Aloha From Hawaii!

Course Description

An island tour! Discover why Hawaii, the most isolated archipelago in the world, is so unique from an evolutionary point of view with its many endemic plant and animal species. We will discuss how the arrival of people, from the first Polynesians to the many cultures that followed, altered the islands forever, for better or worse. Our pictorial exploration will take us from the top of the mountains, to under the water, to the crater of an active volcano, and to some incredibly inviting beaches.

Weekly Layout:

Volcanoes - Hawaii's unique location on the Earth is due to a "hot spot" in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

Arrival and Evolution - Because the islands are so isolated, organisms arrived very slowly, but evolution occurred very quickly.

The Human Invasion - Where did the first Hawaiians come from? What did they bring with them? How did the change the islands?

Underwater - A look at the coral formations and organisms that inhabit the islands.

A pictorial tour of the islands as seen through the eyes of the University of Delaware's students as they participated in the Hawaii BISC Domestic Study Abroad Program.