



STUDY-ABROAD PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES IN BAHÍA DE CARÁQUEZ, ECUADOR

Planet Drum Foundation is a non-profit NGO based in San Francisco, California. A field office in Bahía de Caráquez, on the coast of Ecuador, has been dedicated to bioregional restoration projects since 1999. They include a Dry Tropical Forest Revegetation Project, ecological education, and participation in Ecological City events and planning.

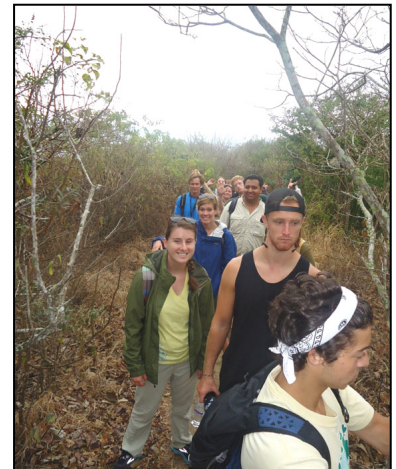
This unique setting provides amazing possibilities for immersion in a foreign culture, as well as opportunities to learn about the Dry Tropical Forest – one of the most threatened ecosystems on the planet – and the chance to assist in field projects that are actively protecting and restoring this fragile environment. Planet Drum's projects are models for implementing ecosystem reinhabitation that can be adapted to other regions. Specific areas of learning include: Ecological Restoration, Sustainable Land Development, Bioregional Education, Community Outreach and Ancient Cultural Practices.



In August-September 2012, Planet Drum Ecuador hosted a study abroad course in collaboration with the University of Oregon entitled "Building Bioregional Communities." Fourteen students and their professor traveled to Bahía de Caráquez for the three-week program. Their time was divided between classes with required reading, field practices directly related to Planet Drum

projects, trips to local points of bioregional interest, and a bit of free time to soak up the coastal Ecuadorian lifestyle.

Planet Drum in Ecuador is offering an excellent opportunity to combine academic theory – focusing on bioregional perspectives – with over 14 years of experience in local ecological restoration and building grassroots bioregional awareness. For universities or any other educational institution seeking to expand studies beyond the classroom, this is an ideal and relatively low-cost program.



Custom courses can be tailored to the needs and schedules of the educational institution and its students. Programs can range in length from 3 to 12 weeks, or even longer depending on the circumstances. Planet Drum can easily accommodate groups up to 20 students and will provide all in-country logistics including airport and local transportation, lodging, and food.

For more detailed information, please contact Clay Plager-Unger, Planet Drum's Ecuador Program Director at:

planetdrumecuador@yahoo.com and/or visit www.planetdrum.org