

Peru 2026: Ec 70

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Plan

- Concept
- Details about the course
- Application

Concept

- Immersive teaching is a powerful pedagogic tool that is at the core of Econ 70.
- Three possible pedagogies:
 - Lectures:
 - Unidirectional communication channel,
 - We study the world from the classroom, but the world stays outside the classroom
 - Case method:
 - Multi-directional communication channels,
 - Bring the world to the classroom
 - Immersive teaching:
 - Bring the classroom to the world
 - Much richer pedagogies because you can interact with the field, and the subject of study
 - **Has the potential to transform the object of study (have a local impact)**

Concept

- Theme: Economic development articulated around four axis:
 - Macro
 - Technology
 - Agriculture
 - Border
- Structure:
 - on-campus portion:
 - Formulate key questions, construct frameworks for analysis, and use them
 - Develop projects
 - off-campus portion
 - Interact with the environment, conduct activities and conclude projects.

On campus portion

- One class per issue
- Each class will have
 - assignment readings,
 - presentation by external speaker,
 - discussion led by one group
- Grade has 4 equally weighted components :
 - Participation
 - In-class exam
 - Project presentation on campus
 - Implementation of project off-campus

Off-campus portion

- Will take place Before Christmas for about 11 days
- We will visit Lima, Puno (Lake Titicaca), and La Paz (Bolivia)
- Each location is related to the four axis, with different loadings
- Type of activities
 - Individual meetings with relevant partners
 - Common activities that cut across themes
 - Activities that are mostly related to a theme, where we help those that have projects
 - Cultural activities

Projects

- A key tool to focus efforts, interact with locals, make specific general ideas discussed in the course
- Your window to the theme
- Your opportunity to have a local impact
- Examples of past projects:
 - Help a large engineering company redesign its internal training division
 - Conduct a randomized control trial to study effect of software training on student and teachers performance
 - Study the impact of trainings by ministry of tourism to workers in the sector

What makes a good project?

- Good projects come in many shapes and forms
- They are related to at least one of the 4 axis around the theme.
 - Needs to be focused
- Two types of projects: Research or Impact
- Describe:
 - Issue
 - Partner
 - Methodology
 - Deliverable

Projects and application to Econ 70

- The application asks
 1. Major
 2. GPA
 3. Gender (for room assignment)
 4. Your proficiency in Spanish
 5. Motivation to participate in immersion
 6. Proposal about a project, as detail as possible.

Once selected...

1. You will receive a tentative invitation to enroll in the class
2. I will form groups of students with “similar” project proposals
3. You will start working in May to consolidate projects into 1 (may be a new one)
4. This requires working during the summer
5. If you satisfy this requirement, you’ll be formally admitted into Econ 70 Peru.

Logistics of the immersion and application

- Peru portion is fully covered by college
- Plane ticket is covered only for those on financial aid
- Proposals are due on May 11th at 5 pm.