



in partnership with the
Centro de Educación Económica
Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (UPC)



REQUEST for APPLICATIONS

to Participate in a
Teacher Study Tour
to Peru

Dates: **June 17 – July 1, 2025**



Application Deadline: January 21, 2025

Economic Education Study Tour to Peru

I. Overview.

- The *Global Economic Education Alliance* is offering a 13-day Study Tour to Peru for K-12 schoolteachers and economic educators from throughout the United States.
- The Study Tour will be led by Jennifer Jurosky, Department Chairperson of Social Studies at North Tahoe High School, and Professor Claudia Sicoli, Director of the *Centro de Educación Económica* de la Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (UPC) in Lima, Peru.
- This tour will provide a unique opportunity for educators to exchange ideas, teaching methodology and experiences in economic education with Peruvian educators as well as colleagues from other states within the U.S.
- This Study Tour to Peru is a highly effective way of learning about an economy and experiencing firsthand, not only the educational system, but also the reality of everyday life. Teachers who have participated in GEEA Study Tours remark that it was “an experience of a lifetime.” The objective is that teachers return to their classrooms with renewed appreciation of the importance of economics and enthusiasm for economics education. Students will ultimately gain from their teacher’s life-changing experience.
- For additional thoughts about the value of such a Study Tour, you are encouraged to read the Post-Study Tour teacher reflections on the GEEA website, www.globaleconed.org.

II. Structure. The Study Tour has three distinct phases – preparation, trip to Peru, and post-tour follow-up.

A. Preparation.

We prepare for the trip several months prior to departure. Once we select the tour group, Jennifer Jurosky will conduct preparatory planning via electronic communication. We will discuss Study Tour planning as well as complete readings on Peruvian history, culture, politics, economics, and educational challenges.

B. Trip to Peru.

- ❖ Dates: Participants will depart from their chosen airport on Tuesday, June 17th and arrive home on Tuesday, July 1st.
- ❖ Tour participants will:
 - Visit schools and classes at the K-12 or university levels in Lima, Cusco and in the Amazon. These visits will include meetings with teachers, students, and education officials. Participants will observe how Peruvian educators overcome the challenges of material and administrative constraints.
 - Visit the Central Bank of Peru and hear a lecture on the economic situation in Peru.

- Visit cultural and historic sites in Lima, Cusco, the Sacred Valley, Machu Picchu, and the Peruvian Amazon rainforest. Learn about the Inca Empire, the Spanish conquest, and the Amazonian ecosystem.
- Attend a session to learn about the unique partnership between the Ese Eja Native Community of Infierno and Rainforest Expeditions, the company managing *Posada Amazonas*, the Eco-Lodge along the Tambopata River where we stay.

C. Follow-up.

Upon returning to your respective schools, participants will:

- Incorporate experiences from this program into teaching at your school.
- Share the experience with colleagues in your school, your school district, and/or your community (e.g., Power Point presentation with photos, video, etc.)
- Optional but encouraged: Based on your Council or Center workshop opportunities, attend a teacher workshop conducted by your local *Center for Economic Education* or state *Council for Economic Education* in the coming year to deliver a presentation about your experiences and observations in Peru.
- Optional: Consider participating in an online exchange with a Peruvian schoolteacher (and students) whom you may meet on this trip. This depends on the Peruvian school's computer and web access and is at your own initiative.
- Submit a 1,000 word (about 3 – 4 pages with 12-point font, double space) **Post-Tour Report/Reflection** to your supporting Center/Council and to Professors Brock & Sicoli, and Jennifer Jurosky that summarizes the personal benefits gained from the experience, the benefits to your students, and your ideas for follow-on activities with your school, school district and/or your state Council or local *Center for Economic Education*. Consider this your reflection on the value of the Study Tour.
 - Due date: July 31, 2025
 - The GEEA Study Tour subsidy (\$300 per K-12 teacher) for travel will be provided to participants upon submission of this Post-Tour Report.

III. Important Requirements and Miscellaneous Details.

- ❖ Applicants must currently be K-12 teachers in the United States or involved in Economic Education administration (e.g., Center or Council personnel). We also encourage English as Second Language teachers to apply, as the community school in the Amazon has requested that we conduct an ESL lesson for them.
- ❖ Applicants ***must*** have valid passports when submitting the application (or show proof of passport application). A copy of the photo page of your passport must be included with the application. Your passport should not expire for at least 6-months after the completion of our Peru tour.
- ❖ ***Please note:*** Participation in this study tour ***is physically taxing***. Peru is not always as handicap friendly as the U.S., and the tour to Machu Picchu and the Incan historic sites in the Sacred Valley requires ***much walking at high altitude up/down uneven stone steps***. The Amazon involves hiking in the jungle & motorized canoe river excursions.
 - You may not have baggage handlers to help you, so try very hard to ***minimize luggage/weight***; large suitcases become difficult to handle, as you may have to carry up and down stairs. Ramps & elevators are sometimes not available. Stairs may be uneven and without railings.

