

SIS Intersession Abroad 2009/2010:

Human Security in South Asia

Delhi and Orissa, India
Dec 27—Jan 8

SIS Study Abroad: Discover More. Enrich your Experience.



SIS Intersession Abroad 2009:
India: Human Security in South Asia
Dec 27 - Jan 8

Program Guide

School of International Service
American University

Apply Now!

Applications due November 9.

See page 9 for more information.

Human Security in South Asia

Dec 27—Jan 8

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Introduction

India is a rising world and regional power. Its size, both geographically and demographically, and strategic location give it a prominent voice in international affairs, and its growing military prowess and scientific and technical capacity give it added weight. India is also setting an example for the developing world with its growing economy and strong democratic government.

With a population of over one billion, representing over one-sixth of the world's population, India is home to more than two thousand ethnic groups, numerous languages and dialects, and every major religion. With such diversity, tensions between different groups are not uncommon. Discrimination between its socio-economic classes is articulated through its strict – but now outlawed - caste system, and conflicts between religious groups often play out in political affiliations.

India's international relations are as complex as its internal struggles, and nowhere is this more aptly illustrated than in the array of security issues the country faces. Perhaps most well-known of these issues are India's active border disputes with both Pakistan and China. The government has also been outspoken in rejecting Pakistan's lenient policies on terrorist groups. In the run-up to the UN climate change conference to be held in December 2009, India has threatened to change its stance on the Kyoto Protocol, and as a country with nuclear capabilities, has refused to sign the Non-Proliferation Treaty. Despite these difficulties, India is actively seeking stronger political and commercial ties with the West, Japan, Iran and ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations), is an active member of SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation), and has a long tradition of participating in UN peacekeeping operations.

Policies and political actions such as these can hold tremendous influence over the lives of ordinary Indian citizens and translate into matters of human security in the region and all over the world.

Program Description

This program is designed to help students develop such an understanding of India and the role Indian foreign and domestic policies play in human security. Students gain a greater understanding of the factors that contribute to human security in both urban and rural contexts, insight into India's national security priorities, an appreciation for Indian political culture and institutions, and the ability to use this information to analyze and improve human security issues.

The Program consists of two components:

- (a) **Seminar and guest lectures** at a variety of institutions and contexts.
- (b) **Site visits and field trips** incorporated into the seminar schedule that offer opportunities for experiencing local politics, community life, and civil society.

Seminar, 3 credits, Dec 28—Jan 7

This course is designed to help students understand the dynamics of human security in the context of India and its relationship to the South Asian region. The course examines the issues of South Asian security, Indian foreign policy and defense, and the intersections between health, environment, and cultural identity and human security. Through the course, students develop a greater and more nuanced understanding of India's strategic priorities in government and civil society and the ways that these policies relate to both individuals and the region.

Site Visits and Field Trips, Dec 28—Jan 7

This intersession program will introduce students to three locations in India: New Delhi, Bhubaneswar, and Puri. Students will travel together between each city. In New Delhi, students could visit historical sites such as the Red Fort and Gandhi Memorial and attend a briefing at the Indian Parliament. In Bhubaneswar, students might visit local universities and see a cultural show. The group could also visit the Chilka Lake

ecological preserve and Sun Temple of Konark while in Puri. Each site visit is incorporated into the seminar schedule.

Program Schedule and Registration Options

Tentative schedule:

Dec 26/7:	Arrival in Delhi
Dec 27:	Welcome and orientation in Delhi
Dec 28-31:	Seminar and site visits in Delhi
Jan 1:	Travel to Bhubaneswar, Orissa
Jan 2-3:	Seminar and site visits in Bhubaneswar
Jan 4:	Travel to Puri, Orissa
Jan 4-6:	Seminar and site visits in Puri
Jan 7:	Return to Delhi/Flights back to the USA
Jan 8:	Flights to the USA

Students who participate in the program will be registered for 3 academic credits in SIS during the spring 2010 semester.

