



Center for Latin American Studies  
Outreach Program

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**For Immediate Release**

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**Fulbright Hays Group Project Abroad Grant Awarded to the UF Center for Latin American Studies**

The University of Florida Center for Latin American Studies was recently awarded a grant in the amount of \$66,574 from the U.S. Department of Education's Fulbright Hays Program to implement a four-week curriculum development project in Ecuador and Peru entitled, "The Andean "HATSS" Project: Reaching High Achievement for Teachers and Students of Spanish in Florida Schools." The HATSS project is a collaborative endeavor between the UF Center for Latin American Studies, the UF College of Education and Florida's K-12 schools to design and implement innovative curricula using new educational technologies that will prepare students for an increasingly global and diverse society. The curriculum team consists of twelve K-12 foreign language teachers from eleven Florida counties and two UF faculty members.

The project will take place in three phases. In Phase I, teachers will form an online community and participate in a two day pre-departure orientation program which will take place May 16-17 on the UF campus. The orientation program will prepare participants to travel to Latin America as well as provide regional background knowledge and educational technology training. Phase II consists of on-site experiences in Ecuador and Peru in which participants will acquire knowledge of local languages, cultures, and educational practices, guided by local on-site experts and in conjunction with UF project personnel. Finally, in Phase III participants will utilize their newly acquired knowledge, technologies, materials, and language to create curriculum units. Participants will disseminate the new instructional materials through local, state and national conferences in addition to making their materials available at no cost to educators and students online.

Sources:

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Founded in 1930, the University of Florida Center for Latin American Studies advances knowledge about Latin America and the Caribbean and its peoples throughout the hemisphere. With over 170 faculty from colleges across UF, the Center is one of the largest institutions for interdisciplinary research, teaching and outreach on Latin America, Caribbean, and Latino Studies. Programs include Tropical Conservation and Development, Law and Policy in the Americas, and Latin America

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