**Back by popular demand:**

**“Sustainability in Southern India”**

**A University of Dayton Intersession Program: 27 Dec 2018-12 Jan 2019**



**COURSE OPTIONS: Students may participate in this special program under two regimes.**

* **Either** by enrolling in one of two **three-credit courses--either** **ECO 435: Environmental Economics or ECO 460: Economic Growth and Development).** [ECO 203: Principles of Micro—is a prerequisite for both three-credit classes.]
* **Or** by enrolling in the **one-credit course:** **ECO 498: Sustainability in Southern India** (that is ‘purpose-built’ for this intersession). There are no prerequisites for this course.

**This binary approach makes it possible for students who do not want or need the upper level economics course to participate, at a more affordable price. Students selecting the one-credit option will still participate in all lectures & field trips on site; but they will have a much smaller academic commitment before & after the trip. Both options satisfy the BWISE int’l requirement.**

**COST: There are three cost components: Expenses/Tuition/Other charges**

**The trip Expenses: $3394.00 (paid as a $250 deposit by Sep 28, and the balance, $3144 at the end of October)**

* **the roundtrip group flight--NYC-Kochi-NYC: $1695**
* **all lodging, and transportation & required guided tours within India: $1599**
* **mandatory UD issued SOS card ($100)**

**The Tuition cost depends on whether students enroll in the one credit option or the three-credit option:**

* **$1565 (for one credit)**
* **$4495 (for three credits)**

**The Other Mandatory Charges include**

* **an India e-visa ($75 or $100, plus 2.5% fee)—which we purchase individually during a preparatory meeting**
* **travel insurance (which ran about $180 per student last year)—which we purchase as a group, and**
* **any vaccinations you choose to acquire (Routine vaccinations—MMR, DTP, chickenpox, polio and flu) are recommended whenever you travel. Hepatitis A and typhoid are also recommended. India currently does not have any mandatory vaccines.)**

**Applications and nonrefundable deposits ($250.00) are due by Friday, 28 September 2018. Passport information (to book flights) is due shortly thereafter. The remaining balance for Expenses and Other Mandatory Charges is due in the last week of October 2018. Tuition will be billed separately through the University system after course registration in late fall.**

**QUESTIONS: email Barbara Heroy John at** **bjohn1@udayton.edu**

**OVERVIEW: SUSTAINABILITY IN SOUTHERN INDIA**

**This study abroad opportunity—offered for the second year by UD’s SBA—will consider the tectonics involved when human economic & environmental priorities collide. Just as continental plates can be subducted, development priorities can be undermined by more powerful environmental forces. There is a growing literature arguing that the planet’s poorest persons are the least *adaptive*, the most vulnerable to environmental degradation & climate change. Humans have inhabited southern India for millennia, & the region speaks poignantly to the possibility that human efforts to restore, maintain & enhance the environment—especially endangered species of plants & animals--can complement efforts to advance economic priorities (reducing poverty & inequality, improving life quality).**

**WHY SOUTHERN INDIA?**

* Comprising almost 20% of India’s geographic area & home to a fifth of India’s population, southern India has been ruled by more than 18 dynasties over a period of 4000 years; Four of India’s six classical languages originated here, as did a variety of classical dance forms, & the region is home to nine UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
* Growing at twice the pace of the north, the states of Kerala, Karnataka, & Tamil Nadu have created jobs for 90 lakh (9 million) people in the IT sector in the last ten years while still providing livelihoods for millions in the cultivation of spices, tea, coconuts & cotton as well as in the manufacture of exquisite silk & cotton fabrics.
* Featuring the greatest biodiversity in India, this region provides critical habitat for elephants & tigers & other less iconic endangered animals in several sanctuaries (Wayanad, Mudumalai, & Periyar). But as recent flooding during the monsoon in Kerala reveals, humanity’s relationship with nature remains precarious in this region.

**This intersession program is ideal for**

* Any & all students interested in learning more about southern India & better appreciate the tensions between human activity & the natural world
* SBA students needing the third, upper level economics course
* SEE majors and minors seeking to understand the challenges of achieving environmental sustainability in developing nations when immediate priorities (eradicating poverty) impinge on the long term viability of the environment: Both ECO 461 and ECO 435 are SEE electives.



**DAY to DAY ITINERARY IN SOUTHERN INDIA**

**Day 1: Kochi (formerly Cochin), KERALA**

After a welcome meeting, the group will visit the harbor to enjoy sunset over the Chinese fishing nets followed by a group dinner.

