AMAZON FIELD SEMINAR
FROM THE CLASSROOM TO THE RAINFOREST
September 8 to 22, 2013
Our Expedition

Each fall just before classes begin, Stanford offers Sophomore College, which is designed to allow incoming sophomores to experience an in-depth course on a subject of their choosing. Join Professor Bill Durham and a select group of Stanford sophomores in September as they conduct research and study the rich, complex ecosystem of the Peruvian Amazon rain forest, starting off with a two-day orientation at Stanford University. The 2013 undergraduate field seminar offers you and fellow Stanford travelers a rare opportunity to share a living classroom with enthusiastic students and enjoy the thrill of discovery right alongside them in Peru’s Tambopata National Reserve. And what better way to wrap it all up than with a visit to legendary Machu Picchu high up in the Andes? We hope you’ll join us, Bill and the students for an unforgettable learning opportunity!

Brett S. Thompson, ’83
Director, Stanford Travel/Study

Faculty Leader

PROFESSOR WILLIAM DURHAM,’71,
past chair of the department of anthropological sciences at Stanford, is an innovative teacher and administrator whose primary interests are ecology and evolution, the interactions of genetic and cultural change in human populations, and the challenges to conservation and community development in the tropics, especially the Galápagos and the Amazon. Creating and leading the first Stanford Field Seminar in 1992, and more than a dozen since, he has conducted fieldwork throughout Central and South America and Africa.

- Joined the Stanford University faculty in 1977
- Currently the Bing Professor in Human Biology and the Yang and Yamazaki University Fellow
- Recipient of the Bing Fellow Award and a MacArthur Prize Fellowship

“...The diversity of ages and interests on this trip with the involvement of and presentations by the sophomores increased the discussion of key topics beyond the post-lecture discussions on other Stanford trips. [This Field Seminar] was indeed a magical and unique experience.”

BARBARA KIMPORT, ’74,
AMAZON FIELD SEMINAR, 2010
Itinerary

Sunday, September 8
HOME / STANFORD UNIVERSITY, STANFORD, CALIFORNIA
Meet Field Seminar staff, students and travelers on campus this evening for a welcome reception, orientation and dinner. (D)

Monday & Tuesday, September 9 & 10
STANFORD UNIVERSITY
Join Professor Durham for two days of morning and afternoon lectures and discussions on key aspects of conservation, wildlife and the environmental history of the Amazon. (B,L,D—BOTH DAYS)

Wednesday, September 11
DEPART U.S. / LIMA, PERU
Depart on independent flights from San Francisco, arriving in Lima in the late evening, and transfer to our hotel. RAMADA COSTA DEL SOL

Thursday, September 12
LIMA / PUERTO MALDONADO / POSADA AMAZONAS
After breakfast, transfer back to the Lima airport for our flight to Puerto Maldonado. Upon arrival, drive to the Tambopata River Port and transfer to a river boat for our trip into the private forest reserve. Upon arrival, join an optional walk to the canopy tower platforms for spectacular views of the standing forests and the Tambopata River. After dinner, explore the surrounding rain forest on a guided nighttime hike. POSADA AMAZONAS (B,L,D)

Friday, September 13
POSADA AMAZONAS
This morning visit a local farm in the company of a community leader who will provide insight into the challenges facing the local farming industry by markets, politics and infrastructure. Take a short boat ride to a specially designed trail that wends its way through stands of healing plants grown by the Centro Nape, a communal organization that produces and administers traditional medicines. In the afternoon, hear presentations by the project’s director and a panel of community leaders at our lodge. This evening enjoy another after-dark hike in the rain forest. POSADA AMAZONAS (B,L,D)

Saturday, September 14
POSADA AMAZONAS / TAMBOPATA RESEARCH CENTER
This morning, take a short boat ride and hike to Tres Chimbadas Lake where we might spot a resident family of giant river otters. Caimans, hoatzins and horned screamers are among the other residents of this area that we may encounter. Later this morning, make a six-hour journey by boat into the pristine heart of the reserve to the Tambopata Research Center. As we cross the confluence of the Tambopata River with the Malinowski River, we leave the final traces of human habitation behind. Upon arrival at the Center, hear a briefing by the lodge manager as we settle in to our surroundings. TAMBOPATA RESEARCH CENTER (B,L,D)
Sunday, September 15
TAMBOPATA RESEARCH CENTER
On most clear mornings, dozens of large macaws and hundreds of parrots congregate on the river bank near the macaw clay lick. This raucous and colorful spectacle is one of the highlights of our visit. From our vantage point close to the cliff, observe green-winged, scarlet and blue-and-gold Macaws and several species of smaller parrots swooping down to ingest clay. The remainder of our day is devoted to learning about the flora and fauna of this diverse region. TAMBOPATA RESEARCH CENTER (B,L,D)

