

Permaculturist

General requirements

We seek interns and volunteers who are physically, mentally and emotionally fit and do not back down from a challenge. Working in the Amazon is not for the faint of heart. The weather is hot and humid, there are often many bugs and mosquitoes. River travel is not the most comfortable form of transportation, though it is the most common. You are expected to work hard, with a high level of autonomy and initiative. When staying in indigenous communities, there is no running water or flushing toilets. While you may not permanently live in a community, you might be there for lengths of time depending on your role. Flexibility and patience are also extremely important. Things happen at their own pace here in the Amazon, and patience is definitely a virtue.

That being said, the rewards of persevering and facing these challenges yield innumerable opportunities for growth and learning.

Overall Role

Location: Pucallpa and surrounding communities, Peru.

Do you have experience in permaculture and want to help develop culturally relevant programs in indigenous communities in the Peruvian Amazon? Many indigenous communities have lost their traditional farming methods and practice unsustainable agriculture, which contributes to malnourishment and loss of biodiversity in their territories. The intern will work closely with Shipibo communities to find culturally appropriate solutions that build capacity locally for resilience and regeneration.□

Main duties and Responsibilities

- Work closely with our Agroforestry and Permaculture experts to maintain current/ create new permaculture sites.
- Assist/ teach Permaculture to Shipibo communities.
- Research and try new solutions with Shipibo communities.
- Promote and raise awareness of our Bena Nii (New Forest) program.
- Assist and engage with our permaculture demonstration site at Casa Ametra (office/ accommodation site).

Qualifications and Skills

- Intermediate Spanish or above.
- Having completed a Permaculture Design Course or equivalent life experience.

Areas of experience that would be of benefit

- Permaculture/environmental education & teaching experience. □
- Project leader/ supervisor experience.
- Nursery management and horticultural propagation. □
- Water catchment and storage systems. □
- Soil building/integrated fertility management. □
- Agroforestry. □
- Small animal systems (including apiculture). □
- Aquaculture. □
- Ecological research & data management. □
- Basic sanitation & sustainable waste management. □
- Construction & natural building. □
- Nutrition diagnostics, education, community outreach, and strategy.

As an intern you will

- Work alongside Alianza Arkana's team of local and international permaculturalists, who have expertise in the following areas: earthworks;



water harvesting; forestry & agroforestry; ecology & conservation biology; botany; ethnobotany (including Amazonian medicinal plants); GIS/GPS mapping; ecosocial outreach with indigenous communities; permaculture and environmental education; Spanish & Shipibo languages; greywater gardens & composting toilets (eco-latrines), and much more.

- Access opportunities for teaching and learning, growing into new capacities and stretching your impact.

Details

Please read all of the text on the 'Get Involved' page of our website for specific details about this role.

How to Apply

Please send the following information to info@alianzaarkana.org with 'Get Involved' in the subject heading.

- Your curriculum vitae or resumé.
- A cover letter explaining in more detail your interest in partnering with Alianza Arkana.
- A completed Volunteer and Internship Questionnaire (see below).

Volunteer and Internship Questionnaire

Please respond to the questions below, keeping each of your responses within the limit of 150 words.

- Name:
- Age:
- Position you are applying for:
- When you would like to begin and for how long?
- What is your level of Spanish fluency?
- Describe what skills you possess that would be beneficial to our work.
- What experiences do you have working with diversity, and what have you learned based on these experiences?
- What experience do you have working with indigenous peoples, if any?



- What do you think the role of an NGO/Non-profit should be in working with indigenous peoples?
- How do you think creativity and the arts can be useful in work with indigenous peoples?
- What do you enjoy doing outside of work?
- Describe a peak experience when you thought life couldn't possibly get any better.
- How do you deal with conflict and discomfort?
- What would you like to learn from your time here?
- What do you need to unlearn?

**We are happy you are interested in coming to the Peruvian Amazon
to collaborate with Alianza Arkana!**