

School of Architecture + Design (A+D) Study Abroad
2017 Off-campus Wintermester program in India
(Wednesday December 27, 2017 – Saturday, January 13, 2018)
Program description and projected fee schedule



Faculty Member of Record: A+D ARCH, Prof. Henri T. de Hahn

Course Title: A cultural excursion on the subcontinent of India through the lens of urban landscapes, private and institutional architecture and interiors.

Course Number: ARCH 2984 (Special Study, variable credit course, no prerequisite), and ARCH 4984 (Special Study, variable credit course, no prerequisite). Other course number TBD.

Type: Off-campus

Introduction

Henri T. de Hahn, architecture professor at the School of Architecture + Design (A+D), wishes to offer students an immersion into one of the most fascinating places in Asia – the sub-continent of India. During the 2018 Wintermester session (12.27.17 – 01.13.18), de Hahn will conduct an eighteen-day trip to five cities in India tailored to students within A+D, with an eye toward ARCH majors. However, de Hahn welcomes the opportunity to include other design and non-design majors (both CAUS and VT students) as well as VT faculty and alumni. Northern India is a place of many perspectives, thus other disciplines and professionals are welcome to add to the creation of a vibrant group identity.

Program description:

This is an opportunity to see firsthand, under the guidance of a Virginia Tech faculty member, how the influences of design decisions on the production of architecture and urban space, and vice-versa, have defined five very different cities and rural landscapes in Northern India –New Delhi (planned 20th century city, 1931), Agra (traditional organic development), Fatehpur Sikri (planned 16th century Imperial City, 1569), Jaipur (first planned 18th century city in India, 1726) and Ahmedabad (traditional organic development).

Accompanying the targeted areas of research, the off-campus program will emphasize the cultural dimensions of each locality –their exceptional history and tradition of handicrafts and popular culture including block printmaking, jewelry and gems, and design issues in all art forms. These will unfold through the experience of daily street life and visits to museums, monuments, markets, and bazaars. In addition there will be targeted hands-on experiences, seminars and lectures by guest academic experts.

De Hahn had specifically chosen to develop this off-campus program for the following three reasons:

1. De Hahn has, since 2004, visited India and those cities for research and teaching responsibilities numerous times. At his previous institution he established an off-campus program in Ahmedabad at CEPT –the leading architecture program in India (founded by Balkrishna Doshi, Le Corbusier's Indian senior designer and whom we will be visiting in Ahmedabad), and he returns annually to observe first-hand the nature of each city and their rapid urban transformation as India has become in this century a world leader with one of the fastest growing economies.
2. The idea of connecting diverse knowledge bases is at the center of de Hahn's teaching interest. It seems critical for student's future ambitions as they create new knowledge based on the currencies of today's information age. India lends itself to this ambition, as it is a country of perplexing, contradictory and complex environments. One is in awe of both incredible and humble beauty while there, experiencing the ancestral traditions that western society may have long forgotten. These are the ideas and ideals that will mark each student and their design skills as no other off-campus experience can.
3. While Virginia Tech's campus is one of the most beautiful and idyllic Land Grant University campuses, the increased focus of its future graduates and, in particular, design students makes it imperative to promote and increase world metropolitan immersion programs for undergraduate and graduate students. Today's students want to hold key positions across the world and we must enhance their cultural awareness to prepare them to achieve those goals.

There are many metropolises, which are deeply anchored in our minds by culture, history and contemporary innovations. Among these are Paris, Berlin, Tokyo and Hong Kong. India and its Golden Triangle (Delhi, Agra, Jaipur) offer visiting students an educational setting far different from these more familiar experiences. The gentleness of daily life is confronted by the "paradoxes and contradictions that characterize Indian attitudes towards issues such as power, wealth and spirituality."¹ These contradictions exist between tradition and innovation, between an existing caste system and a parliamentary democracy, and between a search for modernity and connection with cultural roots. At every level one may look at it, these contradictions are at the core of any of the very understandable amazement that one is confronted with upon landing on Indian soil late in the night. Exhausted, but eager to experience your new surroundings, the journey begins. The immediacy of understanding that this is a special place flavors all activities from visits to world cultural monuments, contemporary architecture, dense urban neighborhoods, historic Mughal landscapes, and museums to shopping and tasting exquisite authentic Indian food.