- Accommodations (**double-occupancy**) are very nice.
 - Be prepared to depart the hotel in the morning (sometimes very early) and not have an opportunity to rest until late afternoon or early evening.
- ❖ We will all fly to Lima, Peru on Tuesday, June 17th, 2025
 - **In coordination with Jennifer Jurosky** (jjurosky@ttusd.org), each participant will purchase his/her own roundtrip airline ticket to Lima, preferably scheduling an arrival in Lima between early-to-late evening June 17th and 1:00 AM on June 18th. As Study Tour participants exit customs with luggage, groups of 2 to 3 will meet and depart Lima Airport by pre-arranged taxi for our hotel in Miraflores (a “suburb” of Lima).
 - Return to U.S.: All participants will commute by motorized canoe and then bus to the Puerto Maldonado Airport on Monday, June 30th, with scheduled arrival at Lima Airport in mid-to-late afternoon. Therefore, it is preferable that all Study Tour participants schedule return flights from Lima Airport to your home airport for **late** afternoon or evening June 30th or early morning (after midnight) on July 1st. You should then arrive home on July 1st.
 - ❖ Professor Claudia Sicoli and the *Centro de Educación Económica* de la Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (UPC) will serve as our primary host in Peru.
 - ❖ Internet access in Peru should be available at all hotels; access in the Amazon is available, may be intermittent. Phones with international calling may not always work, particularly in the Amazon.
 - ❖ Vaccinations: Participants should check the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website for recommended shots, etc. for travel to Peru and the Peruvian Amazon. During the Preparation Phase, we will discuss these recommendations in more detail.
 - Proof of Covid vaccination (per CDC guidelines) is required for participation.
 - ❖ It may not be easy to accommodate special dietary requirements, but our Peruvian hosts will do the best possible to ensure diet needs are met. Be sure to let us know of any special needs.
 - ❖ Participants will be responsible for the cost of alcoholic beverages and snacks/food outside of the planned group meals. Water, soft drinks, and juices are provided at group meals. Bottled water is provided on bus tours and site visits.
 - ❖ Each participant should purchase his/her own travel medical insurance through one of the many providers of these policies. More information will be provided during the Preparatory Phase. Past participants have been pleased with *TravelGuard* or *RoamRight* for their travel insurance needs.

❖ **Expense Summary:**

● Airfare – the roundtrip airfare will cost approximately ¹ :	\$1,400.00
● In-country costs ²	2,700.00
● GEEA grant to each teacher to defray a portion of the total cost ³	- 300.00
● Net estimated total Study Tour cost paid by each teacher participant	\$3,800.00

- ❖ The *Global Economic Education Alliance* will be the fiscal agent. Each participant is responsible to complete payment of \$2,700 to the ***Global Economic Education Alliance*** no later than Friday, March 7, 2025. More detailed payment instructions will be provided later. These funds are needed to make down payments to reserve some hotels and reservations.
- ❖ Each participant will be required to sign a GEEA *Release and Waiver Form*. This form will be signed by each participant at our first meeting in Lima.
- ❖ Cancellation Policy: After April 1, 2025, refunds on payments made to GEEA to cover in-country expenses will be provided if GEEA is able to cancel in-country financial commitments. Only the non-refundable expenses incurred by GEEA will be charged to a participant who must cancel.
- ❖ Applicants will receive notification of acceptance no later than January 31st, 2025.
- ❖ If you have any questions about the Study Tour itself, contact Jennifer Jurosky at jjurosky@ttusd.org

¹ Current roundtrip airfares are estimated to be in the \$1,200 – \$1,700 range, depending on city of U.S. departure and airline. In the past, some teachers found substantially less costly airfare, but each situation differs.

² Includes hotel (double occupancy), restaurants including tips for group meals, in-country (LATAM) airfare Lima to Cusco, Cusco to Puerto Maldonado (PEM), and then PEM back to Lima, local bus transport, Sacred Valley tour, train to/from Machu Picchu, and Machu Picchu entrance and tour fees, activities/experiences in the Amazon, all breakfasts, and many group lunches and dinners. Minor personal and incidental expenditures, some on-your-own meals, and tour guide tips are borne by participants.

