PhD Position Announcement
Earth Resources Development Engineering
Colorado School of Mines

Three years of funding is available to enroll in the PhD program in Earth Resources Development Engineering (https://mining.mines.edu/graduate-programs/earth-resource-development-engineering/) at the Colorado School of Mines (Mines) (https://www.mines.edu), beginning in January 2020. This includes tuition and stipend for each calendar year (Jan through December). The student will be involved in an interdisciplinary project funded by the National Science Foundation, “Mapping, Modeling, and Disrupting Illicit Gold Supply Chains in Peru” and is expected to contribute to the project execution, travel internationally, and conduct fieldwork in Peru. S/he will develop their PhD dissertation research focused on the human dimensions of gold supply chains, artisanal and small-scale mining, and related topics developed in consultation with the advisor and project team. The successful applicant should have a master’s degree in any engineering or applied science discipline and a strong interest in qualitative research methodologies, sustainable mineral supply chains, and small-scale mining. They should also have an interest and ability to work in interdisciplinary teams that include engineers, social scientists, and attorneys. Applicants must be bilingual (Spanish/English) and have an interest in and/or experience working with both urban and rural field settings.

This project brings together scientists and practitioners to answer questions related to sustainable gold supply chains. The student will be mentored directly by Dr. Nicole Smith (https://resourcesandcommunities.mines.edu) and will work closely with Drs. Sebnem Duzgun (https://mining.mines.edu/project/duzgun-h-sebnem/) and Tulay Flamand (http://www.tulayflamand.net), as well as the Payne Institute at Mines (https://payneinstitute.mines.edu). It is expected that the student will have a willingness to engage with local communities, non-governmental associations, government and regulatory agencies, and a range of other actors. During his/her studies, the student will also develop strong ties to the NGO Sustainable Strategies Development Group (https://www.sdsg.org).

**Note:** Funding at this time is only for 3 years. Often PhD studies take more than 3 years to complete their work. While support beyond the third year is not guaranteed, the advisor will make every effort to fund through grants, TAs, or other means.

**Qualifications**
- A master’s degree in an engineering or applied science discipline
- Strong qualitative and analytical skills. Experience in mixed methods approaches and qualitative data collection and analysis are preferred
- Interest in mineral supply chains
- Ability to write grants and scientific papers
- Fluency in Spanish and English (written and oral)
- Ability to do fieldwork in both rural and urban areas of Peru
- A collegial person who gets along with people from different cultural backgrounds and with different perspectives
Preferred Qualifications

- Experience in social science methods
- Knowledge of systems dynamics theory and modeling and in interest in/the ability to incorporate qualitative data into quantitative analyses
- Professional and/or academic experience with field work and travel in Latin America
- Self-starter, can work independently, strong communicator, team player
- Ability to interact and facilitate conservations with a variety of audiences – miners, rural community members, government officials, regulators, and NGO practitioners

If interested, please send a cv, statement of interest/qualifications (2 pages max.), and a writing sample to nmsmith@mines.edu by October 23, 2019.