Each time de Hahn returns from a short or extended visit to India, he is reminded that talent and creativity are key to India's entrepreneurship –this is their paradigm and he believes it is fueled by an ability to anticipate opportunities, by resiliency, flexibility of tactics, the ability to judge human needs, and by creative improvisation, ingenuity, and a refusal to accept defeat. Their initiatives, quick thinking, and above all, an unconditional resolve to forge a better future are all great lessons, which are accompanied by profound beauty and serenity.

Students will document their discoveries, insights, and understanding of their queries through personal methods. An idea of mapping each city will be proposed as a means of understanding the urban artifact. The documentation will be organized by students in the form of an exhibition in Cowgill's lobby during the Fall 2018 semester.

Offered Title:

A cultural excursion on the subcontinent of India through the lens of urban landscapes, private and institutional architecture and interiors.

¹ Varma, Pavan K. Being Indian: The truth about why the 21st century will be India's. New Delhi, Penguin Books India, 2004, p.140.

Course Number:

ARCH 2984 (Special Study, variable credit course, no prerequisite) and ARCH 4984 (Special Study, variable credit course, no prerequisite). Students with other A+D/CAUS/VT disciplines may join on the approval of their program chair.

Credits:

Three (3) credits will be given in the School of Architecture + Design. The instructor will provide required readings (online for those students not on campus prior to the trip) on particular topics related to an understanding of India for individual study and group discussions prior to departure.

Prerequisites:

Architecture + Design, non A+D majors and all VT students having completed 1st year and in good academic standing with a desire to be immersed culturally in one of the most important Asian urban metropolises.

Program Learning Objectives:

As students and faculty will consider India their home for eighteen days, this program is set under the umbrella of a *Travel Program*. Cities will be walked and experienced through a state of the art metro system (New Delhi), hired A/C coach buses and local transportation. While India remains **Indian** in its fundamental social, cultural, artistic, religious and philosophical identity, the influence of the *British Empire* in India (1858-1947) resonates through daily patterns of behavior. There is a wonderful balance between ancient civilizations at the crossroads of two continents and a rapidly growing westernization that has ushered India in as a key player internationally.

While the eighteen days in Northern India are less than a glimpse in the complexity of the country's heritage, the faculty of record proposes to study architecture and design issues within an urban non-Western context: (NAAB Student Performance Criteria # 9: Non-Western Traditions: *Understanding of parallel and divergent canons and traditions of architecture and urban design in the non-Western world.*)

The faculty's pedagogy will emphasize that learning (what will the student know; what will the student be able to do; and what intellectual value can be added to the students' experience upon completion of this program) is aimed to produce articulate and confident students who are capable of understanding new spaces and places in a short, simultaneous and targeted manner, making obvious interdisciplinary and methodological links between select A+D disciplines –the urban landscape, the built and domesticated natural environments, and constructed artifacts. Students will be able to appreciate Western influences with deeply anchored traditional cultures that make up the complexity of Northern India –both past and present. In addition, students will be able to:

- Raise clear and precise questions, use abstract ideas to interpret information, consider diverse points of view, reach well-reasoned conclusions, and test them against relevant criteria and standards.
- Demonstrate basic critical thinking to gather, assess, record, apply, and comparatively evaluate relevant information with taught coursework.
- Investigate through various drawing and digital methods (photography, video and sound) a research agenda to understand, record and connect in an autobiographical manner what is experienced in a holistic manner.
- Develop an intellectual capacity to establish connections between taught material and on site learning opportunities –Hands-on, Minds-on approach.

