

## 2008 SUMMER STUDY IN INDIA PROGRAM

### Tentative Flexible Schedule

Courses: PHIL V194 Global Ethics – Dr. John Clark  
RELS O177 Tibetan and Indian Religions – Dr. Catherine Wessinger

\* Group meditation practice and some films are optional.

- R July 10 Flight departs New Orleans.
- F July 11 Arrive **Delhi** PM: Tara Hotel, phone 238 1077
- Sa July 12 **Delhi**  
7AM Tour of Sikh Gurudwara and surrounding neighborhoods.  
11AM Introduction to Delhi street life. Lecture providing a general overview of the diverse populations living and working together in the surrounding neighborhood. A focus will be placed on the importance and evidence of religious ceremony and ritual as part of daily life, safety issues when engaging with the local population, and a brief introduction to cultural practices and taboos.  
2PM Tour of Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity home for the destitute.  
4PM Class  
5:30PM Class  
7PM Break into small groups for a walking tour of surrounding neighborhoods and dinner.
- Su July 13 **Delhi**  
9AM - noon Volunteer service at Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity.  
2PM Depart for Gandhi Museum and Memorial.  
6PM Group Meeting – First days in India plus preparation for tomorrow's journey.  
7PM Guest Speaker.
- M July 14 **Delhi**  
9AM – 11AM Volunteer service at Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity.  
11AM – 1PM Lunch, pack.  
1PM Class  
2:30PM Class  
6PM Depart for train station and night train to Pathancot.
- T July 15 **Dharamsala**: Kelsang Hotel; phone 01892-221709  
7AM Jeeps from Pathancot to Dharamsala, group breakfast on the way.  
Noon Break into small groups for village tour and lunch.  
3PM Class  
4:30PM Class  
6PM Dharamsala Orientation meeting  
7PM group dinner
- W July 16 **Dharamsala**  
9AM - noon Meet with Tibetan mutual learning partner and tour the main Temple of His Holiness the Dalai Lama.  
3PM Class  
5PM Lecture and Q&A with Ama Adhe, survivor of 27 years in Chinese Communist work camps.  
7PM Group Meditation Practice  
8PM Film

- R July 17      **Dharamsala:**  
 9AM - noon Meet with Tibetan mutual learning partner.  
 3PM Class  
 4:30PM Class  
 7PM Group meditation practice  
 8PM Film
- F July 18      **Dharamsala**  
 9AM - noon Meet with mutual learning partner.  
 3PM Class  
 4:30PM Class  
 7PM Group Meditation Practice  
 8PM Film
- Sa July 19      **Dharamsala**  
 9AM - noon With Tibetan mutual learning partner Partner tour Norbulingka Institute for preservation of Tibetan culture and the Tibetan Disabled Children's home.  
 4PM Class  
 5:30PM Class  
 7PM Dinner Party with mutual learning partners.
- Su July 20      **Dharamsala**  
 9AM - 2PM With mutual learning partner tour Tibetan Children's Village and have a private lunch in your Tibetan friend's home if possible.  
 4PM Class  
 5:30PM Class  
 7PM Preparation meeting for the jeep journey to Bir.
- M July 21      **Dharamsala**  
 9:30AM: Jeeps depart for **Bir** (about 3 hr. ride).  
 (Take small bag. Leave big bags.)  
 En route visit Jamyang Choling Institute of Buddhist Dialectics for women.  
 <<http://www.jamchoebuddhistdialectics.org/>>  
 1PM Break into small groups for lunch and village tour.  
 5PM Orientation then Tour of Nyingmapa monastery; Experience the daily life and routines of Tibetan Buddhist monks.
- T July 22      **Bir:** Choling Guest House, phone 9418913976  
 9AM One-hour hike through the surrounding small Indian farming villages to the area's Kagyu monastery. Then visit a home for the sick and needy.  
 5PM Class  
 6:30PM Class
- W July 23      **Bir**  
 Free morning for personal reflection and exploration.  
 10AM Group meeting on preparation for trip, info about Mandi markets and Tso Pema  
 1PM Jeeps leave for **Tso Pema** [Lotus Lake, also called Rewalsar] (about 4-hour ride).  
 En route stop at the market town of Mandi and visit local tailors to have clothes made (Indian or Western style); explain to tailors that clothes must be complete by Saturday.  
 Tso Pema is a lake sacred to Buddhists due to an origin myth about the Tantric practitioner Padmasambhava, who subsequently brought Vajrayana Buddhism to Tibet,

and his Indian partner in Tantric practice, Mandarava. The lake is also sacred to Hindus and Sikhs.