³ Thanks to GEEA for supporting teacher participants on this Study Tour. A \$300 GEEA check will be provided to each teacher participant upon submission of the post-tour report. Only active K-12 teachers are eligible for this grant.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE⁴

Study Tour to Peru from June 17 – July 1, 2025

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION IS: January 21, 2025

- ❖ Email your **application** directly to Jennifer Jurosky at jjurosky@ttusd.org.

- ❖ **Descriptive Essay:**
 - ✓ A double-spaced typewritten descriptive essay addressing the following questions (please limit to 750 – 1000 words – about 2 to 4 pages):
 - Top of the first page:
 - Name: _____
 - School: _____
 - Grade Level(s): _____
 - Courses Teaching: _____
 - Degrees and Universities:
Bachelor’s degree in _____ from _____.
Advanced degree(s) in _____ from _____.
 - In your essay, briefly address the following:
 1. Why are you interested in participating in this teacher *Study Tour to Peru*?
 2. Identify two primary goals you have for this Peruvian experience.
 3. Describe one of your cross-cultural experiences or your international travel experiences. (Note: Previous international travel experience is **NOT** required to participate in this Study Tour.)
 4. How do you plan to share your expanded knowledge and experiences from this Study Tour with your students, community, and colleagues?

- ❖ **Copy of the photo page of your passport**, which shows expiration date (and provides needed name/birthdate information for in-country airline reservations, train reservations and Machu Picchu entrance ticket). If you have applied for a passport or passport renewal, please provide related information.

- ❖ **Letter of Support:**
 - ✓ From your state *Council for Economic Education*, your local *Center for Economic Education*, or another economic education organization with which you have interacted (e.g., *Foundation for Teaching Economics*, *Junior Achievement*), or from your school principal/administrator.

⁴ The *Global Economic Education Alliance* and all organizations involved in the Study Tour selection process shall provide equal access to and opportunity in its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

Background Information

Teacher Study Tour to Peru

June 17 – July 1, 2025

Why Peru?

Although suffering a growth slowdown in 2014 – 18, Peru enjoyed reasonably strong economic growth averaging 6.4% a year for the decade 2003-13, the fastest average growth over this period of any large country in Latin America. Between 2014 and 2018, GDP growth slowed to an annual average rate of 3.2%, mainly owing to lower international commodity prices, including copper, the leading Peruvian export commodity. Peru does face key challenges: a mining industry facing protests and opposition, a government that struggles with corruption, a rigid labor market with a low-skilled workforce, and a weak educational system. Peru is a very important country in Latin America, and we welcome the opportunity to investigate this most interesting country with such fascinating culture, geography, history, and economy.

Program Overview

The study tour will include all or most of the following:

- Visits to poor public schools and high-performing private schools in Lima, Cusco, and the Amazon Rainforest.
- Visit to the Central Bank of Peru, with a talk on the economic situation in Peru from a bank economist.
- Social event and/or education sessions with students at Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (UPC).
- Meetings with UPC faculty.
- Visit with economic and financial literacy education policymakers.
- Cultural and historical component to include the Sacred Valley, Cusco, Machu Picchu, and other interesting cultural and historic sites.
- Trip/tour in the Amazon Rainforest to include staying at an Eco-Lodge and ecology lectures/discussions. Session with local experts to learn more about the unique partnership between the local indigenous Ele Eja Community of Infierno and Rainforest Expeditions, the firm managing *Posada Amazonas*, the eco-lodge where we will stay.
- ✓ Amazon Rainforest experiences may include a jungle night walk, the sunrise canopy tower, macaw clay lick, Oxbow Lake canoe tour, etc.

The Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (UPC) is a private university located in Lima, Peru. University of Colorado Professor John Brock is an honorary professor at UPC and a GEEA Board member. Claudia Sicoli is on the UPC faculty of economics and is a past participant in two Study Tours to the United States (Colorado and Georgia). Claudia and John have conducted seven U.S. Teacher Study Tours to Peru in March 2015, April 2016, June 2017, June 2018, June 2019, June 2023, and June 2024. John will assist Jennifer with planning this 2025 Study Tour.

As part of the study tour routine, structured group reflection and journaling or field notes will be utilized to share perspectives and to stimulate deeper learning. Participants will be asked to reflect daily on their experience as well as share their insights from the activities.

