



# 2011 JANUARY TERM ABROAD

## The Religions and Peoples of India

December 29, 2010 – January 25, 2011

### Itinerary

Twin Cities/Chicago Departure	12/29	Chennai/Mamallapuram	01/10
Chennai Arrival	12/31	Mamallapuram/Chennai	01/12
Chennai/Madurai	01/06	Chennai/Aurangabad	01/17
Madurai Departure	01/08	Aurangabad/Delhi	01/19
Chennai Arrival	01/09	Delhi (Agra)	01/23
		Delhi/Chicago/Twin Cities	01/25

T3716

Price: \$5,795 - 6,095\*

"The Religions and Peoples of India" is an interdisciplinary study of the amazingly pluralistic culture and religions of India. Students will arrive in Chennai on the southeastern coast of India where Madras Christian College will host the class for the first portion of the course. From Chennai, students will visit the Meenashi Amman Temple in Madurai and Gandhigram University. Other day trips will include ancient "living" temples, ancient religious ruins, historical and recreational sites such as the Mamallapuram Dance Festival, a beach resort on the Indian Ocean, a sculptors' colony, mosques, and Protestant and Roman Catholic churches. The course will address India's caste system, religions, political economy, poverty, population, women's issues, rural life, and the fine arts. Students will have the opportunity to practice yoga with a guru, play cricket, attend a Bollywood blockbuster with India's famously rowdy audience, and learn to cook some of the quintessential Indian dishes. The class will then fly to New Delhi to study the history of India from its ancient roots to its contemporary moment. This will include a day trip to the Taj Mahal (the most exquisite monument ever built to a lost love), the National Museum of India, the oldest mosque in India as well as the largest mosque in India, a Gurdwara, the Bahai Temple of India, and the Gandhi Museum built at the site of the Mahatma's tragic assassination. From Aurangabad, students will travel back to the 5th century Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain cave temples of Ellora and Ajanta. This course is truly a once in a lifetime opportunity. Student accommodations will be safe but often simple, and we cannot always guarantee access to hot showers, western style toilets, or toilet paper.

**Comprehensive Fee Includes:** Transportation and course arrangements as indicated, basic university guesthouse accommodations while in Chennai, hotel accommodations in twin and triple rooms, continental breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. (subject to change)

**Prerequisites:** The course does not have any academic prerequisites.

**Required Readings:** Wolpert, Stanley. *India*. 4th Edition. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2009.

<b>Evaluation:</b>	
Attendance	20%
Participation	20%
Readings	20%
Journal	20%
Comprehensive Response Paper	20%

\*Each home institution may have supplementary fees in addition to the price listed.

\*The Faculty Directors cannot guarantee that special dietary needs can always be accommodated. Students with such needs are encouraged to contact the Faculty Directors with any questions prior to registering for the course.\*

**Entry Requirements:** A visa is required for travel to India. One copy of a drivers license or state ID and two passport quality photos will be required to obtain your visa.

Mladen Turk, Ph.D., Elmhurst College  
Lynn Hill, M.F.A., Elmhurst College

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Dr. Turk teaches in the Department of Religious Studies at Elmhurst College. His area of specialization is the history and methodology of the scientific study of religion, but he has also taught broadly in world religions and American religious history. He has spent years studying Sanskrit, translating ancient Indian epics, and learning about the culture of India. Dr. Turk has taught this course twice before.

Prof. Hill is associate professor of art at Elmhurst College. In the past three years, she has traveled to India five times, most recently as co-leader of the Indian Art and Music course in January 2010. While in India Prof. Hill produced several photo-essays related to social justice issues, as well as originating the Visual Voices Project by teaching photography to children in Bhopal.



# UPPER MIDWEST ASSOCIATION FOR INTERCULTURAL EDUCATION

www.umaie.org

## RULES AND PROCEDURES

### NEW ORIENTATION PROCESS. SEE COURSE ORIENTATION SECTION BELOW.

Since 1964, UMAIE has offered unique opportunities for cross-cultural study during January Term and starting in 2005, May/June Term. UMAIE, a consortium of colleges and universities, cooperates to provide the educational depth and resources necessary for an intercultural curriculum.

