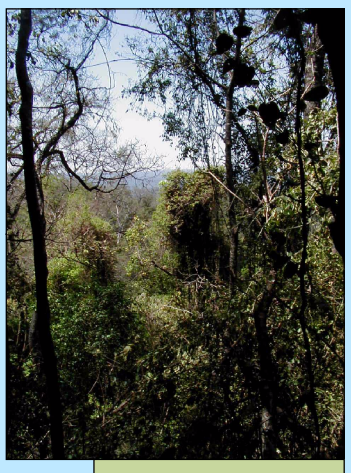
The Climate Regions of South America

Tropical Dry

Tropical Wet



Humid Subtropical

Arid

Mediteranean

Highlands

Semiarid

South America has a wide variety of climates. They range from the dry desert conditions of northern Chile to the heavy rains along the windswept southwestern coast of the continent. Steamy heat characterizes the tropical rain forest of the Amazon basin, while icy cold air surrounds the lofty, snow-capped Andean peaks. In general, however, most of the continent has warm weather the year around. Only in the high Andes is it always cold.

Sources: General ESRI 2005-06,
Climate Data www.theodora.com/maps

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Projection: GCS South American 1969
Cartography: Erin Smart June 2007