

# ECUADOR

## Comparative Ecology of Latin America



## J-Term 2014

One might best describe this course by saying, *"It's like walking through the pages of the National Geographic."* We will study Amazonian rainforests, tropical alpine tundra and woodlands at 12,000 feet above sea level, and the renowned Galápagos Islands. Throughout our studies, we will reflect on issues of conservation and development. Highlights include:

- Snorkeling opportunities at virtually all stops in the Galápagos Islands.
- Tropical alpine studies at altitudes above 12,000 feet.
- Ecological studies in the upper Amazon Basin.

# Comparative Ecology of Latin America

## Credit:

BIOL 366

- Department Credit
- This course counts toward the Biology major/minor and as a science course for Environmental Studies major/minors.

**Program Cost:**  
**\$8,700**

Includes airfare, lodging, program related transportation, and supplemental study abroad insurance.

## Faculty:

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Professor of Biology  
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studyaway/](http://www.plu.edu/studyaway/)

## Course Description:

Lectures will highlight historical and cultural aspects as well as biological attributes, and as we walk along ancient streets and trails, one can imagine the civilizations of long ago. Quito is a modern city with over 2 million inhabitants, but it also is one of the oldest cities in the Americas. Studies in the Amazon Basin and Andes will allow us to contemplate issues of conservation and development. A highlight will be an exploration of the Galápagos Islands, which have been of major importance to evolutionary biologists since a visit by Charles Darwin in 1835. We will charter our own boat in the Galápagos with an English-speaking naturalist guide. Normally, two hikes per day will be taken to sites on up to ten islands. The guides and professors will explain the biology and ecology of the unique species found in these areas. We will also have an opportunity to view the giant tortoises for which the islands are named.

## Application Deadline:

April 12th, 2013. A non-refundable deposit of \$50.00 is required with the application. A \$250 non-refundable payment to confirm participation in the course is due within 10 days of notification of acceptance. Maximum 14 students. A *supplemental* application is required and should be submitted directly to Dr. Teska by March 22nd. It is also recommended that applicants attend Dr. Teska's information session on February 20th.

