

The following information will be published on the Courses page of the <a href="#">Summer Sessions Website</a> :			
<b>Course Title:</b>	Sacred Space in India		
<b>Course Number:</b>	ASIA 1781	<b>Course Credit:</b>	3
<b>First Instructor:</b>	Elliott McCarter	<b>First Instructor Email:</b>	Click here to enter text.
<b>Second Instructor:</b>	Click here to enter text.	<b>Second Instructor Email:</b>	Click here to enter text.
<b>Program start date:</b>	Click here to enter text.	<b>Program end date:</b>	Click here to enter text.
<b>Program location(s):</b> (City, Country)	India: Amritsar, Chandigarh, New Delhi, Jaipur, Agra, Pushkar, Aurangabad, Hyderabad, Chennai		
<b>If program goes to multiple countries (US included), please indicate specific start and end date for each country</b>	Click here to enter text.		
<b>Does this course fulfill any AXLE credit? If so, what?</b>	INT		
<b>What are the pre-requisites (if any) for enrolling in this course?</b>	None		
<b>What is covered in the student budget:</b> (how many nights of housing, how many meals, travel, any necessary supplies textbooks, visa, admission to museums, etc.)	Hotel Accommodations (20 nights); local transportation in country, site entrance fees and tour guide fees, 3 group meals daily.		
<b>What is <u>not</u> covered in the student budget:</b> (e.g., international airfare, supplies, visa costs, meals, etc.)	Personal expenses, additional meals, gratuities and donations, phone/laundry/medical/postage expenses		
<b>Visa needed for US passport holders?</b>	Yes		
<b>Does your course have a service-learning component?</b>	No		
Please provide the course description below:			
<p>India is a nation rich with religious diversity. The birthplace of Hindu, Jain, Buddhist, and Sikh traditions, home to one of the world's largest Muslim populations, and the site of the only non-European Catholic Basilica, the country is a model of both harmony and tensions between religious communities. This dynamic manifests in both landscape and architecture. Holy sites boast of inclusive spaces and syncretic architectural forms while at the same time bearing the scars of communal conflicts and competing claims to sacred space.</p> <p>This course is an investigation into the construction of sacred space in India through architecture, ritual activity, and social understanding. The course asks, "What marks a place as sacred?" and "What are the social dynamics of marked sacred space in a secular and religiously diverse nation?" Of particular interest are the sites that people understand both as place of worship and places of tourism, where we ask, "How does official tourism development of a sacred site interact with the practices of religious people there?"</p> <p>The course will travel to India to observe the spaces and practices. We begin with modern buildings in New Delhi before travelling through Kurukshetra, the site of the delivery of the <i>Bhagavadgita</i>, en route to the famous Golden Temple of the Sikhs. These sites, with oscillating histories of conversation and violence, set the backdrop for travel into Rajasthan and Western Uttar Pradesh where students will observe Fatehpur Sikri, a site famous for the emperor Akbar's attempt to cultivate religious tolerance, the neighboring sacred sites of Ajmer and Pushkar, juxtaposing Muslim and Hindu claims to space, and the temples at the Royal Palace of Jaipur.</p> <p>To gain exposure to an even greater sense of India's diversity, the course will make its way to South India. Stopping to visit the famous rock-cut temples and monasteries at Ajanta, Ellora, and Elephanta, home to medieval Hindu and Buddhist communities, the course travels to Chennai to observe South Indian Hindu</p>			

temples and compare them with those in the north, to observe Christian spaces in urban settings, and to explore the ancient sites of Mahabalipuram and Kancipuram.

**Please include the following in your Maymester program proposal for internal review:**

- Course syllabus
- Program itinerary (itineraries should be finalized by April 15)
- Safety plan
- Detailed budget that includes estimated total cost and clearly describes what's included in the fee AND what is not/what students should expect to need to cover out-of-pocket
- Maximum enrollment