

India Summer Program 2011

Studies in Indian Language, Culture, and Society

July 17th 2011 to August 13th 2011

New Delhi, Varanasi, Rishikesh, Alwar



Detailed Program

Introduction

This 4-week program (with a potential 2-week to 6-month extension) centered around New Delhi, India, immerses the participants in the diverse cultures of the amazing Indian Subcontinent. Next to a program of seminars and language trainings from Monday to Fridays, there are skills trainings and field trips as well as overnight excursions on the weekends and a possible extension of two weeks to six months to pursue your own individual project.

The program offers you the chance to take subjects that are outside your normal degree, broaden your educational experience, and accelerate your academic and professional career. A cornerstone philosophy of the program is that only by living in India and experiencing it personally, one is truly able to grasp the meaning of cultural diversity in India.

This highly interdisciplinary program will allow international participants to experience first-hand the myriad cultures that constitute the diverse country that is India. It provides participants with manifold opportunities to view India through various lenses and explore its diverse landscapes, varied foods, unparalleled architectural monuments, World Heritage Sites, and colorful festivals.

You will meet and interact with people from all walks of life, from the international businessman to the dedicated grassroots volunteer, from the atheistic scientist to the Muslim mullah, from cosmopolitan socialites to street children. You will be able to learn from all of their experiences and within no time you will find yourself successfully navigating the local cultural environment!

Upon arrival in Delhi, participants will be picked up at the airport and transferred to their accommodation of choice, ranging from homestays, where you have the opportunity to experience the culture as a local by living with an Indian family, to shared flats with other open-minded international people and cozy guest houses. You will get to know the other program participants that come from all over the world during a welcome party.

A common thread throughout the course is the intensive language training coupled with a guarantee that participants will be able to put their newly acquired skills to good use throughout their time in India. Intensive Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani is conducted at beginners and intermediates levels. Classes meet in highly interactive groups of 4-8 people for 4 hours of instruction, Monday through Friday. On all afternoons academic seminars, skills trainings, and field trips are offered. Over the weekends there are three exciting excursions to Alwar (Rajasthan), Rishikesh (Uttaranchal), and Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh).

At the end of the four weeks, the program concludes with a grand farewell party. However, for many participants their stay in India has just begun! With the potential 2-week to 6-month extension, you can explore a topic of your own personal interest:

- Volunteer in a community or development project
- Do an internship in the area of work you are most interested in
- Do an academic research project with the support of expert local faculty

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Program Calendar

Juli

DATE	MORNING	AFTERNOON
Su 17th	Orientation / Briefing Event	Welcome Party
Mo 18th	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	India Seminar I: An Introduction to India's Cultural Diversity
Tu 19th	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	Hindustani Cuisine I
We 20th	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	Delhi Tour I: Contrasting Perspectives
Th 21st	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	India Seminar II: India's Path from Tradition to Modernity
Fr 22nd	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	Yoga I
Sa 23rd	Rishikesh/Himalaya Excursion	Rishikesh/Himalaya Excursion
Su 24th	Rishikesh/Himalaya Excursion	Rishikesh/Himalaya Excursion
Mo 25th	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	India Seminar III: Religion in Contemporary Indian Society
Tu 26th	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	Hindustani Cuisine II
We 27th	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	Delhi Tour II: Old Delhi
Th 28th	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	India Seminar IV: Business in Contemporary India
Fr 29th	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	Yoga II
Sa 30th	Varanasi Excursion	Varanasi Excursion
Su 31st	Varanasi Excursion	Varanasi Excursion

