



LEWIS & CLARK COLLEGE

**GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND COUNSELING
CPSY 948: Psychology, Culture, and Community: India
SPRING - 2008**

DATES: DECEMBER 26-JANUARY 11 & FOLLOW-UP PRESENTATION DATE

Instructor: Teresa McDowell, Ed.D.

Office: Rogers Hall/ Office hours TBA

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores contextual self-of-the-therapist, counselor, and/or educator and enhances cultural competence through immersion into another culture. Participants begin meeting several months before the immersion trip to gain cultural knowledge of the country they will be visiting. This includes searching and reading literature, sharing information with each other, attending related cultural events, meeting with the in-country guide when possible, and preparing in other ways as needed. Each participant is encouraged to deeply consider her or his own “growing edges” relative to cultural competence and to track these throughout the experience. The trip itself includes learning from professionals through lectures, visiting social service agencies, engaging in cultural events, and so on. Particular attention is paid to applied social services and treatment issues.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Participation in this course will:

1. Challenge cultural encapsulation;
2. Encourage developing cultural meta-perspectives;
3. Expand participants’ repertoires for potential solutions to individual, family and community problems;
4. Be encouraged and given opportunities to dismantle own biases and stereotypes;
5. Be asked to deeply consider U.S. privilege relative to global relations;
6. Develop a stronger sense of global responsibility;
7. Increase humility and self-awareness; and
8. Gain knowledge about the life world of specific groups.

It is expected that moving in the direction of these goals will improve the quality of each participant’s work in her or his local context with members of groups who are both similar and different from oneself.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attend as many pre-trip meetings as possible;
2. Prepare for journey through researching various aspects of the culture you are visiting;
3. Complete all required pre-journey tasks (e.g., passport, visa, medical care, information sheets, etc.)
4. Attend all activities during the immersion journey;
5. Be a responsible and accountable to the group and to our hosts;
6. Maintain openness to the experience;
7. Complete a group presentation on what you learned within 6 weeks of returning.
8. For those seeking credit for a course such as CPSY 563: Treatment Issues in MCFT, write a 7-10 page paper that explores how what you learned on your trip specifically applies to treatment in your home context. This can include working with immigrant populations, transferring treatment ideas from the host to your home context, or other relevant issues as agreed upon by participant and instructor.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY/SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

Lewis & Clark College adheres to a nondiscriminatory policy with respect to employment, enrollment, and program. The College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap or disability, sexual orientation, or marital status and has a firm commitment to promote the letter and spirit of all equal opportunity and civil rights laws.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability and/or you have emergency medical information to share please make an appointment with the instructor as soon as possible.

TEXTS AND MATERIALS

Readings will be determined and completed by group members prior to the trip.

COURSE EVALUATION

Evaluation for this course will be based on participation. Active participation in trip preparations, being present for all lectures and learning opportunities, and contributing to the group presentation are foundational to passing the course. For course credit other than CORE, completion of the required paper is also part of the final evaluation.

COURSE SCHEDULE

The course schedule is flexible according to the needs and availability of our hosts. However, the following will offer a general sense of the activities we are likely to engage in and the dates for each.

PORTLAND TO MUMBAI

LEWIS & CLARK COLLEGE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & COUNSELING AND NIRMALA NIKETAN COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

Day 1: Wednesday, Dec 26th

Leave PDX 10:30am

Day 2: Thursday, Dec 27th

Arrive BOM 11:30 pm – Pick up by Sebastian Perumbilly

To Atmadarshan to check in and sleep

Day 3: Friday, Dec 28th

AM: Rest & Orientation – Time on own

PM: Lectures (2) arranged by Nirmala Niketan at Atmadarshan

Day 4: Saturday, Dec 29th

Day long rural visit to Vidhayak Sansad, Thane District

Day 5: Sunday, Dec 30th

Day long trip to fishing village

Day 6: Monday, Dec 31st

Day long visit to Elephanta Caves

Downtown Mumbai, including Khadi Bhavan

New Year's Eve dinner

Day 7: Tuesday, Jan 1st

Bombay Darshan 5-hour Tour

Downtown Mumbai

Day 8: Wednesday, Jan 2nd

AM: Lectures (2) arranged by Nirmala Niketan at Atmadarshan
PM: Visit to WRAG (Women's research Action Group) Andheri

Day 9: Thursday, Jan 3rd

Day-long seminar: Center for Study of Secularism – Place TBD
Contact: Bella Das, 9820833237

Day 10: Friday, Jan 4th

AM: Visit to Kripa Foundation (Substance abuse rehabilitation center)
PM: Visit to Family Court at Bandra

Day 11: Saturday, Jan 5th

Day long visit: Xavier Institute of Social Research
Dinner
Contact: Tony Dias

Day 12: Sunday, Jan 6th

AM: Church option
PM: Visit with families

Day 13: Monday, Jan 7th

AM: Lectures (2) arranged by Nirmala Niketan at Atmadarshan
PM: Visit to Creative Handicrafts (NGO) at Andheri, will include visit to urban community

Day 14: Tuesday, Jan 8th

Lectures (2) at Atma Darshan arranged by Nirmala Niketan

Day 15: Wednesday, Jan 9th

AM: Lectures (3) arranged by Nirmala Niketan at Nirmala Niketan
PM: Lunch at Nirmala Niketan (compliments of U.S. visitors)

Day 16: Thursday, Jan 10th

Free day
Pack and say goodbye

Mumbai Airport by 11:00pm

Day 17: Friday, Jan 11th

Leave Mumbai 1/11/08 at 2:40 am -- Arrive PDX 2:50 pm

Meeting to debrief after return – TBA

Date for group presentation to the Graduate School - TBA