

Sri Lanka



Short-term Faculty-led Study Away Program • Summer 2013 • July 9-24, 2013

Course Name: **Intersection of Sri Lankan Culture, Agriculture and Wildlife (Human/Elephant Conflict)**

Course Number: **AGS 399** OR **IDS 397**
OR **AGS 712**

Credit Hours: **3** undergraduate/graduate

Course Overview & Objectives:

Informed choices require knowledge of what people have done and imagined, currently as well as historically. Choices are also tempered by knowledge of the social and cultural settings in which they are made or were made in the past. This learning includes the following:

- to identify historical, social, and cultural events that shaped Sri Lankan national identity and culture, as well as distinctive regional or minority identities and cultures
- to recognize important Sri Lankan cultural figures, and their more representative works, who have influenced Sri Lanka cultural products such as art, letters, and folklore
- to improve critical thinking, research, organizational, and presentation skills
- to explore aspects of historical and modern-day Sri Lanka and Agriculture and Wildlife's influence on culture and the world
- to obtain an understanding of the current events and key issues and concerns facing Sri Lankan society

Program Fee: \$3,760

Program Fee Includes: Round-trip airfare, lodging, all breakfasts, all lunches, four dinners, Study Away student fee, basic medical insurance; separated costs not available.

Program Fee Excludes: Passport, ground transportation in Springfield, a few dinners, incidentals/misc personal expenses, and souvenirs. \$601.44/726.00 MSU tuition for 3 hours of undergraduate/graduate 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 \$564 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.

Informational Meeting:

TBA

Application Due:

March 22, 2013

Pre-Travel Orientation:

July 8, 2013

Depart Springfield for Sri Lanka:

July 9, 2013

Depart Sri Lanka for Springfield:

July 24, 2013

Post-Travel Meeting:

July 26, 2013

Interested in going?

Contact the Program Director,
Dennis Schmitt, Department of
Agriculture; 417-836-5091 or
DennisSchmitt@MissouriState.edu

Study Away!

Missouri State

U N I V E R S I T Y

An EO/AA Institution

Missouri State University Study Away Programs

Jim D. Morris Center, Suite 403

301 S. Jefferson Ave., Springfield, MO 65806

P: 417-836-6368 • E: StudyAway@MissouriState.edu

W: <http://international.missouristate.edu/studyaway/>

Course Schedule & Itinerary

The travel outlined below is essential to understand the history of the development of the culture of a unique people, culture, and the resultant conflict between wildlife and agriculture in a country which is coming out of a twenty year civil war.

PRE-TRAVEL

July 8, 2013: Pre-trip Orientation (Dr. Dennis Schmitt) 2 hours; Geography of Sri Lanka, Agricultural zones, Wildlife in Sri Lanka, Elephants as a cultural icon in Sri Lanka

STUDY TOUR

July 9, 2013: Travel to Sri Lanka, Arrive in Colombo, early morning. Travel to Kandy.

July 12-14, 2013: Kandy - Visit Temple of the Tooth, Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage, Peradeniya University, Dept. of Zoology; Lecture by Dr. Rajah (Senior Veterinarian, National Zoo at PEO); Lecture by Dr. Charles Santiapillai (Emeritus Professor) on Wildlife in Sri Lanka

July 15-18, 2013: Mihintale - Travel to Minneriya, Rajarata University, Historic Cultural Sites in the Cultural Triangle, Ringling Bros. Center for Asian Elephant Research, Minneriya National Park, local villages affected by HEC, Department of Wildlife Training Center; Lectures by various personnel including Dr. Santiapillai, Dr. Mohan, Rajarata university professors and Wildlife Officers.

July 19-21, 2013: Uda Walawa National Park and Elephant Transit Home. Lecture by Dr. Santiapillai and Dr. Vijitha Peera on raising elephant orphans and releasing them back to the wild, Human Elephant Conflict and unique strategies to reduce HEC in ETH elephants.

July 22, 2013: Return to Colombo for trip home.

July 24, 2013: Return to Missouri State University in Springfield.

POST-TRAVEL

July 26, 2013: Missouri State University – Post-trip debriefing, (Dr. Dennis Schmitt) 2 hours; Submission of Journals kept on trip by all students due July 28, 2013 (Graded); Graduate level students will have White Paper due by August 9, 2013 (Graded); Exit Interview (Not Graded)

Course Credit & Requirements

Students will be graded based upon the content and organization of daily journals. AGS 712 students will also be required to complete a reflection paper discussing their experience and summarizing findings and observations from their journal with references on "the effects of HEC on agriculture and elephants in Sri Lanka."

- **Paper:** Position paper with references for AGS 712 students which will be at least 15 pages discussing the current status of HEC in Sri Lanka and potential solutions. Paper due August 9, 2013.
- **Reflection:** A daily journal will be required which will include the influence of that day's activities regarding the objectives of the course. Students will discuss how the general education goals outlined have been met and list specific activities (at least one per goal) that address each goal. Grading will be equally weighed on content and organization of material.

Required Text: *The Rough Guide to Sri Lanka*. ISBN 9781848360693 (digital version - 9781405380782)

Application & Payment Procedures

This program is open to students of any academic major, as well as to interested members of the community. There are no prerequisites, other than approval by the Program Director. Instructions are included on the program application.

MSU Students: A non-refundable deposit of **\$564** 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 10, 2013, for the balance of the program fee (\$3,196). MSU course tuition (\$601.44/726.00) will be billed to your University account and is due according to the university payment plan.

Visiting Students: A non-refundable deposit of **\$564** (check or money order) must accompany your application (deadline March 22, 2013). A check or money order for the **balance of the program fee (\$3,196) will be due by May 10, 2013**. MSU course tuition (\$601.44/726.00) will be billed to your University account and is due according to the university payment plan.

IN ORDER TO ENSURE PARTICIPATION IN THIS STUDY AWAY PROGRAM, THE ENTIRE AMOUNT OF THE PROGRAM FEE MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 28, 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 27, 2013 will receive a refund of fees paid, less the **\$564** deposit and any non-refundable purchases made on his/her behalf.
- If a student is forced to withdraw after May 27, 2013 or a bona fide medical reason, s/he will receive a refund of fees paid, less the **\$564** deposit and expenses. A certificate of incapacitating illness or injury from a licensed physician is required.
- Students withdrawing voluntarily after May 27, 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.
- This program may be cancelled if enrollment is fewer than 8 participants. In this event, MSU students will receive a full refund.

