University of Florida, Department of Anthropology

Invites you to attend a lecture by

Dr. Sofía Chacaltana-Cortez

Associate Professor at the Jesuit University Antonio Ruiz de Montoya, Lima, Peru



Studying Regional Interfaces between Local Communities and Empires in the Andes

L136 Marston Science Library, Thursday, Jan. 24 at 3 pm

Dr. Chacaltana presents interdisciplinary Andean research elucidating how pre-Hispanic and Hispanic empires intentionally and unintentionally affected local communities located throughout far-flung multi-ethnic landscapes. Using the highland Colesuyo region in the southern Andes as a primary case study, this talk addresses how regional and local agency played innovative roles in responding to new hegemonic imperial influences during pre-Hispanic and Hispanic periods. Dr. Chacaltana also highlights her research on the study of long-term water management strategies in the central coast (Rímac Valley), the function of gender dynamics as constitutive to understanding Andean power configurations, and her plans for future archaeological investigations.

Dr. Sofía Chacaltana-Cortez received her Bachelors in archaeology at Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Perú and obtained her Masters and Doctorate degrees in Anthropology at the University of Illinois-Chicago. In 2015, she was selected as a Charles Benton post-doctoral fellow at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, and has directed several archaeological projects and multidisciplinary programs in southern Peru in collaboration with the Field Museum. Professor Chacaltana-Cortez has authored many articles and books on pre-Hispanic and colonial history, water governance and hydrology, and Inka highway technologies in the Ancient Andes. Her work integrates gender and critical theories with studies of the state and empire. Having spent several years working at the Ministry of Culture in Peru, she also believes in presenting the findings of her archaeologial research to the broader public through programs focusing on outreach and preservation of cultural heritage.