August

DATE	MORNING	AFTERNOON
Mo 1st	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	India Seminar V: Political and Economic Issues in India
Tu 2nd	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	India Career Training I
We 3rd	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	Delhi Tour III: Salaam Balak
Th 4th	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	India Seminar VI: Science, Technology, and Sustainable Development in India
Fr 5th	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	Meditation I
Sa 6th	Alwar Royal and Tribal Excursion	Alwar Royal and Tribal Excursion
Su 7th	Alwar Royal and Tribal Excursion	Alwar Royal and Tribal Excursion
Mo 8th	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	India Seminar VII: India's Interaction with the World
Tu 9th	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	India Career Training II
We 10th	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	Delhi Tour IV: Mehrauli
Th 11th	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	India Seminar VIII: Prospects for the Future: Trends and Developments in India
Fr 12th	Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani Language Training	Meditation II
Sa 13th	Final Briefing	Grand Farewell Party
Su 14th	Free / No Program	Free / No Program
Mo 15th	Independence Day / No Program	Independence Day / No Program
Tu 16th	Beginning of Possible Extension (two weeks to six months of Academic Project / Internship / Volunteer Work)	

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Intensive Hindi, Urdu, Hindustani Language Course

Instruction will focus on the common language actually spoken by the people in the bazaars, to help participants learn how to communicate in everyday situations they will face during their time in India.

You have the choice of two levels:

- Intensive Beginners Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani (80 hours of intensive training in small interactive groups of 4 to maximum 8 participants)
- Intensive Intermediates Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani (80 hours of intensive training in small interactive groups of 4 to maximum 8 participants)

The class sizes of 4-8 participants allow our expert teachers to give you the attention you deserve and ensuring a faster and more satisfying learning experience. After the intensive four hours of language trainings in the morning, the afternoons and evenings provide you with ample opportunities to apply your newly acquired skills!

Learning languages always entails quite a bit of work, but we ensure that your language learning will be as efficient and fun as possible. Starting from day one, we prepare you for the wonderful challenges, cultural peculiarities, and unexpected moments for your time in India. Bargaining for the right price, communicating with colleagues, or adequately thanking your hosts, we teach you the language you need in your daily life!

Three highlights of our language teaching methodology:

- **Experiential:** We do not just teach you language, we make you experience it. Whether it is role plays, field visits, or excursions, opportunities for experiential learning abound. With our support all of India turns into your own private campus!
- **Best modules:** A unique aspect of our language trainings are self-developed modules that combine language teaching with cultural knowledge to a big coherent whole. We strive to exclusively teach language in the context of real life situations.
- **Most authentic cultural content:** Authentic cultural input is ingeniously integrated into our language curriculum. You will gain deep insights into Indian cultures.

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India Seminar: "An Exploration of India's Diversity"

"An Exploration of India's Diversity" provides participants with a thorough understanding of Indian culture, traditions, society, and intercultural issues, with a specific focus on showcasing India's unique diversity. This seminar series gives participants an insight into the latest research on India, taught by outstanding faculty renowned for their expertise in their specific fields.

The 8 seminars taught are (detailed course content and faculty will be available soon):

1. An Introduction to India's Cultural Diversity
2. India's Path from Tradition to Modernity
3. Religion in Contemporary Indian Society
4. Business in Contemporary India
5. Political and Economic Issues in India
6. Science, Technology, and Sustainable Development in India
7. India's Interaction with the World
8. Prospects for the Future: Trends and Developments in India

Participants have the choice to conclude this seminar series with a written final exam giving them the opportunity to transfer credits to their home institution. This list of courses can be subject to minor changes.

Faculty

Courses are taught by a diverse faculty of outstanding professors, lecturers, teachers, and trainers from India as well as abroad. All of our faculty are lively, enthusiastic, multilingual, and culturally proficient. They come from a diverse range of professions, ethnic groups, and religious communities. However, they are all united by having an in-depth knowledge of intercultural issues and the ability to convey it to diverse audiences.

