

**APPLICATION: 2011-2012 AMAZON WINTERIM**  
 Winter 2011/Spring 2012 (29 December 2011-15 January 2012)

Please complete the application form and append the stipulated additional materials. Incomplete applications will not be returned or reviewed. All materials should be sent as a single packet to:

**Dr. Bernice Braid**  
 Pratt Bldg #514  
 Long Island University  
 1 University Plaza  
 Brooklyn, NY 11201

**Personal Information (please type or print legibly)**

Complete Legal Name	
Address (line 1)	
Address (line 2)	
Address (line 3)	
City, State, Zip	
Telephone (cell/home/work)	
Email	
Alternate phone/email	
Passport #/expiration date	
Nationality/Date of Birth*	
Emergency Contact 1 (name/phone/email)	
Emergency Contact 2 (name/phone/email)	

\*Students must be 18 years of age or older on 29 December 2011

**Medical, Diet, & Language**

I have the following medical condition(s) or restriction(s)	
I have the following dietary restriction(s) or preference(s).	
My Spanish language ability is: (speaking ability is NOT required but will enhance the experience greatly)	<input type="checkbox"/> No Spanish language skills <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate / Conversational <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced / Fluent / Native speaker

**Academic**

Append the following items to this application form:

Two letters of recommendation: one from your Honors Dean or Director and a second one from a professor, work supervisor, or other professional capable of addressing your level of motivation, capacity for independent thought and research, and ability to adapt to, and function in different physical and social environments.

A 700-1000 word personal statement expressing how you envision the NCHC Amazon Winterim will relate to your past education/work experience, and how it will benefit your future education and career goals.

A transcript from your current university/college.

Students interested in applying for scholarship funds from NCHC should also include a statement of financial need. Note what scholarship/financial aid funds you may already be receiving, and also what funds you anticipate being able to obtain (through work, savings, fund raising, other scholarships, etc.) to support this project. Students accepted will receive information about travel and pre-travel shots/vaccinations.

**THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL SEMESTERS COMMITTEE**  
 With  
**THE HONORS COLLEGE AT FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

