

**COURSE: Ecuadorian Culture & Society**  
**CREDITS: 3**

### 1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce the student to the different historical issues that have formed our present days Ecuadorian Culture and Society. They will get into the Hispanic background so as to be able to understand how and why our idiosyncrasy has evolved into present day Ecuador. Religious, political and societal issues will be used to come up with a better understanding of modern Ecuador.

In this class students will learn about Spain before it embarked on the discovery of the Americas, the Moorish influence in Spain and the feudal patterns of behavior in everyday life there. Students will read the first accounts of the aborigines' life as described by the Conquistadors and learn about the basis of economic life in the early years of the Conquest. The course will refer to ethnical groups in Ecuador, migration and form of government in our country. Students will be exposed to the problems of social classes, women' issues and environment issues. The course will finish with a general overview of Ecuador's external debt and the dollarization process at the beginning of the 21st century.

### 2. OBJECTIVES

a. **GENERAL:** By the end of this course, students will be able to analyze and evaluate important issues forming modern Ecuadorian culture and society.

b. **SPECIFIC:** Students will be able to

- Explain the dynamics of Ecuadorian social classes,
- Relate the importance of religion and its influence on people and governments.
- Identify the historical bases for modern events
- Describe the growth of democracy and capitalism in the Ecuadorian society
- Analyze why events have occurred, both in colonial times and in modern times.

### 3. CLASS SCHEDULE AND WORKLOAD BREAKDOWN

MEETING	COMPETENCIES	CONTENT	HOMEWORK (22 HRS.)		Hours allotted	ASSESSMENT
			Page numbers			
1		Introduction				
		"The Hispanic Background" by Benjamin Keen	36	to 43		
2		Vist toParque Historico Discussion about the visit			2	Outline of reading
3	Catalogue the Spanish	"Reappraisal of Ferdinand and Isabella's Policies" by	44	51	2	Outline of reading

	policies in the Americas and interpret the consequences of the conquest	Benjamin Keen Visit Parque de las Iguanas Visit the Cathedral Church Discussion of visits					
4		"The Economic Foundation of Colonial Life" by Benjamin Keen	78	to	85		
		Visit to the Mercado Artesanal Discussion of visit				2	Outline of reading
5	Evaluate the principal institutions that influenced colonial culture	The Colonial Economy by Benjamin Keen					
		Visit to Cuenca Discussion of the visit to churches and museums Project/presentation about Cuenca	85	to	95	2	
							presentation
6		State, Church and Society by Benjamin Keen	96	to	108		
7		The Rough Guide to Ecuador by Melissa Graham/ Quito	1	to	172		
8		Visit to Quito Discussion about Quito Project /presentation about Quito					
9		The Rough guide to Ecuador by Melissa Graham/ Art	381	to	418	4	presentation
						2	
10		Ecuador: The Politics of Instability by George I. Blanksten	301	to	310		
11		Ecuador: The Politics of Instability by George I. Blanksten	310	to	320		Outline of reading
	Evaluate the political developments of the second half of the twentieth century in Ecuador	Crisis and Dollarization in Ecuador: Stability, growth and social equity by Paul Beckerman, Andres Slimano	1	to	30	2	Outline of reading
12							
13							
		Electoral Deception in Ecuador/ pluricultural resistance and state reconstruction 2000-2009	547	to	549	2	
14							
		FINAL EXAM				4	

Two overnight field trips are included:

Quito: 2 nights 3days on the second week of the program.

Cuenca: 1 night, 2 days on the third week of the program.

#### 4. ASSESSMENT

Final Paper:	50%
Oral Presentations	20%
Outlines	20%
Class Participation:	10%

#### 5. BIBLIOGRAPHY:

##### MAIN TEXTBOOK(s):

A History of Latin America (paperback) by Benjamin Keen and Keith Haynes, 2009, pages 587, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, Boston, New York.

Ecuador (paperback) By Zhingoor Books, May 32, 2012, pages 146, Create Space Independence Publishing Platform

Race, Ethnicity, and Power in Ecuador: The Manipulation of Mestizaje (Hardcover) by Karem Roitman, August 15, 2009, pages 1- 319, Lynne Reinner publishers, London.

E-government in Ecuador: Plans, Problems, and Solutions Paperback, by Gabriella Mosquera Jijon, August 16, 2010, pages 192, VDM Verlag Dr. Muller, USA

Crisis and Dollarization in Ecuador: Stability, Growth and Social Equity by Paul Beckerman, Andres Solimano, May 1, 2002, pages 228, World Bank Publications, USA.

##### Collection of Articles and Photocopies presented by the teacher:

**Ecuador Ethnicity & Culture**, pages 9, 1999, Dr. Luis Yerovi, published in the web (GoEcuador.com).

**Ethnic groups in Ecuador**, pages 30, last updated September 30, 2013, from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

**Ecuador overview**, pages 1-5, Minority rights group international, 2008, published in the web.

**People of Ecuador-Ethnic groups**, pages 10, July 2009, Dr. Alfonso Saltos, web  
**ECUADOR** – pages 1-8, 2009, International Organization for Migration (IOM) today, web.

**Ecuador: diversity in Migration**, pages 20, February 2, 2007, Brad Jokisch, Ohio University, Ohio

**The Effect of Migration in Ecuador**, pages 30, June 20, 2013, Lindsay Bigda, published in the web.