

# ALLIN P'UNCHAY ATHENS!

University of Georgia's Bulletin Dedicated to Indigenous Languages and Cultures of Latin America

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE - WHAT WE'RE ALL ABOUT

*Allin p'unchay* (ah'-yeen p'oon'-chahy), which translates to 'good day' in Quechua, is a common greeting uttered among the Quechua, an indigenous group inhabiting the Andean region in South America. The purpose of this newsletter is to promote awareness of the history and rich socio-cultural traditions and customs of Amerindian groups in Latin America, which seem to be all too often ignored and disregarded relative to the ubiquitous Hispanic populations in the region. As these incredibly fascinating indigenous groups continue to survive, despite the lack of government support and public awareness, cultural and linguistic maintenance is in danger of heavy outside influence and possible extinction. Because of this, our collective mission is to inform UGA and the greater Athens community of these indigenous populations and their vital role in Latin America.

While a greater focus will be placed on the Quechua, information concerning various Amerindian groups will be included to create a more general awareness of the indigenous as a whole and to shed light on the beauty and richness of the differences and similarities of these under-represented Latin American groups. You may not know it, but there are various individuals here in Athens, Georgia who have personally experienced their own intercultural exchanges with Amerindian groups, and we want to share their stories with UGA and the Athens community!

## BRIEF HISTORY: WHO ARE THE QUECHUA?

While it's true that Spanish and Portuguese are currently the most widely spoken languages in Latin America, some believe there were approximately 2,000 separate languages already being spoken by the various Amerindian populations when the Spanish conquistadores arrived to the Americas in the late 15th century. Among the most powerful Latin American indigenous groups during the Colonial period were the Nahuatl and Maya of Mesoamerica, the Quechua and Aymara of the Andean zone, the Guaraní of the Paraguayan area, and the Mapudungun of Chile (Escobar 2013).

The Quechua language is most popularly recognized as being the language of the Incan Empire, which was located in what is now Peru and had spread across the Andean region (referring to Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia), expanding from southern Colombia to parts of Chile and northern Argentina. Even before the Spanish arrived to America, the Incans had conquered surrounding indigenous populations in the nearby region. This resulted in an extensive reach of the Quechua language, as the language was imposed upon the newly acquired populations following Incan takeover.

Consequently, the Andean zone today consists of the most highly concentrated region of indigenous populations, and Quechua currently remains the most widely spoken indigenous language in South America. While the Ethnologue of the Summer Institute of Linguistics claims there are 8,912,820 speakers of Quechua (<http://www.ethnologue.com>), some suggest an exact number of speakers is impossible to determine and instead offer a more general estimate of anywhere between 8 to 12 million speakers (Escobar 2013). This is comparable to the population size of our Peach State!



Image source: [www.worldatlas.com](http://www.worldatlas.com)

## YACHANKICHU?

(DID YOU KNOW?)

Quechua words like *kuntur* (condor), *llama* and *charki* (jerky) have made it into the English language.

The Quechua term for their own language is *Runasimi*. The word is a conjunction of two words *runa* (man, person) and *simi* (mouth, language).

## WATUCHIY

(RIDDLE)

*Imasmari, imasmari.*

(What am I? What am I?)

*Waranqamanta mikhuna.*

(What is eaten by the thousands, and by thousands?)

Look for the answer in our next issue, or visit:

<http://www.lacsiuga.org/latin-american-indigenous-languages-initiative/>

## QUECHUA IN THE COMMUNITY



### RIMASUNCHIS!

Rimasunchis! The Quechua Conversation Table meets once a week during the Spring and Fall semesters. This semester (Spring 2015) we will meet on Thursdays from 4:00 to 5:00 PM at Hendershots (237 Prince Ave). No prior knowledge of Quechua is required.

"Many people at UGA (and in the United States in general) think that Latin America is just that--Latin. But the southern continent also is home to millions of indigenous people who speak their own languages and have cultures that overlap only incidentally with the Spanish and Portuguese-speaking world. The Quechua Table helps underline this fact, offering cultural nuances and insights into an exciting linguistic reality that reaches back from today to the time of the Incas. Quechua is challenging for an old guy like me, but the young people at the table are patient and enthusiastic. Just being around them brings an air of the Andes to Athens."