This year UMAIE offers courses in many locations around the world including: The Americas (North), Europe (Western, Central, Eastern, Northern and Southern), India, South Africa and Turkey.

**APPLICATION AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS** — Applications and required documents are available via the UMAIE website ([www.umaie.org](http://www.umaie.org)). Applications are accepted between **April 16 - October 4, 2010**. When applying for a course, please submit the following to your campus UMAIE Board Member:

- Three copies of your completed application.
- One copy of your valid passport photo & signature page OR if you do not have a passport, a copy of your passport application. (Actual submittal of your passport application to a passport agency is not required until acceptance into a course. Please visit <http://travel.state.gov/passport/>.)
- One copy of your January Term Abroad Agreement.
- One copy of your unofficial transcript.
- One deposit check in the amount of **\$400** made payable to **Seminars International, Inc.** (All checks will be cashed upon receipt. Returned checks will be assessed a service charge of **\$50**.)

\*UST students please see your study abroad website ([www.stthomas.edu/studyabroad](http://www.stthomas.edu/studyabroad)) for application procedures.

No application will be considered without **ALL** the required signed documents, copies and deposit as listed above. If you have any questions please contact your campus UMAIE Board Member.

**SELECTION PROCESS FOR APPLICANTS** — Faculty Directors will review and screen each application to ensure all prerequisites are met, and that equal access is given to students from all consortium schools. **For applications received by April 16th, the UMAIE Secretariat will notify each participant via e-mail by May 7, 2010**, to inform if applicant is: 1) accepted into the course; 2) on a waiting list; 3) not accepted into the course. Please be aware that if you are placed on a waiting list, your deposit check will still be cashed upon receipt. In the event a course is filled or cancelled due to low enrollment, students are contacted regarding a second choice. Students who choose not to transfer to another course will receive a full refund. **LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**

**PASSPORTS, VISAS AND IMMUNIZATIONS** — All applicants must send a copy of a valid and signed passport to their campus UMAIE Board Member upon acceptance into a UMAIE course (if one was not turned in with application). **Passports must be valid at least six (6) months beyond your return date.**

If your course requires a visa it will be stated in the course description. A country specific visa application will be sent to you 1-2 months prior to departure.

Information regarding recommended and/or needed immunizations can be found at the CDC website: [www.cdc.gov/travel/](http://www.cdc.gov/travel/). If you are traveling to a destination that requires an immunization, the UMAIE Secretariat will inform you in a timely manner. Additional information regarding passports, visas and immunizations is available from your campus UMAIE Board Member.

**COMPREHENSIVE FEE** — Per person course prices are based on a minimum enrollment for each course. Every effort is made to operate the program at the stated price range. However, if fewer students enroll, costs may be increased or the course cancelled. **NOTE:** UMAIE reserves the right to adjust prices due to dollar devaluation, fuel surcharges and general inflation.

The comprehensive fee includes round-trip air transportation from Minneapolis-St. Paul to the course location; airport transfers; visas (where required for U.S. citizens who meet the visa application deadline and have the correct accompanying documentation); transportation to most course activities while abroad; lodging, primarily in twin or triple rooms in hotels, pensions, university dormitories, or family homes (where indicated); continental

breakfast daily (exceptions noted on individual course descriptions) and other meals as indicated; tickets for required cultural performances; planned excursions; and administrative costs (however, individual institutions may assess additional charges). **When rail passes or entrance fees are included, they are based on the utilization of youth rates (25 years or under), and a valid University ID will be required to be presented at the entrance. Any additional amount incurred will be the participant's responsibility.**

**EXCLUSIONS** — Personal expenses are the responsibility of each individual participant. Examples include but are not limited to: passport fees; airline checked baggage fees; excess baggage fees; local public transportation; departure taxes (except U.S.); optional entertainment and excursions; beverages, including those available at group meals; individual room service charges; travel insurance; porter's fees; laundry and dry cleaning; telephone and fax; personal gratuities; transportation to and from the course departure city.

