

Please answer all questions under Course Information and sections II through IV. Complete the attached budget sheet. Attach syllabus and itinerary requested in sections I and IV. Print, sign and obtain Academic Chair signature. Submit form to Antonio Jimenez, BT 1275.

UNIVERSITY 392: INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE COURSE PROPOSAL

COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor(s): NITIKA PARMAR

Travel location(s): INDIA (NEW DELHI, AGRA, MUMBAI, CHANDIGARH)

Dates of trip: DECEMBER 26, 2014- JANUARY 18, 2015

Course title: UNIV392: BIOTECHNOLOGY IN INDIA

Number of units (1-3): 3

Academic area of the faculty proposing course: BIOLOGY

Faculty rank: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Faculty email: nitika.parmar@csuci.edu

Proposed minimum enrollment: 12

Proposed maximum enrollment: 14

Grading method (letter grade, credit/non credit): LETTER

Do the dates of the program conflict with regular classes/faculty workdays? ☐ Y ☒ N

Have you offered this program before? ☒ Y ☐ N

I) SYLLABUS

Please, attach a syllabus for this course providing the following required information:

1. Professor's name(s), office location, office hours, contact information.
2. Course description, course content and format of the course (classroom lectures, field trips, seminars with local experts, etc.)? Include this information for the portions of the course that are conducted within the United States and within the international country. How will the content of the course you plan to teach be related to the travel-study destination?
3. Student learning outcomes and how they relate to the program/major outcomes and the University mission.
4. Required elements, which may include assignments, readings, attendance and course participation policies, etc.

5. Grade information as specified in the Channel Islands Policy on Grades (SP01-38)
6. Evaluation criteria (it can include student behavior as it relates to citizenship, punctuality, helpfulness, working well with the group, being responsible and respectful to the host culture and their people, etc.)
7. Academic honesty information as specified by the Policy on Academic Dishonesty (SP01-57)
8. Channel Islands Disability Statement
9. Tentative class schedule and itinerary (It is recommended to include a “subject to change” disclaimer)

Please respond to the following in the space after each item:

II) FACULTY INFORMATION

1. What is your own linguistic, cultural, and/or academic experience with the travel study destination? If you have limited experience with the destination, explain how you plan to maximize student safety (for instance, will you be using a local tour company or tour guide?) I am from India and have spent the first 28 years of my life there. I am fully conversant with the culture, language, food, transportation and lodging arrangements. I have traveled to the sites mentioned in this proposal (New Delhi, Agra, Mumbai and Chandigarh). I am conversant with a lot of educational and research institutions and am very comfortable navigating in the country. I have established contacts with an excellent travel agency (THOMAS COOK , INTERNATIONAL) which will be making majority of the travel arrangements. I availed of this travel agency for the UNIV392 course that I taught in fall, 2013 and took the students to India in winter break, 2013. I was extremely pleased by the services offered by this travel agency as the arrangements made were superior, safe and highly organized. Since all student travel will be pre-arranged, safety is maximized as students will be staying in hotels and travelling via agency approved transportations.

2. Previous experience leading groups of students (nationally or internationally). I took a group of 12 students to India in January 2013 for a UNIV392 course that I taught in Fall, 2013. The visit went very well and students gained valuable experience from this trip with regard to biotechnology practices in India. In addition to this trip, I have also taken students to local trips in the LA and Ventura counties. One feedback that I received from all students who took this trip was to increase the duration of this trip and spend more time at the Govardhan Ecovillage which was quite an amazing experience. As a result, I am proposing this trip for 20 days and also increasing the student pool to 14 students.

III) RECRUITMENT AND ORIENTATION

1. How will students be recruited? Regular CI students should have at least one recommendation from a faculty member other than the teacher for the overseas course. Advertisement of the course will be done through flyers and posters posted across campus, through global e-mails sent to all Biology and Chemistry students, through information sessions presented at Biology and Chemistry Clubs as well as at the LSAMP meetings. Interested students will be required to complete an application form and provide at least two letters of recommendation from CI faculty, excluding the instructor for this course. The application will primarily provide me insights into students' academic preparation, their level of confidence and expectations as well as their motivation for this course. The recommendation letters will provide useful feedback about students' potential and skills. Subsequently, students will be invited for an interview following which I will select a maximum of 14 students for the course and the overseas trip.

2. For whom is the course designed (CI undergraduate students, CI graduate students, students with a certain program area, open university students, others)? Will there be any priority order when accepting students to the program? The course is open to all undergraduate students of all majors. However, considering that we will be exploring biotech research institutions in India and visiting areas where biotechnology techniques are applied, it is likely that the majority of students who apply for this will be in the STEM fields. Additionally, students who have not participated in previous study abroad/UNIV392 trips will be given priority in the event the selection becomes competitive.