Monday, September 16
TAMBOPATA RESEARCH CENTER
This morning return to the macaw clay lick to learn more about the research being conducted here and enjoy the opportunity to help researchers collect data for the project. Throughout the day we continue our education, learning about mammal identification and delving into the varied botany of the floodplain forest. TAMBOPATA RESEARCH CENTER (B,L,D)

Tuesday, September 17
TAMBOPATA RESEARCH CENTER / REFUGIO AMAZONAS
This morning, make our final visit to the macaw clay lick before boarding a covered canoe for the three-hour ride to Refugio Amazonas. Set in the buffer zone of a 3.7-million-acre conservation reserve, the 24-bedroom lodge has a palm frond roof, tropical mahogany floors, clay-and-cane walls, lighting by kerosene lamps and candles, and rooms with floor-to-ceiling windows facing the forest. After getting settled, take a hike to the bannistered staircase that leads us high above the forest floor to breathtaking views of the canopy. From here we may see flocks of toucans, macaws and raptors. REFUGIO AMAZONAS (B,L,D)

Wednesday, September 18
REFUGIO AMAZONAS / CUZCO
After breakfast, travel downriver by motorized canoe to Tambopata River Port, where we then travel by road to Puerto Maldonado for our flight to Cuzco. Transfer to our hotel for lunch and rest as we acclimate to Cuzco’s altitude of 11,200 feet above sea level. Enjoy a tour of Cuzco in the afternoon and visit the Cathedral, the church of Santo Domingo and Sacsayhuaman, a complex with immense walls that are punctuated by three zigzagging platforms and whose construction took over 50 years to complete. HOTEL LIBERTADOR (B,L,D)

Thursday, September 19
CUZCO / MACHU PICCHU
This morning travel by train and minibus to the site of legendary Machu Picchu, perched at the top of an Andean mountain. The “Lost City of the Incas” was rediscovered by Hiram Bingham in 1911 and today is a tidy excavation of plazas, chambers and dwellings. After lunch at the Sanctuary Lodge, spend the afternoon taking in the ruins and spectacular vistas. MACHU PICCHU PUEBLO HOTEL (B,L,D)

Friday, September 20
MACHU PICCHU / CUZCO
Take the morning to explore Machu Picchu again on our own or opt for a tour through our hotel’s native orchid garden, which boasts over 370 orchid species, 155 bird species and 15 species of hummingbirds—the world’s largest concentration. After lunch return by minibus and train to Cuzco, where the evening is free for independent exploration and dinner on one’s own. HOTEL LIBERTADOR (B,L)

Saturday & Sunday, September 21 & 22
CUZCO / LIMA / U.S.
After an early breakfast, transfer to the airport for our return flight to Lima. Enjoy a farewell lunch at the internationally acclaimed Astrid y Gaston restaurant. This afternoon is our last opportunity for exploration and shopping in Lima. Visit the handicraft market or wander through a local gallery. Return to the airport late this evening for independent overnight flights back to the U.S. (B,L: 9/21)
Information

DATES
September 8 to 22, 2013 (15 days)

SIZE
This Field Seminar is limited to 20 alumni participants and 12 Stanford students.

COST*
$7,395 per person, double or triple occupancy
$7,995 per person, single occupancy**
*Association nonmembers add $200 per person.
**Single space is limited.

