FALL 2017 EXTENDED STUDY:
ENST 3XX/ES: Topics in Conservation: Patagonian Chile

Director: Associate Professor James E. Watkins, Department of Biology, and John Pumilio, Director of Sustainability

On-campus course: Topics in Conservation: Patagonian Chile

Tentative travel dates: ~January 2 – January 21, 2018

Destinations: Chile and Argentina

Course credit: 0.5 Linked with Bio 328

Prerequisites: Bio 181 or Permission of Instructor

Applications available from: www.colgate.edu/off-campus-study/extended-study

Applications due: March 24, 2017

Overview:

This extended study (ES) course will be linked to BIO 328, a semester-long on-campus component that will develop student’s knowledge and understanding of conservation biology through the lens of basic science by focusing on functional plant ecology. We will use ecological tools to explore both basic and applied plant ecology with special focus on the ecosystems around Patagonian Chile (Los Lagos Region, near Palena). Specifically, we will explore the for-profit conservation model based at Patagonia Sur from various dimensions to include on-the-ground ecological and local biological and possibly social surveys. The ES portion of the course be a three week trip to Argentina/Chile. We will spend three nights in Buenos Aires, then travel to Patagonia Sur’s property in Valle California where we will set up our home base and spend the bulk of our time. While there, we will complete projects developed over the course of the semester. We will also explore the region and surrounding national forests on horseback. These excursions may involve multi-day field and camping trips depending on weather and other logistics. Field sites are isolated and rustic.