In addition, the US National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) Student Performance Criteria (SPC) that are in place for fourth year at A+D will be incorporated, as appropriate, during this off-campus program.

Learning Indicators:

- Active participation by the students in pre-departure module and information sessions
- Students must demonstrate competent design skills while working in a foreign environment
- Students will reflect on the skill building exercises and cultural immersion through visual and text based documentation.

Language requirements:

- None, as English is one of the official languages with the *Lingua Franca* of Hindi and Gujarati throughout the cities that will be visited.

Required Forms:

Virginia Tech's Global Education Office (<https://www.globaleducation.vt.edu>) requires each participant to complete a Pre-Decision and Post-Decision Forms and Agreement. Faculty member of record will guide you through the process.

Tuesday December 26, 2017 – Saturday, January 13, 2018:

- The program begins typically with the first day of classes and ends with the last day of classes. The faculty member will be the faculty of record and the sole instructor during the eighteen-day program (travel included). Guest speakers may join at key moments but will not grade students' work.

Synopsis travel schedule:

Date	Days	Day	Place
12.27.17	1	Wednesday	Travel to India from students' locations
12.28.17	2	Thursday	Arrival late or very early next day in New Delhi
12.29.17	3	Friday	New Delhi
12.30.17	4	Saturday	New Delhi
12.31.17	5	Sunday	New Delhi
01.01.18	6	Monday	New Delhi
01.02.18	7	Tuesday	New Delhi/Agra
01.03.18	8	Wednesday	Agra/Fatehpur Sikri
01.04.18	9	Thursday	Fatehpur Sikri/Jaipur
01.05.18	10	Friday	Jaipur
01.06.18	11	Saturday	Jaipur
01.07.18	12	Sunday	Jaipur
01.08.18	13	Monday	Jaipur/Ahmedabad
01.09.18	14	Tuesday	Ahmedabad
01.10.18	15	Wednesday	Ahmedabad
01.11.18	16	Thursday	Ahmedabad
01.12.18	17	Friday	Ahmedabad
01.13.18	18	Saturday	Departure Ahmedabad to Delhi/International destinations