Benefits of Program

- Travel time on the bus/train will provide ample opportunity for participating teachers and our hosts to explore mutual areas of interest and to exchange insights on the economic and social challenges in Peru.

- Participating teachers will be better able to develop their students' understanding of our world. The program will provide teachers with first-hand knowledge of another country and its economy. Classroom educators can compare issues in both the U.S. and Peru. Some participants may choose to incorporate their enhanced knowledge into an expanded unit or topic in a course they teach.
- Participating teachers will also be able to bring their enriched international perspective to their community and professional conferences. All are encouraged to share their experiences via a PowerPoint or video presentation at a seminar or workshop conducted by their state *Council for Economic Education*, local *Center for Economic Education*, or other professional development organization.

Timeline:

Pre-Decision Phase:

As soon as possible, but definitely before the January 21st, 2025 deadline:

- Email your application to Jennifer Jurosky at jjurosky@ttusd.org.

January 31st, 2025: Complete all selections for the Study Tour.

Post-Selection/Preparation Phase:

February 15, 2025: Commit via email to Jennifer Jurosky no later than February 15, 2025.

February 15 – May 15, 2025: Airline tickets purchased by participants; **before finalizing your purchase, get approval from Jennifer Jurosky.** Once purchased, send full itinerary to Jennifer.

March 7, 2025 Complete payment of \$2,700 to the ***Global Economic Education Alliance***. Detailed instructions for payment will be provided later. (GEEA will provide a \$300 subsidy after submission of your post-tour reflection/report.)

Study Tour/Trip Phase (brief trip agenda):

June 17: Depart for Lima. Arrive Lima Airport (preferably) NLT 1:00 AM, June 18th, 2025.

June 17 – 21: Lima portion of tour. *Hotel Estelar* (or comparable) in Miraflores. School visits, Central Bank visit, UPC program, Lima city tour, free time to explore.

June 22: AM flight to Cusco. *Atoq San Blas* Hotel. Great boutique hotel conveniently located a short walk from the beautiful Plaza de Armas. Involves walking up/down hills.

June 22 – 26: School visits, Cusco & Sacred Valley tours; train to Aguas Calientes for Machu Picchu tour, free time to explore the historic Old Cusco city.

June 27: AM flight from Cusco to Puerto Maldonado (PEM), gateway to the Amazon rain forest.

June 27 – 29: Amazonia portion. Lodging at *Posada Amazonas*, a superb eco-lodge – an amazing Amazon rainforest experience. Rainforest tours, school visit, session with Ese Eja Community – Rainforest Expeditions partnership, and related activities.

June 30: Early afternoon flight from Puerto Maldonado to Lima Airport. Early to late evening flights to home cities, arriving home on Tuesday, July 1, 2025.

Study Tour Follow-up Phase:

Following Study Tour: Implement plan to share experiences with students, colleagues, Council/Center, etc.

July 31, 2025: Deadline to submit Post-Tour Report to Professor Brock, Professor Sicoli and to your supporting Council or Center. GEEA subsidy check then provided.

Study Tour Coordinators:

Economics Professor Claudia Sicoli is Director of the *Centro de Educación Económica* de la Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (UPC). She has participated in two Study Tours to the United States and is a graduate of the *Council for Economic Education* Training of Trainers program (2008). She also coordinated the March 2015, April 2016, June 2017, June 2018, June 2019, and June 2023 GEEA U.S. Teacher Study Tours to Peru.

Economics Professor John Brock is the Director, *Center for Economic Education*, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs (UCCS). He has led thirteen study tours: two to South Africa, seven to Peru, and four others to the post-Soviet region. Since 2012 he has taught six teacher workshops in Lima and he has visited Cusco, the Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu seven times. In June 2017, the Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas inducted John as an Honorary Professor of Economics. UCCS and UPC are official partner universities with student exchange programs available. John is assisting Jen and Claudia with planning this Study Tour.

Secondary Economics Teacher Jennifer Jurosky is the Department Chairperson for North Tahoe High School Social Studies in Tahoe City, CA. She has taught for 27 years, has a Master of Science in Economics, a Master of Science in Applied Leadership, and a Master of Education in Mild to Moderate Learning Disabilities. She has co-authored a peer-reviewed article in the *Journal of Economics Education* entitled *Economics education in high schools: Review and assessment*, dedicated to the state of economics education in American public schools with a focus on the importance of implementation in the state of Nevada. Jen participated in the 2024 GEEA Study Tour to Peru.