3. **Attach an outline for the orientation session(s) for students.** Make sure the orientation includes comments on the security of the country, both politically and medically, as determined from reports issued by the State Department.

IV) LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS

1. Will your travel arrangements (e.g., accommodations, meals, excursions, airfare) be managed by an independent provider (e.g., AIFS, CEA, ISA, Australearn), a foreign university, or a travel agent? Please explain. The majority of the travel arrangements will be made by Thomas Cook (www.thomascook.in), a very well established and reputed travel agency and India's topmost travel agency as well. This arrangement will include accommodations at hotels, transfers from airports/train stations, ground transportation, travel by train, air travel, excursions, tours and cultural trips. The agency will also arrange for entrance fees to the excursion sites. Some of the groups meals will also be arranged by the agency. Meals will be taken at local eateries and budget restaurants to experience the full Indian cuisine and students are expected to dine together as a group. Students will be required to share hotel rooms (2 students per room) .

For the Govardhan Ecovillage retreat, all arrangements (accommodation, meals, tours, ground transportation and workshop/activities) will be made by the Ecovillage itself. Accommodation will be on the basis of twin or triple sharing depending on the room size.

2. Housing: where will be the students stay during the study abroad experience? If staying with host families, are meals included? Students will be staying in budget hotels during the entire length of their trip. Budget hotels will be chosen based on their comfort level, security and price. The travel agency will arrange for the hotel accommodation for the majority of the trip except for Govardhan Ecovillage where we will be coordinating the retreat logistics with the Ecovillage directly for accommodation, food, workshops, activities and transport.

3. Meals: Are meals arranged for the students? If not, where can students find their own food? One aspect of this trip is to also experience the cuisine of India and for this purpose students will be eating at local restaurants and cafeterias. India is abounding with restaurants catering to all palates and all hotels have plenty of eateries within walking distance. Students will be taking group meals most of the time and we intend to all dine together in the same eatery. Some group meals will be arranged by the travel agency and the Ecovillage.

4. Transportation: What are the transportation arrangements for the trip? If traveling from location to location, what means of transportation will be used?

Travel between Camarillo and LAX will be provided by Roadrunner shuttle. Flights to and from India will utilize international carriers and will be booked by CSUCI using CSU contracted services for air booking. In India, travel arrangements will be made by Thomas Cook (and the Ecovillage for the retreat part only) and will include the following:

- a. Transfers between airports and hotels
- b. Transportation for visiting the scientific institutions and cultural sites (this will be local travel)
- c. Air travel in India will involve journeys of no more than 2.5 hours each way (New Delhi to Mumbai and Mumbai to Chandigarh) using Indian air carriers.

d. Train travel will include journey from New Delhi to Agra and back, as well as Chandigarh to New Delhi. Each journey lasts for about 3 hours.

5. Safety/security: Please give a brief synopsis of the status of the security of the country, both politically and medically, as obtained from the Department of State. What arrangements have been made to maintain the safety and security of the students throughout the program? No travel warnings have been issued by the Department of State for travel to India currently. I will make it mandatory for all students to enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) offered by the US Department of State. All students will be required to enroll in this program prior to travel. Politically, India is not going through a period of unrest and no security threats have been cited.

From the US Department of State: "India, the world's largest democracy, has a very diverse population, geography, and climate. India is the world's second most populous country, and the world's seventh largest country in area. Tourist facilities offer varying degrees of comfort. Amenities are widely available in large cities and tourist areas."

Language: The medium of instruction in India is pre-dominantly English and travellers to all major cities do not experience any language barriers.

Security: Travel in India will be done as a group and students will not be allowed to travel anywhere (including local restaurants) on their own as individuals. The entire cohort will travel as a group throughout the trip. For students interested in exploring additional aspects of India during free time, the instructor will always accompany them. The following guidelines are expected to be followed:

- a. Students will be required to return back to their hotels no later than 11p.m. during the entire trip. Student teams comprising of women only will not be allowed to travel on their own without an accompanying male student and instructor.
- b. Students will be encouraged to respect local customs and dress. Conservative dressing is encouraged although this will not be a problem as the trip will take place during winter time when weather conditions are often cold.
- c. Students will be encouraged not to carry too much cash while shopping. Passports and important documents will be deposited in the safety deposit boxes at the hotels while students go shopping.
- d. Students will be provided information about local police stations and emergency personnel before embarking on a local trip.

Medical: Medical care in the major population centers (such as the ones listed in this proposal) approaches and meets Western standards. Top class hospitals provide ample care and services although they expect cash payment for their services. Private clinics are open until late in the evenings. Ambulances (both private and government) are available. Students will be provided information about vaccinations that are required

before travel during the pre-trip orientation and will also carry routine medication with them for small ailments such as fever, headache, diarrhea, etc. Preventive medication for malaria may also be carried although winter is typically not the season for malaria outbreaks in India.

