

India

Sustainable Development and Social Change

Examine socioeconomic development trends in northern India as well as the tensions and challenges shaping India today.

Coursework

Sustainable Development and Social Change Seminar

ASIA 3000 / 6 credits / 90 class hours

An intensive interdisciplinary course conducted in English with required readings, lectures, relevant educational excursions, and workshops with various nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). Students examine current socioeconomic development trends and the tensions and opportunities that define the world's largest democracy. Special emphasis is placed on community organizations trying to achieve social equality and participate in India's rapid growth. Lecturers include internationally respected local scholars, policymakers and planners, social activists, journalists, development practitioners, and high-level federal and state government officials.

Seminar topics typically include:

Historical and Cultural Context of India

India pre- and post-independence; Gandhian history; historic and contemporary movements for social change; the politics of caste, class, gender, and religion in Indian society and economy; globalization, privatization, and industrialization in India today.

Development: Theories and Practices

Development and social change theories and models; contributions from NGOs, INGOs, corporations, civil society groups, and community-based organizations; approaches, trends, and shifting paradigms in India's development; understanding diversity, equity, and exclusion; issues and opportunities in rural and urban development planning and policies; agriculture, biodiversity, and climate change sustainability; development and social responsibility; successes and future visions.

Educational Excursions and Workshops

The program includes visits to NGO headquarters, prominent academic and research institutes, and villages. Visits in Rajasthan include Bikaner, Jodhpur, and the rural agricultural villages of Ooghna and Sawai Madhopur (home to the Ranthambore Tiger Reserve).

Other visits include Varanasi, situated on the banks of the River Ganges, Dharmasala in Himachal Pradesh, Dehradun-Doon Valley in Uttarakhand, and the state of Sikkim in the Indian Himalayas.

Intensive Language Study: Hindi

HIND 1000-3000 / 4 credits / 60 class hours

Emphasis on beginning speaking and comprehension skills through classroom and field instruction. Based on in-country evaluation, including oral proficiency testing, students are placed in beginning, intermediate, or advanced classes.

Field Study Seminar

ANTH 3500 / 2 credits / 30 class hours

A course in the concepts of learning across cultures and from field experience. Introduction to the Independent Study Project. Topics include cross-cultural adaptation and skills building; project selection and refinement; appropriate methodologies; field study ethics and the World Learning/SIT Human Subjects Review Policy; developing contacts and finding resources; developing skills in observation and interviewing; gathering, organizing, and communicating data; maintaining a work journal.

Independent Study Project

ISPR 3000 / 4 credits / 120 class hours

Conducted in an approved location in India.

Sample topics areas: renewable energy as a means to community development; assessing the ability of state-sponsored primary education to promote social mobility in Uttarakhand; a comparison of traditional and mass production of Indian textiles; community-based ecotourism in Sikkim; uses of information technology for social change; women farmers; urban sustainability efforts; lakes and wetlands conservation; Jaipur's solid waste management system; socioeconomic of water scarcity; the effects of globalization on the elderly; the organic market as a model for agriculture development; the public distribu-



Credits 16

Duration Fall/Spring 15 weeks

Program Base Jaipur

Language Study Hindi

Homestay Jaipur, 6 weeks

Other Accommodations Hostels, educational institutions, or small hotels

Independent Study Project 4 weeks

Prerequisites None

tion system and the right to food movement; peacebuilding with Pakistan; the empowerment potential of traditional conservation knowledge; expressions of identity in the Chinese population in Kolkata; Leftist politics and the development of Kerala; The Hijars of Varanasi; business process outsourcing; Bhopal as a lens for globalization and the role of transnational corporate ethics; Khadi as a Gandhian Development.

Please note: This program will have credit distribution and/or other curriculum changes beginning in the fall 2012 semester.

Please visit www.sit.edu/IND for details.