**Day 2: Kochi**

Traders have inhabited Kochi for over 1600 years. The Portuguese & the Dutch arrived in 1664. We will visit the sites reminiscent of the time when Europeans first accessed India directly, by sailing around Africa, rather than indirectly, through linkages presided over by Mediterranean & Middle Eastern merchants. Our orientation walk/lecture will include the Dutch (Mattancherry) Palace, its 400-year-old Jewish Pardesi synagogue (with a floor from China), the Indo-Portuguese (Catholic) Museum, the Santa Cruz basilica St. Francis Church, the oldest church in India, & the Dutch cemetery as well as the spice market That evening we will attend a Kathakali performance, a combination of dance, music & ritual enacting Hindu epics such as the Mahabharata & Ramayana.

**Day 3: Kochi/Kalpetta, KERALA**

We will take a morning train to Kozhikode, & then private vehicle to Kalpetta, in the Watyanad district of Kerala, in preparation for our next day’s touring.

**Day 4: Kalpetta**

We will walk the nature trails in the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary—home to many endangered species & a wide diversity of flora & fauna. There we will visit the prehistoric Eddakai Caves, believed to have been a shelter for Neolithic peoples. We will travel through rice paddies, coffee plantations, forests of betel nuts & bamboo & spot lots of local primates.

**Day 5: Kalpetta/Mudumalai, on the border of KERALA & KARNATAKA**

We will travel from the hills of Wayanad to the plains & spend the night in the Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, one of the most important refuges for elephants & the vulnerable gaur (Indian bison) in India. After an afternoon on safari (in small jeeps or minibuses), we will spend the night in the sanctuary, also a haven for Bengal tigers, leopards & the endangered chital (spotted deer).

**Day 6: Mudumalai/Mysore (Mysuru), KARNATAKA**

We will be transferred by private vehicle to Mysore, capital of the Woedyar maharajas (who ruled this region from 1399-1950), for a guided tour of the Mysore Palace. Then, just outside town, we will hike to the Chamundeshwari temple atop the Chamundi hills, & see statuary of Nandi the Bull ridden by the Hindu god Shiva. We will also visit the traditional Devaraja fruit & vegetable market. A yoga or dance class is a possibility as well.

**Day 7: Mysore/Mamallapuram**

This day we will travel via India’s vast rail system to the east coast. Once in Chennai, we will take a bike trip, eat in the local way (off banana leaves) and visit the Shore Temple—an impressive group of 7th & 8th century freestanding granite monuments & dedicated to the Hindu gods, Vishnu & Shiva. A UNESCO World Heritage site, the temple affords a stunning view of the Bay of Bengal.

**Day 8: Mamallapuram**

A major seaport since the 7th century under the Pallava kingdom (based at Kanchipuram), Mamallapuram is sometimes known as ‘backpackistan’; there will be some free time to take advantage of recreational opportunities on the waterfront as well as to explore monuments built during the rule of Narasimhavarman I.

**Day 9: Mamallapuram/Puducherry (Pondicherry)**

After relocating to Puducherry, we will visit an ashram & learn about Sri Aurobindo Ghose. Formerly the largest French colony in India, Puducherry was an important trading town. The French influence is still evident in the city’s layout—with wide boulevards, French-style houses & a canal—but the city is undoubtedly Indian.

**Day 10: Puducherry/Madurai**

Moving back inland, we will make a stop at an India coffee house & enjoy the scenery in India’s extensive plantation region, including rubber tree farms.

**Day 11: Madurai, TAMIL NADU**

Known as the ‘city of nectar’ since the 3rd century BCE, Madurai is southern India’s textile capital. Enticed by its products, the British East India Company razed its fort in 1840. We will visit the famous Meenakshi Temple—dedicated to Shiva & his consort Parvati or Meenakshi--a complex dating from the time of Tirumalai Nayak. We will also have time to explore handicraft shops where custom shirts are still produced on antique foot-pump sewing machines. We will also take an eco-friendly rickshaw tour to check out the fruit & vegetable market, watch the pressing of oil by bullocks & visit the Gandhi museum & palace.

**Day 12: Madurai/Periyar Sanctuary**

This day we will drive to Thekkady & take a guided tour of the spice plantations in the Cardamom Hills & then visit a tea factory. We will take a boat ride on Periyar Lake, amid a sanctuary that should permit us to spot monkeys, wild boars & wild elephants…and ride and wash home elephants!

**Day 13: Periyar Sanctuary/Kerala Backwaters**

From Periyar, we will take a bus to Alleppey & transfer to a riverboat for homestays. There will time for a guided walk along the lagoon & explore the islands before enjoying the sunset on the winding backwaters. We may be able to take a cooking lesson.

**Day 14: Kerala Backwaters/Kochi**

After watching toddy tappers at work & some free time in the morning, we will travel back (by boat & car) to Kochi in the afternoon & catch flights back to the states the next day.