THE INCA AND THEIR ANCESTORS:
ADAPTATIONS IN ANDEAN SOUTH AMERICA

Drawing from ethnological, historical, and archaeological sources, this seminar explores human adjustments to extreme ecological conditions. Embracing the towering Andean Mountains, the parched Atacama Desert, and the Amazon jungle fringes, the Inca Imperium was the largest empire of antiquity ever to arise south of the equator or in the Western Hemisphere. It synthesized unique adaptations to acute environmental conditions that had precedents in earlier societies and states of the Cordillera. Many of these adjustments continue to sustain the hemisphere’s largest Native American populations. Consequently, ethnographies and ethnohistories of indigenous people capture fascinating cultural institutions that shaped the archaeological past. The seminar will explore both the successes of Andean people and the failures of human development induced by natural disasters.

CLASS STRUCTURE
In addition to opening presentations, weekly classes will have student commentary and discussion of assigned readings. There will be oral assessments of how the readings articulate with seminar topics. Drawing upon the readings, each participant will bring to class a ~2 page short synopsis of questions and issues for discussion. The weekly briefs are important because they will guide the seminar’s considerations. They will be graded as will oral participation. Attendance is required.

WEEKLY READINGS
Seminar participants will be assigned weekly reading that form core discussion issues. The readings will include both articles and textbook selections.

TEXTBOOKS
Allen – The Hold Life Has, 1988 or 2002 paperback (either is fine)
Cobo – History of the Inca Empire, 1983 paperback
Moseley – The Incas and Their Ancestors, 2001 paperback (be sure to get the 2001 edition)
de la Vega- Royal Commentaries of the Incas and General History of Peru (recommended)
Bastien – Mountain of the Condor, 1985 paperback (recommended)

RESEARCH PAPER
Addressing an approved topic, each participant will deliver an original (>16 pp) research paper. The topic and bibliography will first be presented in class. Later a semi-final draft will be circulated for class discussion.

REQUIREMENTS & GRADING
Weekly briefs = 10%
Weekly oral participation = 10%
Paper presentation = 30%
Final term paper = 50%

This syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be updated on the course website.

IMPORTANT DATES: (All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period. No late assignments will be accepted.)

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PLACES TO KNOW

1. Desert
2. Lowland forest
3. Thorn and succulent shrub
4. Mesophytic shrub & woodland
5. Moist mountain grassland
6. Cloud forest (ceja)
7. Dry grassland (puna)

Cross-section of the equatorial Andes (above) and of the Andes at latitude of Lake Titicaca (below), showing vegetation zones.
## NAMES TO KNOW Geographic features and terms.

### GEOGRAPHIC AND INCA TERMS:
- Abyssal Trench
- Agricultural Taxation
- Agropastoralism
- Ancestor Veneration
- Anchoveta
- Andenes
- Antisuyu
- Apu
- Arid Montane
- Atacama Desert
- Atahualpa
- Ayllu
- Aymara
- Ayni
- Cancha
- “Cancha-Wasi”
- Cargo System
- Ceques
- Charki
- Chenopods
- Chicha
- Chinchaysuyu
- Chullpa
- Chuño
- Collasuyu
- Contisuyu (Cuntisuyu)
- Cordillera Blanca
- Cordillera Negra
- Coricancha
- “Corporate Style”
- Coursed Ashlar
- Cuzco
- “Dark Clouds”
- Direct Procurement
- Economic Generalists
- Economic Specialists
- El Niño
- “Extensive” polity
- Fempellac
- Hanan
- Horizontality
- Huaca Hostage
- Huacas
- Huascar
- Humboldt Current
- Hurin
- Hypoxia (anoxia)
- Inca highway system
- Indirect Procurement
- "Intensive" polity
- Inti
- Kallanka
- Karakas
- Keros
- Land of the 4 Quarters
- Leap Frog Model
- Lomas
- Mallqui (ancestral mummy)
- Manco Capac
- Maritime Oasis
- Masma
- Mayu
- Mindalayes
- Mit'a Taxation
- Mitamaq
- Moiety Organization
- Nazca Plate
- Nudo de Vilcanota
- Ollantaytambo
- Orejones
- Pachamama
- Panaqa
- Parcialidad
- Pizarro
- Polygonal Blocks
- Principale
- Pukara
- Qollka
- Quechua
- Quelccaya Glacier
- Quichua Zone
- Quipu
- Quipuqamaqs
- Reciprocity
- Redistribution
- Ridged Fields
- Ritual Intoxification
- Sacsahuaman
- Salt Puna
- Segunda Persona
- Señorío
- Spondylus
- "Staple" Finance
- String of Pearls Model
- Sunken Gardens
- Sunturwasi
- Suyu
- Tahuantinsuyu
- Task Specialization
- Tectonic activity
- Textile Taxation
- Tropical Forest
- Tubers
- Turque
- Ushnu
- Verticality
- Wasi
- “Wealth” Finance
- Zuidema Interpretation

### PRE-INCA SITES, TRADITIONS, TERMS, ETC:
- artificial mummification
- Aspero
- audiencias
- Aymara kingdoms
- Batán Grande
- Bofedales
- Caral
- Caballo Muerto
- Cahuachi
- Central Andean Lithic Tradition
- Cerro Baúl
- Cerro Sechín
- Chan Chan
- Chavín de Huantar
- Chimú/Chimor
- Chinchorros
- circular sunken courts
- circumscription theory
- ciudadela
- Clovis/preClovis debate
- Convergent Catastrophe
- Cotton Preceramic
- Cupisnique
- Drought Stress & Response
- Early Horizon
- Early Intermediate Period
- El Paraíso
- Galindo
- Gallinazo
- Gateway of the Sun
- geoglyphs
- Guitarrero Cave
- Huaca de la Luna
- Huaca del Sol
- Huaca Prieta
- Huari (Wari)
- industrial cultigen
- Initial Period
- Irrigation Agriculture
- Island of the Sun
- kennings
- Kotosh Religious Tradition
- La Galgada
- La Paloma
- Lanzón
- Late Horizon
- Late Intermediate Period
- Machu Picchu
- Middle Horizon
- Moche
- Monte Verde
- Nanchoc
- Naymlap legend
- Pachacamac
Paiján Tradition
Paracas
platform mound
Raimondi Stone
Rainfall Agriculture
Runoff Agriculture
Sechín Alto
Sipán
Stirrup-spout vessel
tenon head
tinku
Tiwanku
trophy head
U-shaped center