begins in the Andes Mountains and extends eastward toward the Amazon Basin offers a living laboratory for applying the insights and tools of ecological economics. The course will be holistic in nature, featuring a triple-bottom line perspective – planet, people and profit – and going one step further, exploring the intersection of Christian faith and indigenous spirituality.

Students will have opportunities to:

Discover the startling variety of plant and animal life that exists in one of the most biologically-diverse nations on earth

Study current economic development strategies, in particular oil exports and ecotourism, examining the benefits and costs of each

Encounter native peoples and assess their efforts to protect their distinct cultures and customs in an era of globalization and rapid change

Learn how the work of Christian missionaries has affected native cultures and inspired leaders of the indigenous church to choose a third way for their communities that is neither entirely traditional nor entirely modern

Reflect on how we, as global citizens and members of the world's largest economy, are connected to this unique place and its people through our everyday behaviors, broadening awareness and newly-forged relationships to those living on the equator



Tuition and Program Costs

Tuition for this course is the same as any regular May Term class. There are extra program costs estimated at \$1,800 to cover travel expenses. Program costs depend on the number of students enrolled, airfare and other factors. The actual program cost will be finalized in fall 2014. A deposit will be required at that time

Expenses Included in the Program Cost

- Roundtrip transportation from Goshen
- Local transportation
- Lodging and meals for the entire trip
- Entrance and guide fees

Estimated Personal Expenses

Miscellaneous personal expenses ranging from \$0 to \$200 for snacks and souvenirs

Prerequisites and Orientation

There are no prerequisites. Orientation sessions will be held in Fall 2014