CE / GE 401: Inca Civilization
Geotechnical Engineering Practices

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Tipon Inca Site

- This site demonstrates how the hydrology of the mountains was managed by the Incas.
- The four fountains represent the four cultures of the Inca Empire.
Sacsayhuaman

- Zig-zag shape of walls meant to represent Inca god of lightning.
Sacsayhuaman

- Heaviest rock on left; tallest rock on right.
Sacred Valley of the Incas
**Pisac**

- This site was used as a laboratory by the Incas.
- Micro-climates between terraces were used to grow a variety of crops at different altitudes.
Ollantaytambo

- Pre-Inca and Incan construction can be observed at this site.
- Origin of rocks used for construction are not native to the mountain. Origin of rocks appears to be from mountain on the other side of the river.
Circular Terraces of Moray

- Like Pisac, Moray was used as a laboratory to grow a variety of crops at different micro-climates between terraces.
- Moray was built in a sinkhole about 225 feet deep.
- Drainage into sinkhole theoretically provides natural springs for the Salt Mines of Maras.
Machu Picchu – “Old Mountain”

- Site is thought to be a retreat for the Inca emperor.
- Also used for religious ceremonies.