INDIA

Study Abroad Course


INFORMATION SESSION
Tuesday, September 20
1:00, Room 135
Tate-Turner-Kuralt Building
This Winter Study Abroad Course in India will examine social problems, social policies and the delivery of social services in India. There will be a special emphasis on considering world view, both American and Indian, and in thinking about how each country approaches social concerns.

Through lectures, interactions with Indian students and practitioners, and visits to governmental, non-governmental, neighborhood and community grassroots organizations in Mumbai, Pune and Ahmednagar, participants will deepen their understanding of societal responses to social issues such as aging, mental health, substance abuse, homelessness, domestic violence, and poverty. Lectures, discussions and field visits will provide opportunities for analysis, reflection and collective learning. Students will stay overnight in Pune at a choice of two community service organizations and have an opportunity to interact with clients.

Tourism, shopping and recreational excursions will be provided in the cities of Mumbai, Pune, Ahmednagar and Aurangabad. Through these visits participants will develop a deepened understanding of Indian culture, history and people.

WHERE YOU’LL GO

MUMBAI (formerly known as Bombay) is the capital of the state of Maharashtra. It is the most populous city in India; the second most populous city in the world. Mumbai the commercial and entertainment center of India; is home to important Indian financial institutions and India’s film and television industry, known as Bollywood. In Mumbai we will see the India Gate, the mosque of Haji Ali, the Taj Palace and Marine Drive. A visit to Mani Haven, Gandhi’s Memorial, museum and library, will offer the participants an awareness of India’s Gandhian legacy. We will also spend a day at the South Asia’s premier, TATA Institute for Social Sciences’ School of Social Work, receiving lectures and discussion on social work in India. We will travel from Mumbai to Pune on the oldest railway system in Asia, the Mumbai “locals” as they are called. This system carries about 6.9 million commuters per day.

PUNE is the eighth largest city in India and the second largest in the state of Maharashtra. Sometimes referred to as the Oxford of the east, Pune continues to be a stronghold for Indian academics and culture. Here we will visit several Civil Society Organizations (CSO’s) such as Muktangan, Maher, Aplagar, the Residential School for Blind Girls and a mental health service provider. We will also visit Maharashtra Institute of Technology’s School of Government, which will provide lectures and discussions on Indian culture and religion, government and social problems.

AHMEDNAGAR – Here we will visit the Centre for Studies in Rural Development, Institute of Social Work and Research. Over 80% of India is rural and any visit to this country is not complete without an opportunity to learn about and experience this aspect of India. The CSRD is one of the pioneering institutes of social work education in India, affiliated with the University of Pune. The focus of our visit at CSRD will be rural social work and a visit to Kolhewadi Village. Further, we will spend a night at Jamkhed, visiting the World Health Organization recognized Comprehensive Rural Health Program.

AURANGABAD – Upon arriving in the outskirts of Aurangabad we will visit the Ellora caves. The 34 “caves” are Indian rock cut Buddhist, Hindu and Jain temples and monasteries built out of the vertical face of the Charanandri Hills and dates back to the 5th Century AD. We will relax in the evening at the Hiranya resorts. The final day of the trip will be spent in the historical city of Aurangabad, visiting Biwi ka Maqbara, known as the mini Taj Mahal.

ENROLLMENT

This course is open to all graduate and upper division undergraduate students, as well as social work, public health, education, public policy, religion, medicine and individuals in related fields who want to learn more about Indian social issues and culture. Friends and family members of participants are also welcome; however, priority will be given to students and social work educators and practitioners. There are no prerequisites for this course.
SERVICE
Students accepted for the course are expected to provide leadership for and participation in a service project to raise money for the CSO’s (NGO’s) where we will be visiting and spending a night, on December 31st. Students will plan events and activities for the clients of the non-profit, celebrating New Year’s Eve with their Indian friends. Students will be provided with an orientation and materials to assist them in planning both the service project and the New Year’s Eve event.

PROGRAM FACULTY
Rebecca Brigham, MSW, Clinical Assistant Professor; Betsy (Sarah E.) Bledsoe, Ph.D., Assistant Professor; and Marie Weil, Ph.D., Berg-Beach Distinguished Professor; and Mary Beth Hernandez, MA, Associate Dean for Advancement; all from the UNC School of Social Work. The program is coordinated by Darshan Mundada (a UNC School of Social Work alumnus), Reshma Kulkarni, and Sonam Sud, all of TRAVolution.