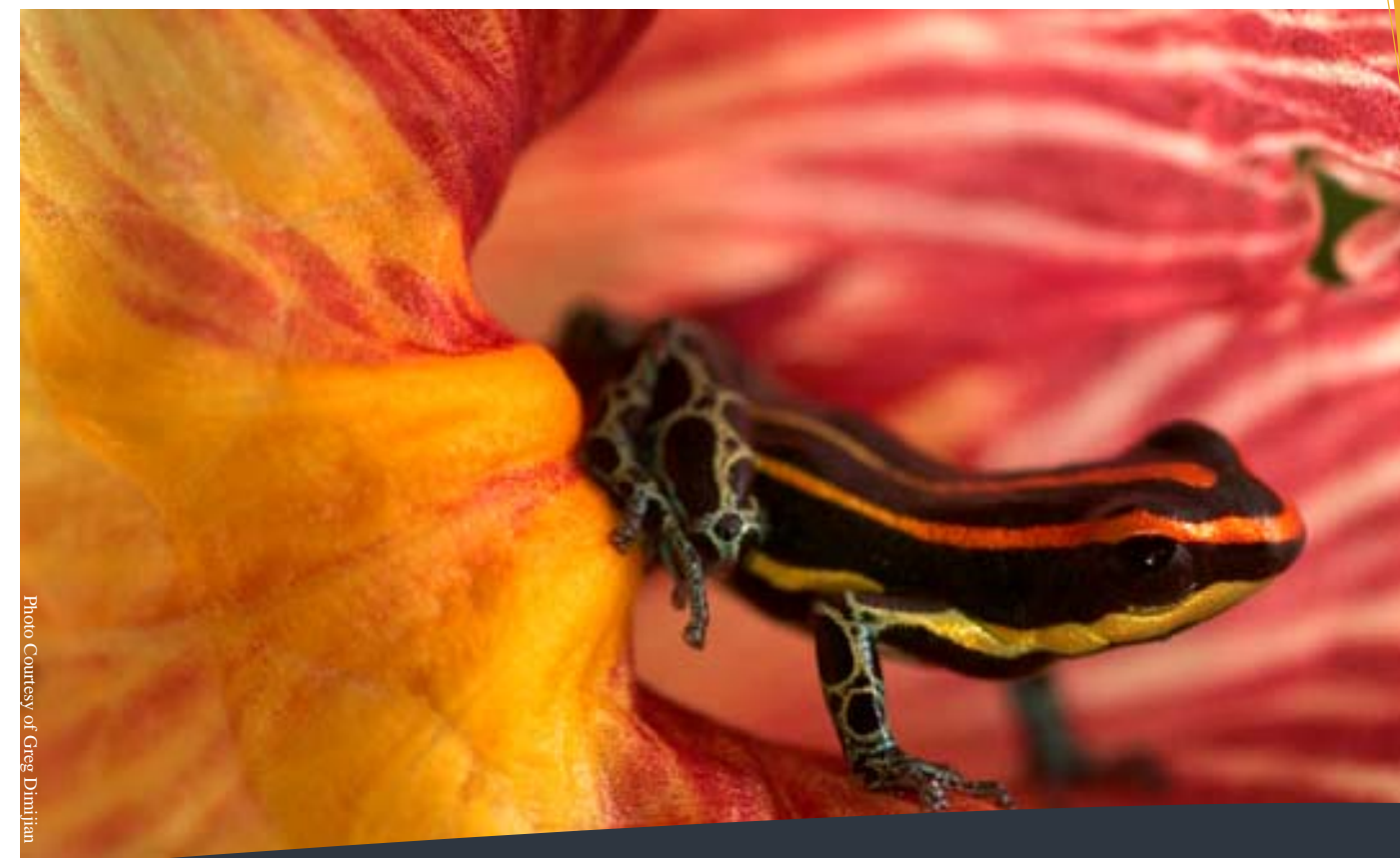


Photo Courtesy of Greg Dimmitt

# Amazon Winterim (Peru)

**Location: Iquitos and Madre Selva Biological Station, Peru**

**LIVING ON THE EDGE OF A RAINFOREST FRONTIER**

**WINTER 2011/SPRING 2012 (29 DECEMBER 2011-15 JANUARY 2012)**

**IDH 4007 (3 credits): Living off the Rainforest: Biodiversity, Sustenance, and Sustainability**

**IDH 4008 (3 credits): Culture, Identity, and the Environment in the Peruvian Amazon**

A joint offering of The Honors College at Florida International University and the National Collegiate Honors Council Semesters Committee, this winterim is a unique opportunity for students to engage in experiential learning that emphasizes independent research projects focused on the contrast between urban and rural areas of the Peruvian Amazon. An overview of the people and environment of the Amazon will provide students the necessary background to design and implement interdisciplinary projects during their stay in Iquitos, Peru (the major city of the western Amazon) and at the Madre Selva Biological Station (Orosa River).



**LIVING ON THE EDGE OF A RAINFOREST FRONTIER**  
**WINTER 2011/SPRING 2012**  
**(29 DECEMBER 2011-15 JANUARY 2012)**

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Provide an overview of human-environment interactions in the Amazon from pre-history through today.
- Utilize experiential learning methods to gain an understanding of life at the rural-urban intersection in the Peruvian Amazon
- Develop field research skills through individually-designed projects

**IDH 4007: Living off the Rainforest: Biodiversity, Sustenance, and Sustainability** (3 credits). This module explores how urban and rural people in the Amazon use the biological riches of the region and examines how or whether such use is sustainable, its environmental impacts, whether it meets the needs of the populace, and what the implications are for long-term conservation of rainforest resources and biodiversity. Historic, current, and projected future uses provide an opportunity to examine the impacts of the rubber and wildlife trades; modern tourism; the huge range of timber, agricultural, and other forest projects currently implemented by urban and rural peoples; and the possible impacts of expanded oil, gas, mineral, fisheries, and timber exploitation in the near future.

**IDH 4008: Culture, Identity, and the Environment in the Peruvian Amazon** (3 credits). From its origins as a community of the now extinct Iquitos Indians through successive incarnations as a Jesuit mission, rubber-era boom town, decaying ex-boom town, sleepy tourist destination and once again oil-fueled boom town of >500,000 inhabitants, Iquitos has undergone numerous changes in identity. Successive waves of immigrants and fortune seekers, including significant Chinese and Japanese and smaller Jewish, Caucasian, and Black minorities, have all added to a cultural and linguistic mix dominated by mestizo (mixed Native American-European heritage) and Native American populations. How do modern-day residents of Iquitos and outlying rural areas identify themselves, and why? As Peruvians? As members of a particular ethnic group? How do different ethnic or social groups think about and utilize the biophysical environment? What is the role of traditional or local knowledge in how they have adapted to living in an urban environment on the edge of a tropical rainforest? How have these different groups responded to the larger political, economic, and ecological forces active in the region?

**INSTRUCTIONAL APPROACHES**

Both course modules use an experiential learning approach and emphasize original student research and interdisciplinary approaches. Students will be introduced to both urban (city of Iquitos) and rural (Madre Selva Biological Station) regions through exercises such as City (or Place) as Text™ assignments, where students explore, “map”, and document an area and the people and activities that define that area. The goal is to understand human-environment interactions firsthand. All activities include a process for students to reflect upon their experience and to apply their new understanding through individual writings, reflections, and discussions with other students and faculty. These processes will help students refine original research projects, which are central to the courses. Presentations to fellow course participants (and invited public) and a final project are required.