Day by day suggested itinerary

Date	Suggested activities
12.27.17	Travel Day to New Delhi
12.28.17	Travel day/arrive late that night or early 12.29.17
12.29.17	Airport transportation and check in at hotel per students' travel schedule. Breakfast on your own at hotel. Meet in hotel lobby around 10:00am. Departure and visit of Connaught Place . Group lunch at United Coffee House (oldest restaurant in Connaught Place). Leave to nearby Jantar Mantar (astronomical observatory) and Agrasen Ki Baoli (stepped well). Debriefing of day's visits between 6-7pm and information about next day. Dinner and evening on your own (Suggestions provided).
12.30.17	Breakfast on your own at hotel. Departure to Connaught Place and subway to Old Delhi . Site visit of Chadni Chowk , Red Fort , Mosque Jam Masjid and Chawri Bazar . Late lunch at Connaught Place and rest of the afternoon free in New Delhi. Debriefing of day's visits between 6-7pm and information about next day. Group dinner with faculty and guest speaker. Evening on your own (Suggestions provided).
12.31.17	Breakfast on your own at hotel. Meet in hotel lobby around 10:00am. Departure to National Museum , National Gallery of Modern Art and National Handicraft and Handlooms Museum . Lunch at one of the museums. Debriefing of day's visits between 6-7pm and information about next day. Dinner and evening on your own (Suggestions provided).
01.01.18	Breakfast on your own at hotel. Meet in hotel lobby around 10:00am. Departure by rickshaw to Dilli Haat (great Indian Bazar). Afternoon suggested walking tour: Lutyens Delhi: India Gate , Parliament and its bungalow-lined avenues (near Rajpath); Lodhi Gardens' and Humayun's Tomb . Debriefing of day's visits 6-7pm and information about next day. Dinner and evening on your own (Suggestions provided).
01.02.18	Breakfast on your own at hotel. Check out of hotel and depart by bus to Agra . Lunch at midway bus stop. Visit Agra Fort . Check in hotel. Debriefing of day's visits between 6-7pm and information about next day. Group dinner with faculty. Evening on your own (Suggestions provided).
01.03.18	Breakfast on your own at hotel. Check out of hotel and depart to visit the Taj Mahal , grounds and tomb. Depart after lunch with bus to Fatehpur Sikri . Check in hotel. Debriefing of day's visits 6-7pm and information about next day. Dinner and evening on your own (Suggestions provided).
01.04.18	Breakfast on your own at hotel. Check out of hotel and depart by bus to Jaipur with site visit of the abandoned Imperial City of Fatehpur Sikri . Early afternoon, travel by bus to Jaipur. Check in hotel. Debriefing of day's visits between 6-7pm and information about next day. Group dinner with faculty. Evening on your own (Suggestions provided).
01.05.18	Breakfast on your own at hotel. Depart by foot to historic city center –often referred to the Pink City. Visit of City Palace , Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds) and the Jantar Mantar (astronomical observatory). Presentation of city center by guest lecturer. Lunch on your own. Group dinner with faculty, Dean (Kiran S. Mahajani) and faculty of the Aayojan School of Architecture. Evening on your own (Suggestions provided).
01.06.18	Breakfast on your own at hotel. Depart by bus to Amer Fort (former residence of the Rajput's of Jaipur). Return to Jaipur, lunch and afternoon study of the historic city's courtyard housing (Haveli). Lecture at 4pm on Jewelry and the importance of Jaipur in the gem trade. Debriefing of day's visits 6-7pm and information about next day. Dinner and evening on your own (Suggestions provided).
01.07.18	Breakfast on your own at hotel. Resume individual or group studies and documentation of Havelis. Lunch on your own. Depart at 2pm by chartered bus to Sanganer for visit, lecture and hands-on workshop on traditional block printing (famous world wide). Reception nearby at Aayojan School of Architecture with students and faculty. Return to hotel around 9pm.

01.08.18	Breakfast on your own at hotel. Morning and lunch on your own. Check out of hotel and depart to airport to catch flight to Ahmedabad via Delhi. Dinner during trip and late check in hotel.
01.09.18	Breakfast on your own at hotel. Depart hotel for visits of Le Corbusier's Ahmedabad Textile Mills Association and Museum/Kite Museum (Sanskar Kendra). Lunch on your own. Mid-afternoon visit and guided tour of the National Institute of Design (NID) –the leading design school in India. Debriefing of day's visits between 6-7pm and information about next day. Group dinner with faculty. Evening on your own (Suggestions provided such as night market).
01.10.18	Breakfast on your own at hotel. Guided tour of the historic city center of Ahmedabad with its wonderful wooden courtyard buildings. Lunch on your own. Afternoon visit of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) campus by Louis I. Kahn. Dinner and evening on your own (Suggestions provided).
01.11.18	Breakfast on your own at hotel. Visit of the Calico Museum of Textiles/Sarabhai Foundation and Le Corbusier's Sarabhai House . Lunch on your own. Mid afternoon, visit and guided tour of CEPT University –architecture program, among others. Dinner and evening on your own (Suggestions provided).
01.12.18	Breakfast on your own at hotel. Visit of the Institute of Indology by Balkrishna Doshi (senior designer of Le Corbusier's and Louis I. Kahn's Indian projects). Lunch and afternoon on your own. Suggested visit: Gandhi Memorial by C. Correa. Debriefing of day's visits between 6-7pm and information about departure back to the US. Group dinner with faculty and evening on your own (Suggestions provided).
01.13.18	Breakfast on your own at hotel. Check out of hotel and ground transportation to Ahmedabad airport. Arrival at New Delhi's airport and international flights to the US per students' bookings.

