PONTIFÍCIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA DEL PERÚ

Lima, Peru

The University
The Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú was founded in 1917 and today is the oldest private higher educational institution in Perú. The student population of the campus is 13,000. Students will find the campus a pleasant place to be, with gardens, trees and places to sit and relax outside. There are twelve colleges offering degrees in fourteen major fields.

The City
The city of Lima, founded in 1535, is the capital of Peru and its most important city. Located in the central coastal region on the shores of the Pacific Ocean, Lima is home to approximately 8 million people. In Lima, the past and present are interwoven with archaeological remains of ancient civilizations forming part of this modern and cosmopolitan city. Lima is the cultural center of Peru and offers entertainment for students in the form of theaters, cinemas, bars and discotheques, which are found primarily in Miraflores and Barranco, the city’s two foremost cultural districts.

Academic Calendar
The academic year begins in March and ends in December. Because the seasons are the opposite of those in the Northern Hemisphere, the first semester begins in March and ends in July, while the second semester runs from August through most of December. Students may attend for either semester, but those wanting to remain for two semesters should begin in March rather than August because the summer break in Perú is from January through February.

Am I eligible for this program?
All applicants for study abroad must have maintained a minimum GPA of 2.5.

Students on this program are expected to put significant effort into coursework. The Pontifical Catholic universities in Latin America accept only the top students from the country where they are located and academic requirements are rigorous.

In addition, students interested in this destination should be ready to live in a large capital city in Latin America. They must have a high functional level of Spanish, with a minimum of four semesters at the university level. Five to six semesters of language background are preferred because students must “hit the ground running” linguistically.
What could I study?
La PUCP offers a wide variety of classes in many fields. Some of these fields include: architecture, art, sciences, law, social sciences, economics, education, communication, humanities, engineering, psychology and theology (religious studies).

What about academic credit?
Grades received on reciprocal exchange study abroad programs through the University of Oklahoma are posted by the Office of Admissions as Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U) on the OU permanent record. These grades are not factored into the participant’s Grade Point Average. Because each student is enrolled in 12 credits per semester while abroad, participants are expected to enroll in an equivalent number of credits at the host university. Academic systems around the world vary in what equals 12 OU credits. The decision about awarding credits is made in the Office of Admissions at OU.

One credit at PUCP represents one hour in a theoretical course or two hours in a practical course such as a lab. The semester is 17 weeks long. Courses at PUCP vary in the number of credits. Some in the sciences are worth 4.5 or 5.5 Peruvian credits, while other courses in the Humanities may be worth 4 or 3 credits. The students on this program work with their Peruvian and OU advisors to take choose courses equal to 12 OU credits.

A degree at PUCP takes five years to complete. The first two years of study are in the two colleges of General Studies, somewhat like University College at OU. A student then moves on into the college of the chosen major. Exchange students are allowed to take any course that they can handle based on their academic backgrounds.

Where would I live?
International students usually live with Peruvian families screened and selected by PUCP. This provides maximum opportunity for practice in the use of the Spanish language and offers a unique way to experience the social and family life of Peru. It also provides students with close-at-hand help for getting to know Lima, its public transportation system, cultural offerings, history and traditions. Any students wanting to make other living arrangements would need to discuss that with the study abroad advisor in charge of this destination, but such arrangements are discouraged.

How much does it cost?
Costs at OU: All students participating on semester or academic year reciprocal exchange programs are enrolled at OU for 12 credits each semester abroad. Tuition and fees are billed through and paid directly to OU at the appropriate resident or non-
resident rate. Fees are charged at the Arts and Sciences College rate, even if the student’s major is in a different college. All participants pay a $10/credit hour study abroad fee.

Estimates of costs in Peru are:

$350.00 USD/Month approximately for a home stay (room, cable TV, all meals). (Paid directly to the host family.)
$50.00 USD/Month (approx.) for transportation expenses.
$100.00 USD/Semester approximately for learning material.

How do I apply?
Instructions for applying to any semester or academic year exchange program may be found in the “how to apply” section of our website.

For more information please contact:
e@ou.edu