TRAVolution

COST
The program fee is $1,895*. This fee includes:
- Tuition
- Program instructional costs
- Double occupancy lodging (in some locations single occupancy is not available). Most hotel accommodations will be a hostel-type environment.
- Most meals ($25/day). At some locations only vegetarian meals will be available.
- Planned group excursions and cultural events
- In-country (India) transportation (air, train, bus, motorized rickshaw)
- Agency visits and guest lectures
- Medical insurance

*This cost is based on 28 participants and on the exchange rate as of August 1, 2011. U.S. Domestic airfare, International airfare, excess baggage charges on aircraft, extra excursions and personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls, internet charges and alcohol expenses, passport and visa costs, trip insurance, taxes and gratuities are not included.

Students who need assistance in planning pre or post-program travel options in India, may choose to work with TRAVolution directly to coordinate additional travel excursions.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
UNC-Chapel Hill undergraduate and graduate students enrolled for course credit may be eligible for student loans to pay for the cost of the trip. Contact the Office of Scholarship and Student Aid (919) 962-8396, for further information.

COURSE CREDIT
Students may take this course for credit (3 hrs.) or non-credit.

APPLICATION AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE
An initial deposit of $400 is required with the application (bank check is preferred, made payable to UNC-CH). Final application deadline is October 15, 2011. However, students will be accepted on a rolling admission. All applicants will be notified no later than October 19 as to their acceptance. (Students will be urged to purchase their airline ticket as soon as they are notified of acceptance). The final payment is due on Nov 1, 2011. (Students can pre-pay the entire cost to ensure their participation in the trip.) The balance due cannot be deferred for loans or financial aid payment dates.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
For more detailed information on the course, application, itinerary and program, contact Rebecca Brigham at email brigham@email.unc.edu.

Also see our India trip web page at: http://ssw.unc.edu/india
where you’ll also find a link to our Facebook page.

Please see the insert for important Terms and Conditions.
CONTRACT: TERMS AND CONDITIONS
(Important: Read Carefully)

RESPONSIBILITY: The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, School of Social Work (UNC-CH, SoWo), and its employees, do not own or operate any entity which provides goods or services for your trip including, lodging facilities, airline or other transportation companies, guides or guide services, local ground operators, or organizers of optional excursions, food service providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, UNC-CH, SoWo, is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity of any third party.

In addition and without limitation, UNC-CH, SoWo is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, animals, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind, sickness, illness, the lack of availability of or access to appropriate medical attention, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart on time.

If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend an additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers and meal costs.

The right is reserved to decline, accept or retain any person as a participant on this trip at any time.

UNC-CH, SoWo reserves the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and UNC-CH, SoWo shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. UNC-CH, SoWo is not required to refund any portion of the fare or make any other compensation under these circumstances. UNC-CH, SoWo is not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and or itinerary changes.

LUGGAGE: Baggage is entirely at owner’s risk. Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice.

CANCELLATIONS AND TRIP INSURANCE: Cancellation for all or any part of the trip will not be effective until received in writing. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: Before November 1, 2011, a $50.00 fee will be assessed and the remaining amount fully refunded. After November 1, a cancellation, no-show or early return will result in forfeiture of 100% of funds. We strongly recommend for your protection that you purchase trip cancellation insurance in the event that you cancel your participation in the trip. Trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement.

RATES: Prices are quoted based on fares in effect at the time of the printing and are subject to change at any time. Prices are based on 28 participants and on the exchange rate as of August 1, 2011. UNC-CH reserves the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to fewer than 28 participants, currency fluctuations or fuel costs.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of the application and deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms and conditions of this contract.

DID YOU KNOW...

• India is one of the oldest civilizations in the world, dating back more than 5000 years.
• Three of the major religions of the East originated in India, namely Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism.
• India is the largest functioning democracy in the world.
• “Diversity” is the middle name of this country. Over thirty languages are spoken by more than a million native speakers. India is home to more than 1650 languages.
• Indian culture is well-known for preserving its traditions and customs while embracing new global innovations.