Program Director

Prof. Amitav Acharya Amitav Acharya is Professor of International Relations. He is also Chair of the University's ASEAN Studies Center. His previous appointments include Professor of Global Governance and Director of the Centre for Governance and International Affairs at the University of Bristol, Professor, Deputy Director and Head of Research of the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, Professor of Political Science at York University, Toronto, Fellow of the Harvard University Asia Center, and Fellow of Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. Professor Acharya's publications number over 20 books and 200 journal and magazine articles. His most recent book is *Whose Ideas Matter: Agency and Power in Asian Regionalism* (Cornell, 2009).

About India

Teeming masses, crippling poverty, exotic cultures, software programmers, Mahatma Gandhi, holy wars and nuclear weapons - these are some of the common impressions of India, one of the world's oldest civilizations. Although India has 18 official languages, English is widely spoken among the middle and upper classes and especially in Delhi. On the streets Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists, Jains, Zoroastrians, and people from multiple other religions mingle. And there is always a crowd. India is diverse, complex, often overwhelming, and almost always ready to welcome visitors that are open to learning more about its people, culture and history.

India has been ruled by warring princes, Muslim emperors, and British colonial administrators. It won independence from British rule in 1947 in a non-violent struggle led by Mahatma Gandhi. But, this was followed by a violent process that divided India along religious lines, with the Muslim majority provinces in the west and the east forming Pakistan, and later Bangladesh. The legacy of this partition, in which an estimated one million people died, persists today as a strained relationship between India and Pakistan. Besides four wars with Pakistan, India fought China in 1962 and today portions of India's northeast borders remain contested.

India has been ruled by the Congress Party since independence, except in recent years with the emergence of radical Hindu nationalism and regional and caste-based political parties. This has led to a series of unstable coalitions in power in Delhi. There is, however, a broad consensus on economic liberalization, a pro-U.S. foreign policy, and India's dominant role in the region.

About Delhi and Orissa

Delhi has been the capital of India for over four hundred years, having been the seat of power for the Muslim Mughal empire, the British, and now independent India. The city itself, however, is over 3,000 years old and it carries the traces of these cultures, civilizations, and empires in the form of architecture, food, language, and politics. It is into the old city of Delhi and planned business and residential areas of New Delhi. Although the city is very large, it is relatively easy to get around with a recently built subway, an often confusing bus system, and a plethora of taxis and rickshaws.

Orissa, today known also as Odisha, is a state of India located on the peninsula's east coast, by the Bay of Bengal. Odisha is the ninth largest state by area in India, and the eleventh largest by population. It is home to the Hirakud Dam, the largest dam in the world, as well as several important temples in Puri and Bhubaneswar. Odisha also boasts a vibrant cultural heritage with unique dances, handicrafts, and sand art. Compared to Delhi, Odisha might be considered a quiet, rural and virtually undisturbed area of India.

Program Fees

Students enrolled in the program pay regular AU tuition for three credits at the prevailing rate. For graduate students this is \$1,237 per credit hour (\$3,711 per course); for undergraduates, the course will be considered part of their 12-17 registration block in the spring semester.

Students also pay a program fee of approximately \$1,200 (TBD based on number of participants). This fee covers the orientation program, shared lodging in India for the duration of the program, program-related group site visits and field trips, most meals, mandatory international health insurance, a program kit, and program-related ground transportation.

Participants are responsible for their own travel to and from New Delhi, some meals, any and all visa and immigration documents, and all personal expenses. A suggested amount of \$750 is recommended for students' personal use.

Who Should Attend

This program invites applications from students in all majors and disciplines and from AU. Graduate students with interests in comparative political systems, development, foreign policy, security and/or human security, human rights, international communication, international politics, Asian area studies, and peace and conflict resolution are invited to apply.

Advanced undergraduates who have completed at least 90 credits toward the completion of their degrees or are enrolled in the Honors program with interests in any of the aforementioned fields are also encouraged to apply.

Program Orientation

Students are required to attend an orientation session at American University and are provided with background readings before leaving for India. The mandatory orientation focuses on academic expectations, cultural and logistical issues.

