



Duke Semester in India

Spring



About the Program The Duke Semester in India program is designed to provide students with an in-depth understanding of multiple complex issues facing India today, including poverty in the midst of rapid economic growth; how health systems cope with growing inequality and assume a dualistic pattern; health-seeking behaviors of diverse population groups and responses of the health care system; the vibrancy of traditions and interfaces with globalization; and how to conserve charismatic species in the face of rapid economic growth and development. This spring semester program is divided between two Indian cities, Udaipur in the west and Bangalore in the south. Two classes are taught in each location. As part of each class, students conduct field-based studies, living with families in Indian villages or in field stations within wildlife parks and tiger sanctuaries, and working with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) involved in a range of efforts.

Location Students spend the first half of the semester in the city of Udaipur (in the state of Rajasthan), known for its grand palaces and scenic lakes. It is a popular tourist destination; yet some of the poorest people in the world live in the surrounding countryside, to serve whom Udaipur has attracted a dense concentration of internationally recognized NGOs and government organizations.

Bangalore, the capital city in the southern state of Karnataka, is the setting for the second half of the program. Like many major cities in India, it represents the extremes wrought by fast-paced economic development and globalization. Although Bangalore is one of the top emerging urban centers in India and the country's hub for information technology, a significant portion of the population remains in slums. Students will spend three weeks in Bangalore examining issues of poverty, development and health. Students will also spend one week in Mysore and three weeks in the Western Ghats. Students will visit Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary, Kudremukha National Park, and BRT Wildlife Sanctuary examining conservation and health issues in rural India.

All locales offer students diverse opportunities for meaningful community engagement, service learning, and cross-cultural inquiry.

Academics Students take four courses: in Udaipur (1) Development and Poverty Reduction: Focus on India; (2) Of Highways and Rural Roads: Delivering Health Care to Poor People in India; and in Bangalore (3) Conservation and Development and (4) Public Health Systems. Guest lectures and field experiences are regularly incorporated. Students receive four Duke credits, which are equivalent to sixteen semester credits at most U.S. institutions.

Housing During their time in Udaipur and the surrounding villages, students live with carefully-selected Indian families. In Bangalore, they are housed in a hostel.

Activities Students participate in cultural activities, observe local traditions and celebrations, and enjoy a variety of excursions in and around the various program sites. An excursion to Jaipur and Agra is included. During the first weeks of the program, students take non-credit bearing Hindi language classes.

Finances Program costs include Duke tuition and a program fee. Duke students receiving financial aid are eligible for aid for this program. Non-Duke students should consult with their home institution regarding financial aid.

Program Staff The program is staffed by Duke faculty and local instructors. Additional support and supervision is provided by the Global Education Office for Undergraduates (GEO).

Program Dates Spring (early January/early May)

Application Process Students from all accredited colleges and universities are invited to apply. Applicants must be in good academic standing at the sophomore, junior, or senior level. Applications are considered on a rolling basis with a final deadline of October 1. An on-line application is available through the "MyGlobalEd" link located on the GEO website.

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