7PM Break into small groups for village tour and dinner. Visit Shiva Temple, Guru Govind Singh's gurudwara, and Lomesh Rishi temple.

- R July 24      **Tso Pema:** Hotel Lotus Lake, phone 01905-280 239  
9AM Hike up the mountain for a tour of the Nuns' monastery and caves of long-term retreatants. Meditation instruction and practice inside an ancient meditation cave.  
5PM Class  
6:30PM Class
- F July 25      **Tso Pema**  
7AM Walking meditation around the lake.  
9AM Hear dharma talk by a Tibetan Rinpoche or Elder Tibetan Nun.  
11AM Visit Tibetan Nursery school supported by LHA.  
4PM Class  
5:30PM Class  
8PM Film
- Sa July 26      **Tso Pema**  
7AM Walking meditation around the lake.  
9AM Class  
10:30AM Class  
1PM Jeeps to **Mandi** depart (1 hour ride).  
3PM Break into small groups for a tour of the town and check in with tailors to pick up clothes and/have alterations done, if needed, and clothes delivered to hotel.  
7:30PM Group dinner - casual dress.
- Su July 27      **Mandi:** Raj Palace Hotel, phone 01905-222401  
7:30AM Meet in garden for walking tour of temples and rituals.  
Tour of Hindu temples, Mandarava's dungeon, Royal Garden where Padmasambhava taught. Padmasambhava was the Tantric Buddhist practitioner credited with bringing Vajrayana Buddhism from India to Tibet in the eighth century. Mandarava was the daughter of the king of Mandi who became Padmasambhava's consort and co-practitioner in Tantric yoga.  
11AM Group meeting: The India Experience thus far.  
3PM Class  
4:30PM Class  
7:30PM Group Dinner – semi dress up. Wear the clothes you had made!
- M July 28      **Mandi**  
Free morning for reflection and relaxation  
1PM Jeeps leave for **Dharamsala** (about 6 hrs. ride). Stop at monastic university along the way.
- T July 29      **Dharamsala:** Kelsang Hotel, phone 01892-221709  
9AM Class  
10:30AM Class  
11:30AM Group meeting: Preparation for Himalayan trek.  
1PM – until. Prepare for trek and/or shopping time with local vendors.
- W July 30      **Dharamsala**  
7AM Depart for hike up **Triund** mountain, part of the Dhauladhar range of the

Himalayas. This is a popular 9 kilometer (5.5 miles) hike from Dharamsala to a ridge at 2,827 meters (9,275 feet). Enjoy the marvelous view of the valley and higher mountains. Accommodation is in a very rustic mountain lodge, no electricity and no running water. 5PM Sunset hike and search for Hobbits and other mystical creatures. 7PM Group meal.

**For those not going on hike :**

9AM – noon Meet with mutual learning partner.

3PM Visit Kangra Art Museum.

R July31

**Triund**

Day on Triund

AM Rest or further hiking and exploration.

3PM Group Discussion

5PM Sunset Hike

7PM Group Dinner

**Optional for those not doing hike:**

9AM - noon Meet with mutual learning partner.

3PM - TBA

F Aug 1

**Triund**

11AM Depart for hike down from Triund and return to **Dharamsala**.

**Optional for those not on hike:**

9AM – noon Meet with mutual learning partner.

3PM Tour Tibetan Government Center.

Sa Aug. 2

**Dharamsala**

9AM - Noon Final meeting with mutual learning partner.

3PM Class

4:30PM Class

5:30 Group Meeting: Preparation for departure.

Su Aug 3

**Dharamsala**

Free morning: resting, shopping, goodbyes, etc.

1PM Jeeps depart for Parthancot, group dinner en route; take night train to Delhi.

M Aug. 4

**Delhi:** Hotel Relax, phone 235 62811

1 hour after hotel check in - Orientation then break into small groups for area exploration and eating.

3PM Tour of Jain Temple and other points of interest.

7PM Group meeting: Preparation for journey to Agra.

8PM Group Dinner

T Aug. 5

**Delhi**

4AM Jeeps depart for Agra: **Taj Mahal** and other points of interest (the journey is about 4 hours each way); return early evening.

W Aug 6

**Delhi**

Free day to shop and/or do tours of personal interest.

Consolidate bags into a couple of rooms before noon.

Plane departs in the evening.

Arrive back in New Orleans.