Visa Information

Students are solely responsible for obtaining any and all visas or other immigration documents to enter India. SIS supports students in this endeavor and assists with necessary letters or other documents as needed. For more information on entry requirements, the Indian Embassy recommends that students consult the following website: <http://indiavisa.travisaoutsourcing.com/>

As of October 29, 2009, citizens of the United States need to obtain a visa to enter India. A **tourist visa** should be obtained for participation in this program,

Medical Information

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that travelers consult a health care provider 4-6 weeks prior to traveling abroad. It also recommends that travelers make sure their routine vaccinations are up-to-date. For more information on vaccinations and travelers' health issues, consult the CDC website at:

<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/india.aspx>

Special note: The CDC recommends that travelers be vaccinated against Hepatitis A and B, rabies, typhoid, Japanese encephalitis, and polio before traveling to India. It also recommends that travelers consider taking anti-Malarial medication and being prepared with insect repellent. Consult the CDC website for more information.

Nuts and Bolts of Enrollment

Applications

Students must complete and return all parts of the application, which can be found in the final pages of this program brochure. **No incomplete applications will be accepted.** Completed applications should be delivered to the SIS Office of International Program Development (address on page 10) by **November 9, 2009** for priority consideration.

Components of the application are as follows:

- Participant Application and Information Form
- Personal Statement
- Transcript
- Résumé/C.V.
- Academic Advisor Approval Form

Admission and Acceptance

Applications must be received by **November 9, 2009** for priority consideration. As part of the review process, the Program Director may invite students to meet with them to discuss the submitted application.

Once admitted to the Program, students receive notification via e-mail. At that time, students are required to submit a **non-refundable deposit of \$250**, through a check made out to American University, to secure their place in the Program.

Registration

Once the non-refundable deposit of \$250 is received, students will be registered for the appropriate **spring course** by the SIS Office of International Program Development. Once registered, students will be billed through the AU Office of Student Accounts for the course tuition and program fee.

Financial Aid

Students are able to use AU financial aid, including loans, to cover tuition for the spring course. Registration in this course will count toward a student's spring status.

Payments

Students are required to pay the program fee in full a minimum of seven days before the start of the program. Students will be dropped from the course by the Office of the Registrar if payment is not received by that time. If this happens, a reinstatement fee of \$100 will be added to the outstanding balance, all of which must be paid in advance for re-registration.

Withdrawal Policy

Once students have accepted their place in the course and paid the deposit, they are committing to participate in the course. **Students may NOT drop the program courses on-line or through their academic advisor.** Students seeking permission to withdraw must contact the SIS Director of International Program Development in writing (rbellinger@american.edu).

Students who are granted special permission to withdraw from the program will be responsible for any expenses incurred on their behalf prior to the date of withdrawal from the program; these expenses are non-refundable. Tuition refunds in this program do not follow the standard refund policy as outlined in the American University Schedule of Classes. No refunds are guaranteed after the program start date and depend upon the terms of any/all contracts between American University and affiliates of this Program.

Additional Information

Visiting Students

Non degree-seeking student or degree-seeking students from other educational institutions are not eligible to apply to the program.

International Students

Students who are not citizens or permanent residents of the United States may be required to obtain immigration documents from the university to enter or re-enter the United States as a function of their participation in the program. For information regarding visa status, benefits and limitations, international students should consult with the office of AU International Student and Scholar Services, or the appropriate office on their home campus. More information for AU international students is also available online at www.american.edu/other.depts/iss.

Alumni Audit

The alumni audit option is not available for study abroad programs.

Deadlines

Due to the logistics involved in planning this program, the application process begins immediately. Applications received after the program is full will be put on a waitlist. Applications should be received by **November 9, 2009** for priority consideration.

Return completed applications to:

SIS Study Abroad Programs
(Mailbox in SIS 103, Main Office)
American University
4400 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20016
Fax: 202-885-2494

Questions? Please contact the SIS Office of International Program Development at sissum@american.edu.

SIS Study Abroad: Discover More. Enrich your Experience.



Application Instructions and Checklist

Instructions:

1. Download and read thoroughly the Program Guide, available from the SIS Study Abroad website, <http://www.american.edu/sis/sisabroad>.
2. Complete the Participant Application and Information Form.
3. Compose your personal essay and print out a copy. (Please see below for details.)

