



Why this class trip?

- Started off as a recruiting/retention measure.
- Peru seemed an interesting place with the obvious highlight of Machu Picchu and other Incan sites
- First trip was a learning experience, pretty much a self service tourist trip




- Second year we connected with a small family owned tourist company who took care of all the logistics and the explanations of the history, geography, and cultures of Peru.
- That let us in turn focus on the science and engineering and ultimately turn this into an experiential learning experience.
- Later added a graduate level Peru class; both classes go together on the trip.

Teachable Moments

From the first visit as we learned about things relevant to our discipline we would stop, show, explain, quiz the students until this became a routine part of the trip.




Experiential Learning



Strategy 1.1: Require all undergraduate students to participate in some significant experiential learning activity before they graduate

Advantage of a Sophomore Trip

- Ideal time for recruiting and retention activity
- Expose students to various concepts early in their education (before they learned the science and engineering of the concepts later in a classroom).
- So that the students' experiences in Peru can feed a lifelong thirst for knowledge and understanding of the various things they have already seen.
- Build motivation for learning, and help them early on identify what aspects of geological engineering they may want to focus on for the rest of their career.

Advantage of a Synchronous Graduate Level Course

- Sophomore students learn not only from the instructor, but benefit from the knowledge and experience of graduate students.



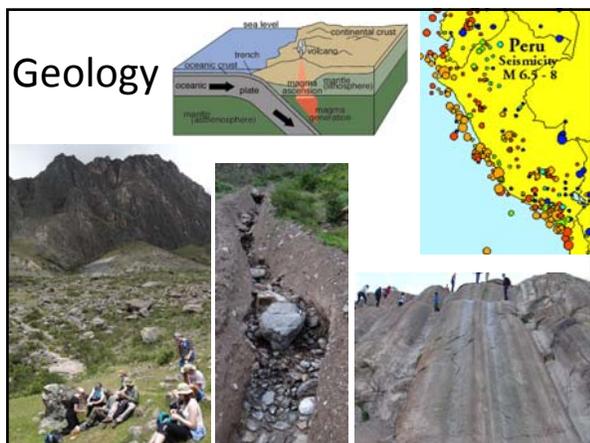
Why Peru?

- Geology
- Rock falls
- Landslides
- Quarrying
- Construction
- Foundations
- Hydraulics

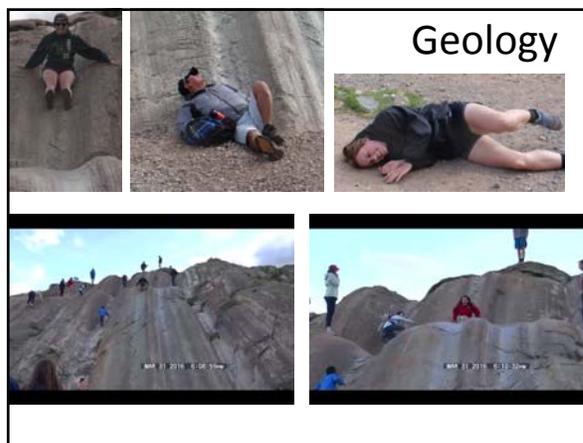
Where did we go

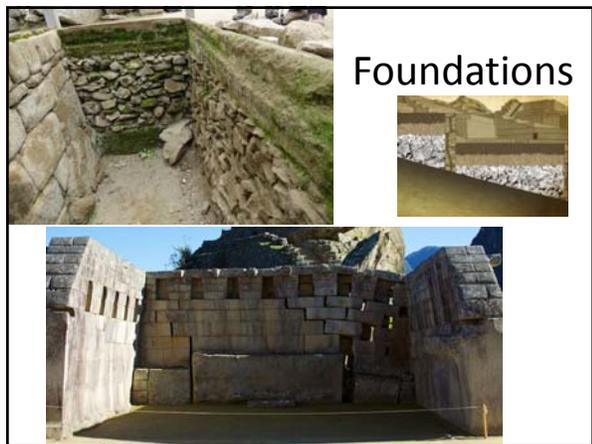


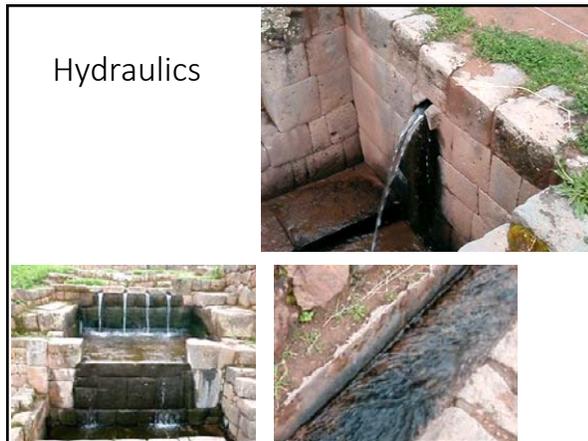
Geology



Geology







Structure of the Classes

- Two Classes: 1 hour sophomore class and a 3 hour graduate class.
- Trip is a Spring Semester class (over Spring Break).
- Class meetings start in previous semester, for logistics and preparation (obtaining travel documents, inoculations, travel plans, cultural and safety training).
- Classes meet weekly before the trip to learn about the country and culture of Peru and the Incans, the geology of Peru, and the accomplishments of the Incan engineers.

Structure of the Classes

- All students are required to produce an annotated photo log on a single theme or topic.
- Graduates students are required to produce 4 reports and a presentation:
 1. Geology report of all the sites visited.
 2. A written report of one of the major Incan sites visited.
 3. A written report of one of the minor Incan sites visited.
 4. A written report of one aspect of Incan engineering or technology, with a comparison to two or more other prehistoric civilizations.
 5. A verbal presentation of the technology report.

Structure of the Classes

- After the trip, all photo logs (both classes) are presented.
- The graduate students also present their technology report to both classes.

Non-GE Related Fun Things

- Hiking
- Culture
- Animals
- Shopping
- Music

Hike of Death



Wayna (Huayna) Picchu - The Death Hike - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0C8P6Y5yo>
Apr 20, 2011 - Uploaded by Mike Conroy
Click for more info, and check these out as well: My Website is: <http://rocktheground.tv> Tweet Me Here: <http://www...>

View from the top



Culture



Shopping



Camelids



Traditional Music and Dance



Final Thoughts

- For most students this the trip of a lifetime; they talk about it for years afterwards.
- Over the years the photo logs have gotten more and more sophisticated, student are in completion as to who can produce the best, funniest, or most outrageous photo logs.
- Teaching ratings usually come in at 4.0.
- For many this instills a (hopefully) life long passion for international and travel.
- In Geological Engineering we have an International Engineering Senior Design option. Quite a few of the Peru students chose this option.
- Some students each year choose to do a study-abroad semester.

Questions?



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