

BIO 266 Blockkurs HS2014 – *Fieldwork in South American Palaeontology*



6 KP / Max. student participants: 5 / Block I HS .2014 / Trip: 19 Sept-6 Oct. 2014

Terrestrial fossil sites in central Argentina. The life after the dinosaurs.

Organizers: Prof. M. Sánchez; Dr. A.M. Forasiepi (Mendoza)

<http://www.msanchezlab.net/>

After lectures and demonstrations in Zürich during the first three days of the Blockkurs, the excursion to institutions and field sites in Argentina aims to developing an understanding of the evolution of biotic communities in South America. Emphasis will be on the terrestrial animal communities north of Patagonia from the last 10 million years (late Miocene-Recent). Diverse geological formations will be examined, but emphasis will lie on exploration of the Huayquerías and Tunuyán formations, while collecting and identifying fossils, mostly vertebrates. Activities include visits to museum and zoo in Buenos Aires and La Plata, four full days of fieldwork in Mendoza (camping, rough conditions), attendance to the 4th International Paleontological Congress (<http://www.ipc4mendoza2014.org.ar/>) and a one day of geological trip to the foot of the Andes.

Requested student activities will involve a talk, demonstration following a short practical project, processing, identification and cataloguing of palaeontological samples, and active attendance of the international conference.

This practical course is aimed at Bachelor students with special interest in palaeontology and/or organismal biology and likely aiming at conducting Master work in some area Evolutionary Biology.

Prerequisites: BIO 121, other course(s) in one or all of these disciplines: Zoology / Evolution / Palaeontology.

Costs CHF 2300 per person, to help cover airfare ZH-Bs.Aires/Santiago-ZH, transport to and from La Plata and Mendoza, international conference and excursion registration, and all meals except those during the 4 days of the conference. The University will subsidize the rest of the many other costs. Own insurance arrangements will be required.

Registration Please provide Name, Matrikelnummer, Semester, 'Fachrichtung', Telefonnummer (the sooner the better), deadline 23.05.2014, to sekretariat@pim.uzh.ch, payment until 31.05.2014. *Dieser Kurs ist nicht über das Blockkursbuchungstool buchbar.* An information meeting will take place on Tuesday 20 May, 17:30, at the Palaeontological Institute Lecture room, KO2-E-72.

Requirements Language: English; participation in activities before the trip, talk and demonstration during the trip, report essay on the conference at the end of the course.

For any questions, please contact Marcelo Sánchez at: m.sanchez@pim.uzh.ch