



**InterAction Labs ► PERU** *LARC 702/ GH571 (5 UW credits)* **Early Fall, Aug 17<sup>th</sup> -Sep 14<sup>th</sup> 2019**

## **Urban Development and Human and Ecological Health in the Amazon Rainforest**

*Understanding the impact of urbanization on health and ecosystems using interdisciplinary approaches.*

The program begins with excursions to one of the last primary forest ecosystems in the Amazon Rainforest to explore unique flora, fauna and environments with a non-human presence. The students will then visit new peri-urban nodes in the expanding city of Iquitos to understand the social, ecological and health problems related to unplanned urban development. Afterwards, our group will visit projects that are leading efforts to mitigate these problems and learn tools to assess different aspects of the city, including health, ecological and environmental conditions.

Students will examine questions including: What are the social, political and environmental drivers and implications of rural to urban migration? What are the socio-cultural, spatial and material characteristics of Iquitos and their impacts on health? What are the everyday conditions of life for people and animals in the Peruvian Amazon? How might community-based participatory action and community interventions in the built environment serve as agents of positive change in underserved communities?

**Application deadline February 15, 2019**

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