Peru Travel Course COM 310/Blended/Special Topics
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Course Background

Peru Travel Course Communication and Community Resilience

Students learn life-changing skills and apply participatory research to assess critical low-use-agriculture in Quechua communities of Peruvian highlands, where sources of water are rapidly decreasing.

Concepts Covered in the Course

Integrate and apply

- Sustainable Development Goals
- Intercultural Communication
- Food Security
- Women’s collective action
- International Development Monitoring Evaluation
- Small Group and Environmental Communication
- Narrative

- Through real-life case studies, learn what works and listen to stories of Quechua-speaking communities to assess the project.
- Visit Machu Picchu and experience the historical context of the research venue.
- Learn to identify key indicators of systemic change
- Agency in learning. Agency for change.

Course Changes

When I found the following graphic in the toolkit, this was my discovery moment. While the course materials provided a matrix for the proper alignment of online assignments to course measurable objectives, this graphic took it a step further. The graphic shows a strategic and seamless integration between online and face-to-face assignments to meet course objectives.

**Eureka! Through the Blended delivery we can increase the depth of the student's interaction with the material:**

- Online reflections contextualize the content for each student. A synthesis prompts learner associations. This facilitates quality constructive engagement during the face-to-face session.

Results

This is a practical, hands-on course. The results are tangible:

- The Peru Travel Course is ready to launch!
- The Blended Initiative provided essential Sakai formats through a sandbox site, and also clarified the critical steps required to plan the course launch.

I learned how to create a robust blended course site for meaningful interaction and engagement of all participants.

I am grateful for having participated in this course. Thank you.