Skill Trainings

Four types of Skill Trainings will be offered to you with two three-hours sessions each: Yoga, Meditation, Indian Cuisine, and Career Training for India:

- **Yoga:** Participants will be instructed in the practice of yoga, including its general philosophy and history. A special emphasis is placed on the performance of asanas (postures).
- **Meditation:** This skill training instills in participants powerful meditation techniques, including various pranayamas (breathing exercises).
- **Indian Cuisine:** Sampling the diversity of local food is one of the most straightforward ways of learning about a culture. Learning to prepare the foods by yourself yet goes another step towards developing a deeper understanding.
- **Career Training for India:** More and more foreigners come to India to find career fulfilment. This training prepares participants for a possible career in India and also in other foreign cultural environments in general.

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Field Trips and Excursions

Students will have the opportunity to go on various field trips throughout the program. Field trips include tours of the city as well as trips to other regions of India. Rather than just seeing a place our field trips and excursions are all about meeting people of diverse cultural backgrounds, exploring and experiencing a life you will not find in your familiar environment. You will witness communal diversity and immerse yourself in narrow streets, colourful bazaars, and places of worship. Talk to members of the communities and you will stop to feel as a tourist when the hosts become your friends.

Four Delhi Tours:

- Contrasting Perspectives: Exploring the contrasts of Delhi's varied environments
- Salaam Balak: Meet street children and discover their life world around New Delhi's bustling train station
- Old Delhi: Diversity of Religions
- Mehrauli: Living History in Delhi's Oldest Neighbourhood

Three Overnight Excursions:

- Alwar: Where Rajputs and tribal cultures meet
- Rishikesh: Jungle-clad Himalayas with stay in an ashram
- Varanasi: Holy City and the mighty Ganges

Cultural Program

Included in the India Summer Program is an attractive cultural program as well. Besides the get to know each other and the farewell parties as well as other leisure activities (such as movies, sports, hiking, sightseeing, etc.), we organise an amazing cultural program for you: Whether festive music concerts or vibrant art exhibitions, we will offer you diverse opportunities to explore India's vibrant nightlife and cultural scene.

Just to cite two examples to showcase the spectrum of cultural events participants can attend:

- Listen to authentic qawwali Sufi music at one of India's most famous dargahs (Muslim shrines) in Nizamuddin
- Rub shoulders with the movers and shakers of Indian society at a classy networking event

The Cultural Program is yet another way in which you will be able to learn more about India beyond the narrow classroom walls.

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Accommodation

You have the choice of three accommodation options during your stay:

1. Homestay: your own room in the family's home, generally on a half board set up
2. Apartment: single room in a shared flat on a self-catering basis (but generally with a domestic aid to keep everything tidy)
3. Guest House: single room (generally with breakfast included)

Homestay:

Participants can live with Indian host families and learn about everyday life in India through personal experience. In this way participants will be fully engaged in the local community and culture during their stay in Delhi, which will guarantee manifold opportunities to improve their language and intercultural skills. Our families are carefully selected, interculturally aware, and we work closely with them to provide quality accommodation and a caring environment.

Apartment:

We also provide rooms in shared flats, mostly together with other international people living in Delhi. We help you to find an accommodation that meets your specific requirements.

Guest House:

The third accommodation option for participants is living in a cozy guest house. Rooms have private baths and breakfast will generally be included.

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Choices and Extensions

Besides the choice of beginners and intermediate language trainings for Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani, the program offers you to deepen your knowledge of Indian culture and Hindustani languages by choosing one of the following extensions:

- Internship
- Volunteering
- Academic Project

You can choose the length of your extension flexibly, whether you want to work on a compact academic project for 2 weeks right here in Delhi or you want to go to rural India and spend 6 months of your life doing meaningful volunteer work for the local communities.

Internships

Internships are often a phenomenal stepping stone for launching your career. They provide you with a chance to apply your knowledge to work, to develop your application skills, to gain practical hands-on work experience, and to establish professional contacts for exploring future opportunities. Internships also give you a unique opportunity to get an inside perspective on Indian culture, to reinforce your language skills, and to fully immerse yourself in the new environment. Equivalently, for organisations in India they are a good opportunity to recruit culture-savvy staff and to meet aspirants of diverse backgrounds.