Communication: Although telephone calls can be made locally from telephone booths, which can be inconvenient and expensive, I intend to buy a cell phone for myself. Students will have the option of buying a pre-paid India SIM card for their existing phones which can be used with international cell phone models so that students can communicate with each other as well as with me on a regular basis. The exact need and type of card needed will depend on students' individual cell phones and will be discussed during the pre-trip orientation.

Itinerary for the trip, including side trips:

- Leave LAX on Dec 26, 2014, Friday
- Arrive in Delhi on Dec 28, Sunday
- Dec 29, Monday- visit IIT (Indian Institute of Technology)
- Dec 30, Tuesday- visit NII (National Institute of Immunology)
- Dec 31, Wednesday- visit TERI (The Energy Research Institute)
- January 1, Thursday, 2015- visit TERI main facility (Gul Pahari)
- January 2, Friday, 2015- visit PREMAS Biotech in the morning; late afternoon take train to Agra; night at Agra
- January 3, Saturday- Tour of Taj Mahal (stay night in Agra)
- January 4, Sunday- Explore local cottage/cultural industries; return to Delhi and spend night in Delhi
- Jan 5, Monday: Take flight to Mumbai, (stay night in Mumbai)
- Jan 6, Tuesday- visit TIFR (Tata Institute of Fundamental Research), (stay night in Mumbai)
- Jan 7, Wednesday- visit IIT Powai and Piramal Life Sciences (stay night in Mumbai)
- Jan 8, Thursday- leave for Govardhan Ecovillage for environmental biotechnology retreat
- GEV Retreat (Jan 8-12; Thurs-Monday)- Environmental biotechnology retreat, 5 nights in GEV
- Jan 13, Tuesday- drive to Mumbai and take flight to Chandigarh, (stay night in Chandigarh)
- Jan 14, Wednesday- visit IMTECH (Institute of Microbial Technology)
- Jan 15, Thursday- visit Punjab University
- Jan 16, Friday- visit other educational institutes (Biotech park, CSIO)

- Jan 17, Saturday- free day for catch up, packing, etc.
- Jan 18, Sunday- leave for Delhi to take flight to Los Angeles
- Arrive in LA on Jan 18, Sunday

6. Attach an itinerary for the trip, including side trips.

UNIVERSITY 392: SIGNATURE PAGE**1. Faculty member**

- ☐ I have read the guidelines for teaching a UNIV 392 course and I agree to follow them.
- ☐ I agree to conduct at least one pre-departure meeting, in coordination with International Office staff, to cover Safety and Risk Management issues and required CSU forms.
- ☐ I understand the travel-study student evaluation process is mandatory and agree to participate.
- ☐ I have included in this application my UNIV 392 course syllabus
- ☐ I have included in this application my outline of orientation session(s)
- ☐ I have included in this application the course itinerary
- ☐ I have included my UNIV 392 budget sheet

Faculty Signature

Faculty Name (print)

Date**2. Academic Chair Approval**

- ☐ I have read the Faculty Application and discussed the course offering with the faculty member.
- ☐ I certify that course of study is within the applicant's field of competence.
- ☐ I agree that the student learning objectives for the course can be met within the travel-study format, including appropriate pre- and post-trip meetings.
- ☐ I approve the offering of this course abroad.

Chair Signature

Chair Name (print)

Date

3. Center for International Affairs

- ☐ I approve the Chair's recommendation
- ☐ I have reviewed the travel arrangements proposed for this study abroad course and find the arrangements to be appropriate. Staff have also discussed the requirements specified in Chancellor's Office Executive Order 715 with the faculty member, and have advised him/her of the requirements that must be followed when offering this course in another country.
- ☐ The University acknowledges that the above program has been reviewed by the sponsoring Academic Area and staff and that the faculty member has been given policies and procedures related to short-term study abroad courses. The University will support this program as long as enrollments, other financial conditions, and related course costs are deemed appropriate. The University reserves the right to modify arrangements, in consultation with the Center for International Affairs and the sponsoring academic area.
- ☐ I have verified that there are no Department of State Travel warnings currently in effect for the countries to be visited.

OR,

- ☐ I deny the Chair's recommendation. Reasons:

Director Signature

Director Name (print)

Date

4. Administrative Approval

☐ I approve this course

_____ Associate Vice President	_____ AVP Name (print)	_____ Date
_____ AVP of Extended University (if special session)	_____ AVP Name (print)	_____ Date
_____ Provost	_____ Provost Name (print)	_____ Date
_____ President	_____ President Name (print)	_____ Date