**FINAL PAYMENT** — Accepted applicants are notified of the final price during the last week of October. Students at Gustavus Adolphus College will bring their final payment to their International Education Office on or before Monday, November 1. Students from Elmhurst College will bring their final payment to their Student Accounts Office before Monday, November 1. Students from all other institutions will have their fees billed to their student account.

#### WITHDRAWALS AND REFUNDS

- No cancellation fee for students withdrawing on or before **September 15, 2010**.
- A **\$400** cancellation fee is withheld for students who withdraw between **September 16 and November 1, 2010**.
- A refund for cancellations occurring after **November 1, 2010** is based upon recoverable costs. The **ENTIRE COURSE COST** may be forfeited.
- **If cancellation occurs 30 days or less prior to departure, there will be no refund. Trip cancellation insurance is recommended for students with pre-existing medical conditions.** This insurance must be purchased at the time of registration. Please discuss this with your UMAIE Campus Board Member.
- If a course price increases by more than 6% (due to general inflation or lower enrollment) a student may cancel without penalty.
- No refund is given to students who wish to omit portions of the course.
- **NOTICE OF CANCELLATION MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO YOUR CAMPUS UMAIE BOARD MEMBER.**

**TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS** — are secured by Seminars International, Inc., 33 West Monroe Street, Suite 1160, Chicago, IL 60603-5303, (800) 541-7506, [TRAVEL@semint.com](mailto:TRAVEL@semint.com). Applications are processed by the Minnesota office, 21530 Vernon Avenue, Prior Lake, MN 55372, (952) 440-1338, [kathy@semint.com](mailto:kathy@semint.com). Participants desiring additional information may contact Seminars International Inc., or visit their website - [www.semint.com](http://www.semint.com).

**COURSE ORIENTATION** — will include an on-line exam during the month of October; a webinar on-line meeting in November and an in-country orientation session upon arrival at your first destination. **PARTICIPATION IS MANDATORY.**

**DEVIATIONS** — Course prices are based on group air arrangements. The air carrier may assess a service fee for individual changes. Not all airlines allow deviations on group reservations. In addition to the airline service fee(s), an additional fee must be paid to Seminars International, Inc. as follows: before **October 4, 2010 the charge is \$75; from October 5, 2010 until November 1, 2010 the charge is \$125. After November 1, 2010, no deviations will be accepted.** Deviation requests must be made in writing to the Chicago Seminars International office via fax (312) 332-5509 or email [TRAVEL@semint.com](mailto:TRAVEL@semint.com). Once the deviation has been booked, any changes may incur additional costs. Students who deviate are responsible for providing their own transportation to or from the actual course location abroad.

**Faculty Directors are not expected to provide assistance. Students from Augustana College and Elmhurst College will receive further information on possible connecting flights upon acceptance.**

#### UMAIE MAY CANCEL COURSES DUE TO:

- Low enrollment
- Faculty withdrawal
- Travel warnings issued by the U.S. Department of State

#### CAMPUS UMAIE BOARD MEMBERS

Augustana College, Global Education Office, (605) 274-5050, [donn.grinager@augie.edu](mailto:donn.grinager@augie.edu) • Elmhurst College, Office of International Education, (630) 617-3341, [wally@elmhurst.edu](mailto:wally@elmhurst.edu) • Gustavus Adolphus College, Center for International and Cultural Education, (507) 933-7546, [ishaw@gac.edu](mailto:ishaw@gac.edu) • St. Catherine University, Global Studies Office, (651) 690-6031, [rdecampeau@stkate.edu](mailto:rdecampeau@stkate.edu) • University of St. Thomas, International Education Office, (651) 962-6450, [international@stthomas.edu](mailto:international@stthomas.edu)  
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