Located amid the Peruvian Andes, Cusco is a city with a population of about 350,000. The history of this region that was founded as the capital city of the Incans and later conquered by the Spanish in the 16th century has led to a modern day urban center that showcases a mix of great Incan and Spanish culture, with Incan temples juxtaposing Baroque cathedrals in the city center.

These historical sites within Cusco like the Plaza de Armas, the Cusco Cathedral, and the Temple of the Sun attract visitors from all over the world. Students will have the opportunity to visit these sites on an organized city tour within Cusco.

Students will have the opportunity to complete service learning projects in these areas in order to learn about and assist with these challenges.
Spanish language classes that student participants will take in Peru are provided to make the students more comfortable and able to adapt to their environment and provide the skills needed for the service projects. However, students will not receive any academic credits for these brief language immersion classes.

Language courses will take place at Máximo Nivel, an accredited language school in Cusco. Students will take a brief placement test and will be placed in a language course that is appropriate for them. All course levels are available, from beginner to advanced. No prior knowledge of Spanish is required.

**Service-Learning**

Student participants on this program will have the opportunity to complete service projects in the region of Saylla (about a 30-45 minute bus ride outside of Cusco), where these challenges are prevalent. Students will specifically provide educational community workshops and will also volunteer at Corazon de Dahlia, a nonprofit organization based in Saylla that was founded by Binghamton University Alumna, Dahlia Graham. Corazon de Dahlia is a community center that serves (at no cost), over 40 children and their families in this region, providing them with opportunities for social and economic enrichment.

**Calendar**

The 6 credit academic course component of the program will be a summer class, for which you are registered in the summer term; however your coursework will begin towards the end of the spring 2013 semester to allow for sufficient preparation before the trip. The program trip to Peru is expected to take place from the last week of May until the 2nd week of June, 2013—roughly a three week experience on site in Peru.

**Living Arrangements**

Students will stay with host families in Cusco. This living arrangement will facilitate a rich cultural immersion experience. The host family homes will be located in a convenient location, within 15 minutes from the Maximo Nivel language school. There will be 2-3 students placed at each host family.

During the program, on a trip to the Sacred Valley region, students will stay one night in a hotel during the program. Each student will have one roommate at the hotel and can request a preferred roommate.

**Group Flight**

A round trip group flight will be arranged for the program participants. The Office of International Programs will make the flight reservation for you, however each student will be responsible for paying the full balance of their airfare directly to our travel agency. If students wish to make arrangements to travel and remain longer in Peru after the program has concluded, arrangements for deviations may be made, however students will be responsible for any deviation fees incurred.

**Program Costs**

The total estimated cost per student for this program is about $3,670 for in-state undergraduate students, and $3,970 for in-state graduate students. This amount includes all of the following: the cost of tuition for 6 credits, your round trip airfare, all accommodations and most meals in Peru, personal living costs, and international health insurance!

For the most detailed, accurate and up to date cost information, students should visit the Office of International Programs website. To find the cost sheet for the Peru program, navigate to our home page -> study abroad -> Binghamton programs, and Peru.

**Financial Aid**

Students must take the program cost sheet (that may be found on our website) to the Financial Aid office on campus to speak with a financial aid counselor about financing this study abroad program. Federal and New York State financial aid is generally applicable to study abroad programs. The Binghamton Financial Aid Services Office is able to consider only the application of students matriculated at Binghamton for degree study.