Course Name: **Riding the Elephant: An Introduction to the History and Culture of India**

Course Number: **IDS 397**

Credit Hours: **3 undergraduate**

Course Overview & Objectives:
Since liberalizing its economy, India has grown at a fast pace. Today, modern India stands in stark contrast with the old India. Thus, the objective of this course is to introduce the student to modern India with all its contradictions. It will explore India's history and culture. The course will also introduce the student to the promises and challenges that India faces as it continues to modernize and grow. The course has a significant travel component.

The group will visit the country’s capital, New Delhi; the commercial metropolis of Kolkata, the industrial township of Durgapur, and the university town of Santiniketan. In each city, students will have the opportunity to meet with local community leaders, business people, educators, and students, and to attend lectures by local experts. We'll also tour a number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites like the Taj Mahal, museums, palaces, monuments, temples, mosques, and other architectural and archaeological sites.

Program Fee:**$3,720**

Program Fee Includes: Round-trip airfare, land transportation in India, and one meal per day. Study Away student fee and basic medical insurance; separated costs not available.

Program Fee Excludes:
- Passport and visa fee; taxis for individual excursions; some food and beverages; souvenirs; misc. personal expenses
- $601.44 MSU tuition for 1 hour of undergraduate credit. Both Missouri residents and non-residents pay the Mo. resident per-credit-hour tuition rate, per University policy.

Applications are due by March 22, 2013. A nonrefundable deposit of $550 will be billed to your student account. Please see Application & Payment Procedures for MSU and Visiting Students on reverse.

**Scholarship Eligibility & Financial Aid**
Study Away scholarship funds in variable amounts up to $2,000 are available to students studying abroad during winter intersession 2013, spring 2013, and summer 2013 terms. The scholarship is need-based for full-time, degree-seeking students with a minimum 3.0 GPA applying for an approved Study Away program. This may be a semester, summer, or short-term faculty led program offered during the terms listed above. Students must complete the application by February 19, 2013 to apply funds to this program.

Contact the Program Director, Dr. Saibal Mitra, Professor, Department of Physics, Astronomy & Materials Science: (417) 836-8989

SaibalMitra@MissouriState.edu
Course Schedule & Itinerary

COURSE OUTLINE
The class will meet for lectures and group discussion during the Spring 2013 semester. Dates and times of these meetings will be announced later. Additional lectures will be arranged in India and will be given by local experts.

Lecture 1: Discussion of Course Policy – what to expect.
Lecture 2: Introduction to India – its history, culture and politics.
Lecture 3: Introduction of India (continued).
Lecture 4: India’s economy.
Lecture 5: Random Walk in India: A slide show presentation
Group Discussion: This discussion will be held over lunch at a local Indian restaurant. Students pay for their lunch.
Lecture 6: Travel Orientation
Lecture 7: Final orientation meeting before travel.

All of the above lectures will be presented in Springfield.

STUDY TOUR
Lectures and discussion of India’s history and culture given by local experts.

June 15-16, 2013 Depart for New Delhi, India.
June 17, 2013 Arrive in New Delhi.
June 18, 2013 Explore New Delhi.
June 19, 2013 Visit India Gate and Rajghat and meet with local business and/or political leaders.
June 20, 2013 Visit Bahai Temple, Qutub Minar, then travel to Old Delhi to see Jama Masjid and Red Fort.
June 21, 2013 Visit Fatehpur Sikri and Agra.
June 22, 2013 Fly to Kolkata.
June 24, 2013 Visit a school and/or college in India. Meet students and faculty.
June 25, 2013 Visit Jorasanko (Rabindra Nath Tagore’s house) and Marble Palace. Meet with local journalists and/or businessmen/entrepreneurs.
June 28, 2013 Visit tribal school and then spend the day in Santiniketan (a leading university and center of Bengali culture).
June 29, 2013 Return to Kolkata and explore the city, group discussion.
June 30, 2013 Return to the US.

POST-TRAVEL CLASS MEETING
Focus group regarding program evaluation and recommendations, Reflection on the Indian experience.

Course Credit & Requirements
Students who successfully complete this program will receive 3 hours of undergraduate credit. A letter grade will be assigned, based on the following projects:
• Paper - Before leaving for India, each student will write a brief paper on a topic to be determined in consultation with the Program Director. Topics may include India’s economy, languages, population growth, history, culture, government and politics, wildlife, etc.
• Reflection Journal & Final Paper or Presentation - Students will maintain a daily journal. At the end of the course, there will be a group discussion that will result in a brief paper or Powerpoint presentation in which students will reflect on their experience in India and the personal impact of that experience.

Required Texts: None. The Program Director will provide handouts of selected materials.

Application & Payment Procedures
Missouri State University students and others who are approved by a Program Director may apply. Instructions are included on the program application.

MSU Students: A non-refundable deposit of $550 will be billed to your University account upon application (deadline March 22, 2013). You will receive a second billing on April 19, 2013 and a final billing on May 17, 2013, for the balance of the program fee ($3,170). MSU course tuition ($601.44) will be billed to your University account and is due according to the university payment plan.

Visiting Students: A non-refundable deposit of $550 (check or money order) must accompany your application (deadline March 22, 2013). A check or money order for the balance of the program fee ($3,170) will be due by May 17, 2013. MSU course tuition ($601.44) will be billed to your University account and is due according to your payment plan.

IN ORDER TO ENSURE PARTICIPATION IN THIS STUDY AWAY PROGRAM, THE ENTIRE AMOUNT OF THE PROGRAM FEE MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 7, 2013. PAYMENT CAN BE MADE ONLINE OR AT THE BURSAR’S OFFICE. Estimated program fees are based on rates in effect on the publication date of this flyer and may be subject to change. Program participants agree to a potential increase of up to 10% if rates increase before or during travel.

Cancellation & Refund Policies
• Students who withdraw prior to May 3, 2013 will receive a refund of fees paid, less the $550 deposit and any non-refundable purchases made on his/her behalf.
• If a student is forced to withdraw after May 3, 2013 or a bona fide medical reason, s/he will receive a refund of fees paid, less the $550 deposit and expenses. A certificate of incapacitating illness or injury from a licensed physician is required.
• Students withdrawing voluntarily after May 3, 2013, or withdrawing due to medical reasons not protected under the fees refund policy, receive no refund.
• Once the program has started, no refunds will be issued under any circumstances.
• All notifications of withdrawal must be made in writing and sent to the Program Director and Director of Study Away Programs at the Study Away Office, Jim D. Morris Center, Suite 403. Non-payment of fees does not guarantee automatic withdrawal.
• The program will be cancelled if enrollment is fewer than 12 participants. In this event, students will receive a full refund.