By locating and securing exceptional internships in your field of personal interest and organising all of the logistics involved, we offer you a tremendous career booster. Your internship placement is carefully structured around your individual career goals and is coordinated and supervised by seasoned consultants, who have experienced Indian culture the same way you are planning to.

Volunteer Work

Participating in volunteer projects is an excellent way to become more engaged with local Indian culture while at the same time providing direct and personal opportunities to contribute constructively. It has never been so easy to make a useful contribution to our world and have the time of your life doing it! We will place you in internationally recognised and self-governed NGOs and other charitable institutions where you can truly impact the lives of local people in a highly sustainable manner - just let us know your specific field of interest. You will be involved in the tangible improvement of the living conditions of your hosts.

Whether it will be in India's megacities or in a tiny hamlet, in grassroots projects or global development initiatives, a huge array of volunteer opportunities are available to fit the experience you are looking for. These opportunities include tutoring in foreign languages, supporting healthcare services, helping to establish community facilities, working with street children, and protecting the environment. When the day's tasks are done, you will have a tremendous sense of achievement and experience lasting satisfaction.

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Academic Project

Besides conventional internships and volunteer work, you might also be interested to pursue a project of your own. There is so much to enjoy about and learn from the diversity of Indian cultures. Whether you are interested in philosophy or religion, cuisine or dance, India will have the right opportunity for satisfying your personal interests.

To give you an idea about some of the endless academic projects that you might like to pursue in India, have a look at the following examples:

- Business studies (e.g. in a business centre such as Mumbai)
- Scientific studies (e.g. in one of Bangalore's many research institutes)
- Nature awareness studies (e.g. in the Uttaranchal Himalayas)
- Nomad studies (e.g. among Rajasthani tribals)
- Fine arts studies (e.g. with an arts professor in Delhi)
- Music studies (e.g. with famed ustads in Varanasi)
- Religious studies (e.g. Islamic studies with mullahs in Deoband known for Darul Uloom of Deoband, one of the most important and influential schools of Islamic Thought or Hindu studies with pandits in athura, the birth place of Lord Krishna)

As you can easily see, the opportunities are endless. Based on our extensive network in India we will be able to offer you a unique opportunity in your personal field of interest. Just let us know what you are looking for.

In close collaboration with you, our academic supervisors assist you in defining the scope, appropriate methodology, timeline, and deliverables of each research project. From the strategic conceptualisation, over the planning and development of the project, to the specific logistics, and the final project outcome, our constant presence and support is guaranteed to assure you a great project outcome. By using our facilitation skills to draw the best out of your experience and expertise, and adding the best of ours, we build a fully participative process which enables you to focus on your project's objectives. We seamlessly assist you in your challenges but you will be the producer of the end result.

Additional Choices

Tailored to your individual objectives and itineraries, we customise the program offering you a uniquely intimate and profound intercultural experience through homestays, cultural trainings, language coaching, educational excursions, and more. In case you require further customisation, do not hesitate to get in touch with us. Whether you require additional individual language lessons or would like to experience an entirely different region of India, we will tailor the program according to your personal requirements.

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Locations And Facilities

This program offers a unique experience “on site”, such as a field trips and overnight excursions, where the destination sites function as integral parts of the learning experience. Authenticity is of utmost importance here.

That is why you will get the chance to stay in a Hindu ashram, practice your language skills in a Muslim shrine, learn jungle survival skills from tribals living in the jungles, and share your food with holy men meditating in secluded caves.

While you will move among a number of different sites, you will find well equipped and secure classrooms and accommodation facilities throughout the program. Most of your time, however, will be spent in Delhi, the vibrant cultural and political center of India.

Delhi is an ancient city that has been the capital of India's most powerful kingdoms for much of the last millenium. While maintaining its deep historical roots, Delhi is rapidly modernising and is emerging into an important center for global business and tourism. Mega malls and glittery condos take root next to fields of marigolds where sari-clad farmers lay out their produce on nearby roadsides, hoping to attract Delhi's middle-class suburbanites on their way home from work.

