

Global Engagement in Cusco, Perú

Olivia Crowl

Office of Learning Abroad

June 2018

EDGE PROJECT

Project Summary

The study abroad to Cusco, Perú is a month-long internship coupled with classes. In addition to the internship and classes, excursions to landmarks in and around Cusco are included. Excursions may include places like the Sacred Valley, Machu Picchu, and Rainbow Mountain.

This study abroad is amazing if you want to improve your Spanish in any way. It is great to be able to advance your Spanish or even just to polish it up a little. No matter the level of Spanish you are at, this is a wonderful study abroad.

Project Highlights

It's difficult to identify the best part of my trip. Between the food, the people, the sights, the markets, and so much more, the trip to Perú was irreplaceable.

One of the main highlights of the trip was when we visited a village hidden away in the mountains called Patabamba. When we arrived, we were blessed and welcomed with flower petals and we were then dressed in traditional Quechua clothing. We learned how they clean, dye, spindle, and weave alpaca fleece into beautiful tapestries and garments. We then learned how to make a traditional Quechua meal, traditionally saved for honored visitors or weddings, in an earth oven. We ate the meal around an enormous table and we talked and learned of each other. It was priceless.

From My Journal

“Machu Picchu definitely lived up to the hype. It was even more beautiful than I ever imagined it would be. The sun was peaking over the mountains lighting Machu Picchu with specific rays, almost like spotlights. It was breathtaking. I don't know when it's going to stop getting better here. I love Perú!”



Machu Picchu is one of the Seven Wonders of the World, and now I know why! It was a long hike, followed by a lot of puffs of my inhaler, but it was worth every breath and every step.



This is a traditional set up for the cleaning, dyeing, spindling, and weaving of alpaca fleece. All of the dye is made from natural elements such as leaves, flower petals, sticks, and so forth.