Budget based on 12 students:

In addition to VT's Wintermester tuition and fees, the students are charged an **Estimated Program Fee**. This is contingent on the number of students (independent of their in-state/out-of-state status). The Estimated Program Fee is **\$3,800** and covers all provided amenities –but is not inclusive of per diem during travel to and from India, as described in the chart below. The overall cost is established to provide comfort and ease knowing that most expenses are covered. Typically, outside of the group lunches and dinners, faculty will hand to each student their daily per diem estimated at \$40 per day. **Current estimations for sixteen days are \$600, which brings the Estimated Program Fee around \$3,200!**

Registration:

Space is limited for this program at 15 seats with one faculty of record. Brochure and applications forms are available with instructor of record.

Description	In-State (Undergrad)	Out-of-State (Undergrad)	In-State (Graduate)	Out-of-State (Graduate)
Estimated Tuition + Fees* Credits	\$1,118.50	\$2768.5	\$1700.5	\$3383.5
Estimated Program Fee**	\$3,800	\$3,800	\$3,800	\$3,800
Estimate Airfare to/from Delhi, per student's location	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300
Lodging in all cities (Western style)	Provided	Provided	Provided	Provided
Transportation from all Indian airports/hotels return	Provided	Provided	Provided	Provided
Breakfast (included with hotel)	Provided	Provided	Provided	Provided
All individual, and group lunches and dinners (Estimated at \$600 per person)	Provided	Provided	Provided	Provided

All group scheduled visit expenses (Estimated at \$120 per person)	Provided	Provided	Provided	Provided
All A/C coach transportation within India	Provided	Provided	Provided	Provided
USA Passport Fee (~\$135)	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Indian VISA (~\$100)	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
CISI required insurance	Provided	Provided	Provided	Provided

* Given that Wintermester is a tuition-paying requirement, tuition is stated per VT Bursar's Office (2016-17 figures). Subject to minor changes per Bursar's Office.

** Which includes program costs such as: all lodging, all individual and group lunch and dinner meals (breakfast included with hotel stay), site and museum admissions and lecture fees, all domestic traveling by airline (Jaipur to Ahmedabad and Ahmedabad to New Delhi) and A/C coach buses between cities and all hotel/airport transportation.

Estimated Program Fee: is **\$3,800**. A non-refundable deposit of \$500, payable through Ms. Taylor Cupp, A+D Program Specialist, is due after acceptance into the program and completion of required paperwork, with balances of program fees per below Payment Schedule Chart. All charges will be posted to the students' account.

Payment Schedule Chart:

This Payment Schedule Chart refers **only** to the School of Architecture + Design (A+D) **2017 Off-campus Wintermester program in India**. Virginia Tech will bill tuition and other fees in addition. Amounts are listed as estimates as final costs will depend on fluctuations in currency exchange rates and/or mandatory changes in itineraries. Should any change be necessary, participants will be updated promptly by email and during any scheduled Program Orientation meetings.

Purpose	Approximate Posting Dates	Amounts
Deposit (non-refundable)	Posted on or before May 10, 2017	\$500
Partial Payment 1	Posted on or before September 10, 2017	\$1,100
Partial Payment 2	Posted on or before October 10, 2017	\$1,100
Final Payment	Posted on or before November 10, 2017	\$1,100

Total Program Fee: \$3,800

Cancellations:

Virginia Tech reserves the right to make cancellations, date and cost adjustments, and other necessary changes in the program. Prices may change due to global economic conditions. Any funds above 10% of the total budget will be reimbursed to the students upon assessment and completion of the travel.

Refunds:

Amount	Descriptions
\$500 non-refundable deposit	Charged in first VT billing cycle after signing (Usually May 10 or June 10) NO REFUND
Cancellation before October 10, 2017	Amount of Partial Payment 1 (excludes non-refundable deposit)
Cancellation after November 1, 2017	NO REFUND

Refunds require a written cancellation request addressed to the program leader.

Financial Aid: For those students who qualify for financial aid, assistance within the program fee and tuition may be feasible, check with the Financial Aid Office.