You can board the metro in 21st century Gurgaon and exit it right into the spice filled air of 17th century Old Delhi. Among the historical riches, program participants will experience are the Muslim masjids, the Sufi dargahs, the grand temples, the Sikh gurudwaras, the Jain bastis, the Hindu mandirs, the Buddhist viharas, etc.

Locally known as Dilli, it is a megacity of approximately 20 million inhabitants. About 82% of the population in Dilli are Hindus. The second largest religious community are Muslims with 12%, Sikhs are 4%, and Jains and Christians are around 1% each. The main languages spoken here are Hindi, Urdu, and Punjabi. As in most of India, Hindustani (Hindi-Urdu) functions as the lingua franca in the bazaars.

In general, life in the city is very unpredictable, often chaotic, and definitely anything else than boring. You never know what will happen next. Imagine you are on the way to work, sitting in a rickshaw, and right on top of a flyover a caravan of camels and elephants pass by.

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Cost

The base of all below mentioned costs is in Euro. The listed prices in USD or INR are just for orientation. Actual prices according to conversion rates at the time of your booking / payment.

The cost of the program is Euro 1898 (about 2560 USD or INR 113880) and includes the following:

- Extensive pre-departure information package
- Airport pick up service
- All accommodations (including breakfast or breakfast and dinner depending on the type of accommodation)
- Tuition fees:
 - Intensive Hindi / Urdu / Hindustani course (80 hours of intensive training in small interactive groups)
 - Academic seminars (24 hours)
 - Trainings (24 hours)
 - All course materials
- Field trips (four 4-hour trips in Delhi) and overnight excursions (three excursions including all transportation and accommodation)
- Extracurricular activities, such as cultural events (welcome and farewell parties, music concerts, and so on)
- Administrative fees
- 24/7 coordinator support
- Issuing of certificate and academic transcript

Besides the aforementioned, the extended program for Euro 2198 (about USD 2970 or 131880 INR) including the Academic Project / Internship / Volunteer Work also includes:

- Developing and organising a custom-designed Academic Project / Internship / Volunteer Experience to meet your individual requirements
- Support in finding a suitable accommodation near your project or organisation
- Ongoing monitoring of progress and quality of placement or project

In addition to the program fee, participants are responsible for:

- Personal spending
- Transportation to and from New Delhi where the program takes place
- Local transportation in New Delhi (from your accommodation to class and so on, but autorickshaws are very cheap at about 10 cents per kilometer)
- Most meals (but food is incredibly cheap in India)
- Health insurance coverage
- Cost of visa and passport (if required)

Our 'Bring A Friend' Discount:

For everybody who registers for the India Summer Program 2011 through you, you will get a discount of Euro 100. That means, if 2 people register through you, you will get Euro 200 discount, for 5 people Euro 500, and so on.

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Registration

Three simple steps to get registered:

1. Complete the registration form at www.summerinindia.com/contact.php and include your CV if possible. Within one week of registration we will notify you of your admission in the program.
2. As soon as your registration is accepted, you will receive an "Admission Letter" confirming your registration and detailed payment information.
3. As soon as we receive your program fees, we will send you a confirmation receipt as well as the pre-departure information package as soon as it is available.

This Program is open to worldwide participants. Everybody who is at least 18 years of age can join - no upper limits exist! However, in order to follow the course, a good command of English is required.

The registration deadline for this program is: June 1, 2011. Please apply early to ensure a space. Late applications will be accepted if space is available.

Register now for one of the finest educational programs in India, located in India's bustling capital New Delhi!

Questions about the program or the registration process? Directly get in touch with the program supervisor Mr. Peter Braun at info@knowledge-must.com or by phone on +91-9810990766. We will walk you step-by-step through the process and answer any questions you might have.