

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 3302 or equivalent, only waived with instructor permission.) 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 only be waived after an

May 15: Lima-Cuzco

May 31: 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). Also, see last year's class blog at: <http://vandyincuzco.blogspot.com/>.