Scholarship:

The School of Architecture + Design is generously providing \$3,000 in scholarships to assist students in financial difficulties in order to ease the overall costs for the India travel program. The faculty of record will provide three (3) one thousand dollar (\$1,000) scholarships. Requests should be submitted per email to Henri T. de Hahn no later than **Monday, March 14, 2017** and confirmation of scholarships will be communicated to each awardee no later than **Monday, March 28, 2017**.

The Program and Eligibility: The program is 18 days long and includes 15 days in India visiting natural and cultural sites in Delhi, Agra, Fatehpur Sikri, Jaipur and Ahmedabad.

Passports and Visas: You will need a valid passport by December 1st, 2017 and an entry visa for India as appropriate for the student's country of origin. Students traveling on US passports should apply for an E-Visa (see web page link below). Don't delay getting your first passport or renewing an old one.

Promotional materials:

VT and A+D will reach out by email and through appropriate channels to all students when the proposal has been accepted (September-October). As soon as student interest has been expressed, a series of ongoing formal and informal presentations will take place during the fall semester. In addition, a series of seminars during the spring semester will be offered by the faculty of record to introduce the various and rich components of the sites, and places scheduled for visits. Contractual documents will be drafted per A+D protocol.

Suggested bibliography:

- Ananth**, Sashikala: The Penguin Guide to Vaastu: The classical Indian Science of Architecture and Design. New Delhi, Penguin Books, 1998.
- DK:** DK Eyewitness Travel Guide: Delhi, Agra & Jaipur. DK Eyewitness Travel, 2015.
- Gupta**, Dipankar: Mistaken Modernity: India Between Worlds. New Delhi, HarperCollins, 2004.
- Khilnani**, Sunil: The Idea of India. New Delhi, Penguin Books, 2004.
- Mehta**, Suketu: Maximum City: Bombay lost and found. New York, Vintage Departure Edition, 2005.
- Sen**, Amartya: The Argumentative Indian: Writings on Indian Culture, History and Identity. London, Penguin Books, 2005.
- Tully**, Mark: India's Unending Journey: Finding balance in a time of change. Random House. London, 2007.
- Varma**, Pavan K.: Becoming Indian: The Unfinished Revolution of Culture and Identity. New Delhi, Penguin Books India, 2012.
- Varma**, Pavan K.: Being Indian: The truth about why the 21st century will be India's. New Delhi, Penguin Books India, 2004.
- Varma**, Pavan K.: The Great Indian Middle Class. New Delhi, Penguin Books, 1999.

Required web pages:

Virginia Tech Hokie Sentinel Quick Reference: <http://hrapps.hr.vt.edu/orientation/docs/hs-training-handout.pdf>

- Virginia Tech Global Travel Policy 1070: www.policies.vt.edu/1070.pdf
- U.S. Department of State: www.state.gov/travel/
- U.S. Department of State Travel Alerts and Warnings: travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html
- U.S. Department of State Learn About Your Destination: travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country.html

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- U.S. Department of State 911 List: travel.state.gov/content/dam/students-abroad/pdfs/911_ABROAD.pdf
- U.S. Embassies: www.usembassy.gov/
- U.S. Department of State Students Abroad: travel.state.gov/content/studentsabroad/en.html
- U.S. Department of State Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP): step.state.gov/step/
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): www.cdc.gov/
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Destinations: wwwnc.cdc.gov/Travel
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Travel Health Notices: wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices
- World Health Organization: www.who.int/en/
- Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI): www.culturalinsurance.com/
- The World Factbook (Central Intelligence Agency): www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/
- How to Call Abroad (International Calling Guide): www.hotocallabroad.com/a.html

Suggested web page:

E-Visa: <https://www.e-visaindia.com>

US Department of State (India): <https://www.state.gov/p/sca/ci/in/f>

East India Company: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/East_India_Company

British Indian Empire: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Raj

India: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India>