**INSTRUCTORS**

Dr. Devon Graham  
 Florida International University  
 devon@projectamazonas.org  
 (786) 232-2674

Dr. Teresa Trusty  
 Visiting Scholar  
 oregongal1991@yahoo.com

**NCHC CONTACT**

Dr. Bernice Braid  
 Honors Semesters Committee  
 bernice.braid@liu.edu  
 (718) 488-1329

**GENERAL SCHEDULE**

The first 8 days of the course are based in the city of Iquitos, Peru, which is the largest urban center in the western Amazon with a population of approximately ½ million yet with access only by boat or by air. An additional 8 days will be spent on the Amazon River and at the Madre Selva Biological Station, followed by a day and a half of wrap-up activities and project presentations in Iquitos.

**Winterim participants are required to arrive in Iquitos by 5 PM on 29 December 2011 and are free to depart from Iquitos after 5 PM on 15 January 2012.**

**FACULTY**

The winterim will be directed by two faculty with the assistance of a Peruvian university student “facilitator” who will coordinate many of the logistical aspects.

**Dr. Devon Graham** is an instructor in The Honors College at Florida International University (FIU) where he co-directs the FIU Amazon Study-Abroad Program and teaches an interdisciplinary course on the Florida Everglades. A tropical biologist/ecologist by training, Dr. Graham received his PhD from the University of Miami in 1996 and conducted his dissertation research in tropical ecology in Costa Rica. Dr. Graham has worked in the Peruvian Amazon with the non-profit organization Project Amazonas since 1994 and has served as its President and Scientific Director since 1997.

**Dr. Teresa Trusty** received a PhD in Environmental Anthropology in 2010 from the University of Washington (UW). Her dissertation research was carried out in the Madidi Protected Area in Bolivia where she researched how indigenous and mestizo residents of the area perceived and represented nature, culture, and conservation and how this affected land-use and agricultural decisions and other behaviors. She completed an MA in Environmental Anthropology at UW in 2004 and a BS in Computer Science in 1998. Dr. Trusty has extensive experience in software development and statistical analysis to complement her anthropology and ethnography expertise.

**APPLICATIONS AND PAYMENTS**

The program cost is US \$3,600, which includes tuition for 6 credit hours, ground transport from Iquitos to Madre Selva Station, room and most board. Travel to and from Iquitos, Peru, and additional food is not included. Note: students must register for both courses. Applications and payments (according to the deadlines and specifications below) should be sent to Bernice Braid ([Bernice.Braid@liu.edu](mailto:Bernice.Braid@liu.edu)) of the NCHC Semesters Committee at the address below.

**Dr. Bernice Braid**  
**Pratt Bldg #514**  
**Long Island University**  
**1 University Plaza**  
**Brooklyn, NY 11201**

Payment is by **CERTIFIED CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY**. We cannot process other forms of payment. Checks should be made payable to NCHC: Honors Semesters Committee. NCHC FTIN#52 1188042



**IMPORTANT DEADLINES & ITINERARY**

**Early Admissions\***

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>20 May 2011</b> | Early admission application deadline  |
| <b>1 Jun 2011</b>  | Notification of acceptance for early admission applications                 |
| <b>15 Jun 2011</b> | \$600 non-refundable deposit due (guarantees space)                         |
| <b>1 Jul 2011</b>  | Payment of \$1500 (50% of remaining costs) due                              |
| <b>1 Aug 2011</b>  | Final payment of \$1500 due. Include scan/photocopy of passport photo page. |

**Regular Admissions**

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>20 Jul 2011</b> | Admission deadline due to NCHC ( <u>pending available spaces</u> )          |
| <b>1 Aug 2011</b>  | Notification of acceptance for regular admissions                           |
| <b>15 Aug 2011</b> | \$600 non-refundable deposit due (guarantees space)                         |
| <b>1 Sep 2011</b>  | Payment of \$1500 (50% of remaining costs) due                              |
| <b>1 Oct 2011</b>  | Final payment of \$1500 due. Include scan/photocopy of passport photo page. |

**All Students**

- 1 Jun or 1 Aug 2011** - Information about recommended vaccinations and health measures will be sent to students with their notification acceptance into the Winterim program.
- 15 Sep 2011** - Airline tickets should be purchased & vaccinations complete (see supplemental information).
- 1 Nov 2011** - Complete the NIH on-line ethics course: Protecting Human Subject Research Participants: <http://phrp.nihtraining.com/users/login.php>, print out the certificate of completion and send via pdf to course faculty.

**Peru Itinerary**

- 29 Dec 2011** Participants must arrive in Iquitos, Peru by 5 PM (most participants will need to initiate travel on 28 Dec 2011).
- 30 Dec 2011-14 Jan 2012** In Peru (city of Iquitos and Madre Selva Biological Station)
- 15 Jan 2012** Winterim ends at 5 PM, participants free to depart Iquitos.

**\*Why Early Admissions?**

A maximum of 18 students will be accepted for the winterim. Applying early when all student spaces are open will increase the probability of acceptance (but does NOT guarantee acceptance). Early admissions students will also likely find better airfares. Apply early, increase your probability of admission, and save money!