Welcome to what I (we) think will be an exciting and educational experience for us all! We look forward to the course and trip ourselves. During the fall semester we’ll meet Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 9 p.m. in Hoyt 152 to discuss and learn about the organisms and ecology of the regions we plan to visit. Because the Galápagos Islands have been so pivotal in the development of evolutionary theory, we will consider how natural selection and geographic isolation could have generated such a unique biota. Also, we will consider the diversity and the importance of conservation of the rain forest. Furthermore, since we will visit Quito and surrounding areas within Ecuador, we will discuss the cultural and historical importance of the region.

Successful completion of this course will satisfy a Biology or Environmental Science major elective requirement, and it will fulfill an Intellectual Perspective requirement (Scientific Discovery) for non-majors.

Required Texts:

Highly Recommended:
Rachowiecki, Rob. 1997. Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands, Lonely Planet, Hawthorne Australia

Assignments and Grading:

Fall Semester

Written questions and/or quizzes/discussions on readings each week 10@ 20 points = 200
Oral organism project 100
Organism Identification Exam 100
Lecture Exam 100

January Trip

Field daily journal of observations and reflections Including a check-list of organisms 100
Participation, attitude, interest in scientific inquiry 100
Reflection Paper 100

Absences: If an absence is unexcused, a zero will be given on the quiz or assignment for that class period. It is important to attend class and participate.

Grading Scale:

A 90-100
B 80-90
C 70-80
D 60-70

Plus and minus grades will be given.
Web Sites of Interest:

http://www.galasam.com.ec/
This site is the home page of the company that is organizing the entire trip for us. You can find out about the island hopping experience.

http://www.sionalodge.com/
Site describing the rainforest lodges where we will stay, and prospective itineraries while we’re there.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website. Contains important information regarding disease prevention while traveling in Ecuador, including recommended vaccinations and how to contact your local travel clinic to obtain vaccinations.

Complete text of Darwin’s *The Voyage of the Beagle* and *On the Origin Species*, plus other sites on evolution

http://www.darwinfoundation.org/
Charles Darwin Research Station on the Galápagos

http://www.ecuador.com
General information about Ecuador.

https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/ecuador.html
This site has information that is critical for you to read and understand. It lists information relevant for your safety and security, medical information, legal and customs information, entry and exit requirements, insurance information, and general country descriptions. It also, refers you to other web sites, such as the CDCs website, for information relevant to vaccinations and disease prevention. You MUST become familiar with this useful site!!!
### Schedule of Topics and Assignments

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment Due</th>
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<td>August 31</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Video: The Galápagos</td>
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<td>September 7</td>
<td>History of Evolutionary Thought</td>
<td>Voyage: Preface</td>
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<td>Darwin and Beyond</td>
<td>Chps.17 see Web sites</td>
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<td>September 14</td>
<td>Island Ecology and Evolution</td>
<td>G1 Chp 1-4</td>
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<td>And Power Point</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 21</td>
<td>Island Ecology and Evolution</td>
<td>G1 Chp 1-4</td>
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<td>And Power Point</td>
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<td>September 28</td>
<td>Plant Life</td>
<td>GI: chp 5</td>
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<td>October 5</td>
<td>Reptiles</td>
<td>GI: chp 8</td>
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<td>EGI: chp 10</td>
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<td>October 12</td>
<td>Seabirds</td>
<td>GI: chp 6</td>
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<td>EGI: chp 10</td>
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<td>October 19</td>
<td>Coastal Birds and Migrants</td>
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<td>Land Birds</td>
<td>EGI: chp 10</td>
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<td>October 26</td>
<td>Native Mammals</td>
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<td>Terrestrial Invertebrates</td>
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<td>November 2</td>
<td>Intertidal and Marine Life</td>
<td>Reserve</td>
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<td>November 9</td>
<td>Rainforest Ecology and Evolution</td>
<td>EGI: chp 2</td>
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<td>Reserve</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 16</td>
<td>Rainforest Ecology and Evolution</td>
<td>EGI: chp 2</td>
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<td>Reserve</td>
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<td>November 30</td>
<td>Rainforest Ecology and Evolution</td>
<td>EGI: chp 2</td>
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<td>Reserve</td>
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<td>December 7</td>
<td>Culture of Ecuador</td>
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<td>Final Period</td>
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ITINERARY

MEAL CODES: B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner

Dec 28: Transfer In, hotel
         Overnight in Quito, Hotel Fuente de Piedra or Similar

Dec 29 Quito full day City tour + Mitad del Mundo (with lunch)
         Overnight in Quito, Hotel Fuente de Piedra or similar

Dec 30 Transfer out, flight Tame 201 Quito-Lago Agrio
         Overnight in Siona and Cayman lodge (or similar) (Breakfast-Lunch-
         Dinner)

Dec 31 Siona Lodge, Amazon (Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner)

Jan 01 Siona Lodge, Amazon (Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner)

Jan 02 Flight Lago Agrio-Quito, Tame airline EQ 210
         Transfer in Quito and overnight

Jan 03 Full day Quilotoa Lake or Cotopaxi (with lunch)
         Overnight in Quito, Hotel Fuente de Piedra or Similar

Jan 04 Transfer out to Galapagos.

JAN 4. - Baltra - Sta. Cruz - Isabela. - Flamingos Lagoon (Lunch-Dinner)

JAN 5. - Black Sierra Volcano - Concha And Perla (Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner)

JAN 6.- Isabela -Sta Cruz- Tortuga Bay -Parte Alta (Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner)

JAN 7.- Bahia Tour - Charles Darwin Station (Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner)

JAN 8. - Seymour North Full Day (Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner)

JAN 9. - Bartolome Full Day (Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner)

JAN 10.- Floreana Island (Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner)

JAN 11. - Twin Craters - Transfer Out To Baltra Airport (Breakfast)

JAN 11. - Transfer In from Galapagos and bus ride to Otavalo
         Overnight in Otavalo Hotel El Indio Inn or similar (dinner included)

Jan 12. - Full day Otavalo (with lunch)
         Return to Quito
         Transfer to the airport (21 hours)