Dr. Thomas Whigham, Department of History

"Quechua table really helped me, not only improve my language skill, but also to stay motivated. Everyone brings a lot of different knowledge and insight of the Andean region 'to the table,' and it makes learning the language a richer experience."  
Meredith Bennett, 5th year Psychology and Linguistics major

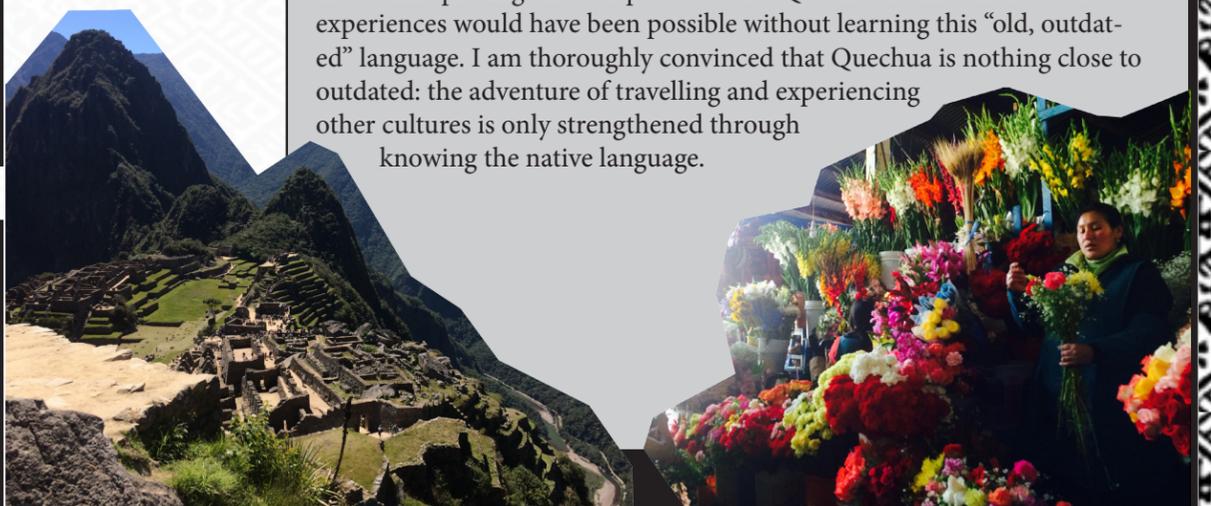
## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: JAYNIE CHANDLER

My name is **Jaynie Chandler** and I am a senior at UGA majoring in Spanish and Linguistics. During my junior year I took two semesters of Quechua (the language of the Incas spoken in the Andes mountains in Peru, Bolivia, and Ecuador) and my understanding of indigenous languages radically changed. Through my experience both learning the language and spending time with native speakers, I am now incredibly enthusiastic about revitalizing the global understanding of learning languages that are robust and beautiful in and of themselves.

During the majority of June and July this past summer, I traveled to Cusco, Peru, where I lived and worked with missionaries whose primary goal is to work with the Quechua people. A large part of what I did in Cusco involved Spanish and Quechua interpreting. For several weeks I was a medical interpreter for a team of doctors and medical students, and for the rest of my time in Cusco I was given a lot of freedom to pursue Quechua conversation and become familiar with the culture of the Qosqueño Quechua people. Learning Quechua, though from the outside seems to be irrelevant and distant, in reality has been an incredibly enriching experience for me. Through my two semesters of Quechua at UGA, and continuing to pursue language learning through the Indigenous Language Initiative, I have been able to experience things that I would never get to otherwise.

In the markets in Cusco, the farther away you get from the tourist areas, the more Quechua speakers you come into contact with. I was able to interact with monolingual Quechua speakers because of the classes I had taken back in Athens: a dozen or so times this summer I explored the markets and walked around the aisles and rows overflowing with Quechua women selling their produce and goods, and we had real conversation. It was amazing, watching their facial expressions change when they got to speak their native language with a gringa (no matter how much I butchered Quechua, they were gracious and excited).

Spending time in Quechua speakers' homes, being immersed in their culture and language, interpreting (or at least trying) for their doctor's appointments, stumbling through thick accents and falling in patches of mud while picking Andean potatoes on a Quechua farm... none of these experiences would have been possible without learning this "old, outdated" language. I am thoroughly convinced that Quechua is nothing close to outdated: the adventure of travelling and experiencing other cultures is only strengthened through knowing the native language.



# INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES AND CULTURES AT UGA

For the last several years, the primary mission of the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Institute (LACSI; <http://www.lacsiuga.org>) at the University of Georgia has been to promote "research, education, and service and outreach on Latin America, the Caribbean, and US Latinos." As part of this mission, the Latin American Indigenous Languages Initiative (LAIL) was established in 2012 to foster awareness of the cultural and linguistic traditions of peoples native to Central and South American and the Caribbean. LACSI's efforts were recently recognized when it was awarded prestigious grants from the US Department of Education's Title VI National Resource Center and Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) programs. These funds, totaling more than \$2 million dollars over the next four years, will allow LACSI to expand its efforts to offer students, faculty, and the Athens community greater access to materials for learning and studying the languages and cultures of Latin America. Recently, the first cohort of students who will participate as FLAS fellows in Quechua was selected, representing a variety of different academic disciplines: **Sarah Hubbel** (Romance Languages), **Courtney Parker** (College of Public Health), **Erin Rock** (Journalism), and **Christopher Walker** (College of Education). These and other UGA students will further their studies of Quechua language and culture by taking QUEC 1002 in the upcoming spring semester. Competitions for Summer 2015 and Academic Year 2015-16 FLAS fellowships are now being offered.

For more information on events and opportunities related to the Latin American indigenous languages and cultures, please contact **Chad Howe** at [chowe@uga.edu](mailto:chowe@uga.edu) and consider joining the LAIL listserv [LAIL-L@LISTSERV.UGA.EDU](mailto:LAIL-L@LISTSERV.UGA.EDU).



## RECIPE - PUKA PICANTE



Servings- 4-6  
Preparation Time: 1hour

### INGREDIENTS

- ½ pound of pork (prepare the pork by cutting it into pieces)
- 150 grams of toasted peanuts (the peanuts will need to be prepared by being grinded)
- 1 lb of yellow potatoes
- 1 large red onion (prepare the onion by chopping it)
- 2 full teaspoons of grided garlic)
- 1 large tomato (prepare the tomato by peeling it and then chopping it)
- 2 tablespoons of creamy mirasol pepper (red, spicy pepper)
- 1 tablespoon of creamy yellow pepper
- 2 cups of water
- Salt, pepper and cumin to taste

### PREPARATION

Boil the potatoes.  
At the same time, using the oil, onion, garlic, yellow pepper, red pepper, tomato, salt and pepper and cumin make a seasoning. Use the salt and pepper as well as the cumin to taste.  
Once you mix the above to make the seasoning, add the crushed peanuts along with the pork and the water.  
Incorporate the potatoes to the mixture.  
Cover and cook until the pork is done.  
Serve the pork and potatoes with sides of rice and creole sauce.  
Enjoy!

## TAKI (SONG):

### YAW YAW PUKA POLLERACHA

*Yaw, Yaw Puka Polleracha*  
*Yaw, Yaw Puka Polleracha*  
(Hey! Hey red skirt!)

*Imatan ruwanki*  
(What are you doing)  
*Saray ukhupi*  
(In my cornfields?)  
*Imatan ruwanki*  
*Saray ukhupi*

*Taytaykimanmi, Mamaykimanmi*  
*Willaykamusaq*  
*Taytaykimanmi, Mamaykimanmi*  
*Willaykamusaq*  
(I'm going to tell your father and your mother)

*Chakray ukhupi*  
*Pukllasqaykita*  
*Chakray ukhupi*  
*Pukllasqaykita*  
(You are playing in my field)



Want to hear this song in Quechua?  
Check out this video:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DZ5VTWy01Wg>

## WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

UGA NAHUATL STUDY GROUP  
*Chocolotl, tomatl, coyotl.* Do you recognize these words? That's right, we get *chocolate, tomato, coyote*, and many other words from *Nahuatl*, the language of the Aztec empire that is still spoken by 2 million people in Mexico and parts of Central America. Join the **UGA Nahuatl Study Group** Mondays at 2:30 at the LACSI house!



For more information, Email Sarah at [SLowman2@uga.edu](mailto:SLowman2@uga.edu)

STORY TIME FOR NATIVE LANGUAGES  
This is a one-hour story time session in a range of Latin American Indigenous Languages. It will be held on Fridays at 4:30 PM at the Athens Clarke County Library. The upcoming dates are: February 20th, March 20th, and April 17th.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## WORD SEARCH

### TULLPI (COLORS)

ANQAS	blue
CH'UMPI	brown
KULLI	purple
PANTI	pink
PUKA	red
Q'ELMO	orange
Q'ILLU	yellow
Q'OMER	green
UQI	grey
YANA	black
YURAQ	white

