

The Incas and their Ancestors, HILA 144
APM 2301
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OHs: W 12:30-14:30h @ H&SS 6072 or by appointment
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Main goal: to understand how peoples in the past managed politics, the land, the environment and their futures in different ways from ours (Western culture). What can we learn from it and how is it translated into what is happening today in the Andes and in Amazonia.

The 'logic' behind the readings: first, to understand the organization of the Inca Empire based on what was 'there' before the great Incan expansion in the 14th century. Second, to grasp what the Incas changed, for what reasons, and with what results. Third, the question of what the arrival of the Spanish Conquistadores meant for the existing cultures and their impact on the demographic, social, political, economic and cultural developments in the Andean region. Fourth, to visualize the longterm impact of these developments on Andean/Amazonian realities today.

Evaluation: Final paper, topic to be discussed in class and during office hours. Possible topics: irrigation and storage system; cultivation practices; the construction of bridges; technological innovations; spatial-social organization; power structures and hierarchies; demographics; systems of political and social control; labor systems; astronomy and religion; life cycle and family life; daily life; environment and natural disasters.

Readings (in this order):

- Michael E. Moseley, *The Incas and Their Ancestors*, 1992
- Karen Olsen Bruhns, *Ancient South America*, 1994
- Maria Rostworowski de Diez Canseco, *History of the Inca Realm*, 1999
- Kenneth J. Andrien and Lyman L. Johnson, *Andean Worlds, Indigenous History, Culture and Consciousness under Spanish Rule, 1535-1825*, 2001
- Enrique Mayer, *Ugly Stories of the Peruvian Agrarian Reform*, 2009