INCLUDED
- 4 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations
- 6 nights of lodge accommodations
- 12 breakfasts, 12 lunches and 11 dinners
- Welcome cocktail reception
- Bottled water on excursions
- Gratuities to porters, guides and drivers for all group activities
- All tours and excursions as described in the itinerary, including group flights within Peru: Lima/Puerto Maldonado, Puerto Maldonado/Cuzco, Cuzco/Lima
- Transfers and baggage handling for our departure to and return from Lima
- Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance
- Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information
- Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

NOT INCLUDED
- International and U.S. domestic airfare
- Passport and visa fees
- Hotel accommodations for the on-campus portion, September 8 to 10
- Airport transfers to Stanford for incoming San Francisco Bay Area flights on September 8
- Immunization costs
- Meals and beverages other than those specified as included
- Independent and private transfers
- On-campus parking
- Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance
- Excess-baggage charges
- Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

What to Expect

We consider this to be a moderately strenuous program that is at times physically demanding and busy. Daily programs involve one to three miles of walking, often on uneven terrain, and riding for short durations in 20-foot-long, covered river canoes. In some instances, such as ruins, there will be high thresholds, and stairs may not have handrails. In addition, a portion of this trip takes place at an altitude of approximately 11,200 feet above sea level. The accommodations on this program range from luxury hotels in large cities to modest lodges in the rain forest. Travelers should be prepared for these varying levels. Participants must be physically fit, active and in good health. We welcome travelers 13 years of age and older on this program.

About Tambopata Research Center

The Tambopata Research Center is a spare, yet comfortable, 18-room eco-lodge located in a 1.2-acre clearing in the heart of an uninhabited portion of the Tambopata National Reserve, a 680,000-acre conservation unit created by the Peruvian government in 1990. The lodge’s location was chosen, in part, to protect the world’s largest-known macaw clay lick, which is just 500 yards from the lodge. Built 17 years ago on a small scale using natural, native materials, the Center provides ideal housing for both travelers and researchers without adversely impacting the surrounding wilderness that is home to stable populations of numerous endangered species. Using wood, wild cane, clay and palm fronds, the architects created a lodge that blends seamlessly into the forest environment. Raised boardwalks connect the bathroom wing and rooming wing, there is an open-air dining room, and lighting is by kerosene lamps and candles. Rooms, divided by cane walls, each have two beds and an open-air window that looks out onto the forest. From the lodge, guests are likely to spot a wide variety of monkeys, such as the dusky-headed titi monkey, the brown capuchin monkey and the howler monkey, as well as rodents and reptiles such as the capybara, agouti and caiman. Herds of peccary, tapir and jaguar have also been spotted on occasion. The Center is currently the base of operations for two ongoing research projects, including the macaw project that Field Seminar attendees have a chance to participate in.
Terms and Conditions

DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT
A $1,000 per-person deposit is required to hold your space for the Amazon Field Seminar. Complete and return the attached reservation form or sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?amazon2013. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS
Deposits and any payments are fully refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

INSURANCE
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. We strongly encourage that you subscribe to optional baggage and trip-cancellation insurance. A brochure offering such insurance will be mailed with your confirmation. The product offered in this brochure includes special benefits if you postmark your insurance payment within a specified window: 15 days of the date listed on the confirmation letter for the Waiver of Pre-existing Conditions and coverage for Financial Insolvency; 21 days for the Cancel for Any Reason benefit.

ELIGIBILITY
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association; the program cost for nonmembers is $200 more than the members’ price. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

RESPONSIBILITY
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable ticket connected with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in October 2012 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.

“It was magical. Not just the animals, but the guides, faculty, staff, sophomores and other travelers. It was so much more than traveling—it was truly a learning adventure.”

ANNE-MARIE LAMARCHE, ’77, TANZANIA FIELD SEMINAR, 2011

California Seller of Travel Program Registration #2048 523-50
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Reservation Form

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ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

EMAIL

HOME PHONE

WORK PHONE

CELL PHONE

☐ I/we have read the Terms and Conditions and agree to them.

SIGNATURE

DATE

If this is a reservation for one person, please indicate:

☐ I wish to have single accommodations.

OR ☐ I plan to share accommodations with: _____________________________________________________________

OR ☐ I’d like to know about possible roommates.

BED PREFERENCE:

☐ Twin Beds

OR ☐ Queen Bed

Here is my deposit of $________ ($1,000 per person) for ___ space(s) on the trip.

☐ Enclosed is my check (make payable to Stanford Alumni Association and return with completed form.)

OR ☐ Charge my deposit to my: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express.

__________________________________________  ____________________________
CARD NUMBER  EXPIRATION DATE

AUTHORIZED CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE  DATE

Mail completed form to 326 Galvez Street, Stanford, CA 94305 or fax to (650) 725-8675 or place your deposit online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?amazon2013. Please submit your reservation only once to avoid multiple charges to your account.