Instructions for Personal Essay:

Provide a concise overview (300 words) of your interests as related to your participation in the program. Include any relevant information from your background and explain how you think the program will complement your academic/professional pursuits. Also address in one separate paragraph what role would you like to see India play in the emerging global order.

4. Print out an unofficial transcript, or request an official one from the Registrar.
5. Print out a copy of your C.V./ résumé.
6. Meet with your academic advisor to gain approval for your participation in the program; complete the Academic Advisor Approval Form.
7. Return all application materials by November 9, 2009 to:

SIS Study Abroad Programs
(Mailbox in SIS 103, Main Office)
American University
4400 Massachusetts Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20016
Fax: 202.885.2494

Please note that incomplete applications will NOT be accepted.

Checklist:

- Participant Application and Information Form
- Personal Essay
- Transcript
- Résumé/C.V.
- Academic Advisor Approval Form



Participant Application and Information Form

Student Information

Last name: _____ First name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ AU ID # _____

Home address: _____
Street, City, State, Zip

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Gender: Female Male Date of Birth: _____

Passport Information

Passport number: _____ Passport expiration date: _____

Country of Citizenship: _____ Place of birth: _____

If non-US citizen, visa type: _____

Academic Information

Status: Grad Undergrad School: _____ Major/Field: _____

Current cumulative GPA: _____ Expected graduation date: _____

Note: Students who are on academic probation are not eligible to apply.

List any coursework you have taken which may be relevant to the program:

Have you been subject to judicial sanction at American University?

Yes No

Note: If yes, please provide in a sealed envelope a statement which explains the circumstances and outcome. All disclosures will be kept confidential.

Health Information

Do you have any medical conditions or physical limitations that SIS should be aware of?

Yes No

If yes, please provide a statement which explains your condition in a sealed envelope. All disclosures will be kept confidential.

Participant Application and Information Form (continued)

Faculty Recommender

Please provide the name and contact information for a faculty member at AU who could provide a reference for your participation in this program.

Name of recommender: _____

AU School: _____ AU Phone: _____

Affidavit

By submitting my application and the supporting documentation, I certify and agree to the following:

- 1) I certify that the information I provide throughout this admission process is accurate and complete;
- 2) I confirm that I have read and understand the information in the Program Guide;
- 3) I confirm that I am in good academic standing at AU;
- 4) I confirm that I have no pending disciplinary case or discipline record which I have not disclosed in the application. I understand that the existence of a pending discipline case or a disciplinary record may prohibit me from participating in this program. I authorize SIS to consult with the Student Conduct Office as necessary;
- 5) I will notify SIS of any changes to my information, including my status related to discipline and academic standing at my home institution;
- 6) I grant the University permission to use any photographs, audio, and/or videotapes of me and quotes taken from me in connection with this program for any educational, marketing, and other purposes related to the business of American University;
- 7) I understand that, if accepted, it will be my responsibility to obtain all visas and/or immunizations necessary for admission into the country of the Program;
- 8) I will, if accepted, attend all trip and spring class sessions, and pre-departure orientation meetings associated with the program;
- 9) I understand that, if admitted, I will be required to submit a non-refundable deposit of \$250 and that I will be billed through Student Accounts for tuition and fees for the spring class. I also understand that if I accept an offer of admission and then need to withdraw from the program for any reason that I cannot do so on-line or through my advisor but must and will contact the SIS Director of International Programs in writing before doing so.

Signature of applicant

Date



Academic Advisor Approval Form

Student Information

Grad Undergrad

Last name: _____ First name: _____

AU ID # _____ School: _____ Major: _____

Program Information

Semester: Spring 2010

Title: India: Human Security in South Asia

Course and Credits: SIS 596 India: Human Security in South Asia (spring class) 3 credits
Please check.

Advisor Approval

Is the student, representing him/herself, SIS, and the University, ready and able to participate in a study abroad program?

Yes No

If no, please provide a separate statement which explains your answer.

In the box below, please specify how the course(s) will be used toward the completion of the student's academic program:

The above-mentioned student has met with me and IS IS NOT cleared to participate in in the aforementioned SIS Interession Abroad Program for the semester specified.

If the student does not enroll as indicated above, an updated clearance will be required.

Student signature Date

Advisor Signature Date