

KIRKWOOD STUDY ABROAD

NEPAL SERVICE AND CULTURAL ADVENTURE

December 29, 2019 – January 12, 2020

3 Credits

Course: GLS-120 Education Experience Abroad

This course focuses on two unique service projects in Nepal. The first involves assisting at a school for underprivileged children, the Orchid Garden. The school assists disadvantaged families who do not have the means to provide a full education. You will work on a facility improvement project along with assisting with daily activities at the school. The second project will involve service work in a village, such as painting the community school and other related projects. Nepal is not a wealthy country, and hundreds of thousands of weakly constructed buildings collapsed as a result of the 2015 earthquake. Those in the rural areas that we will visit still need considerable help.

You will stay in three different cities: Kathmandu, Pokhara, and Syastri Village. You will experience the capital and economic center of Nepal in Kathmandu. Pokhara is a lakeside city in the Annapurna Mountains and offers a beautiful setting from which our trek to a local village will occur. The Syastri Village is a rural area of modest accommodations where we will complete earthquake relief projects. Visiting different areas of Nepal will give you a well-rounded understanding of the diversity of living conditions and culture of the area. A cultural highlight will be a flight tour of the Himalayas, from which we will view a number of the tallest peaks in the world, including the highest of them all, Mt. Everest.

The Country:

Nepal is a landlocked country in Southern Asia, between Tibet and India. A monarchy for hundreds of years, Nepal was declared a republic in June 2008. The country provides a rich history, with diverse landscapes and cultures. It is one of the richest countries in the world in terms of bio-diversity due to its unique geographical position and variation in altitude. It contains eight of the world's ten highest peaks, including Mount Everest the world's tallest. In addition, Nepal is the birthplace of Gautama Buddha, the founder of Buddhism. Many Nepalese follow either the Hindu or Buddhist religions, and many of the oldest and most historic temples of both religions can be found here.

Program Highlights:

- ◆ Complete two local service projects in Nepal
- ◆ Welcome dinner and cultural dance at an authentic Nepali restaurant
- ◆ Excursion to Boudhanath Stupa, Pashupatinath temple and Patan City accompanied by an experienced English-speaking guide
- ◆ Mountain flight over Mt. Everest
- ◆ Excursion to Bhaktapur City as per the itinerary in a private vehicle accompanied by an experienced English-speaking guide
- ◆ Nepalese Wood Carving Workshop accompanied by local expert
- ◆ Thangka Painting School with orientation about traditional Thangka
- ◆ Excursion to Pottery Square in Bhaktapur and Clay Pottery Workshop with local guide
- ◆ Rafting experience with expert guide
- ◆ Excursion to Swayambhunath Stupa and visit to Kathmandu Durbar Square
- ◆ Farewell dinner at Rumdoodle Restaurant, which is one of the most famous restaurants among the mountaineers

Estimated Program Fee: \$3,950

\$1,000 Global Advantage

Scholarship Available

Includes:

Roundtrip Airfare
Accommodations
Most Meals
Cultural Excursions
Most In-Country Transportation

Does not include:

Tuition: 3 credits, spring 2020
Passport Fee
Personal Expenses

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Tentative Itinerary: December 29, 2019 – January 12, 2020

- December 27:** Depart USA for Nepal.
- December 29 (Day 1):** Arrive Kathmandu, Nepal introduction, and welcome dinner.
- December 30 (Day 2):** Culture and architectural tour of Kathmandu and Patan City.
- December 31 (Day 3):** Mt. Everest flight tour.
- January 1 (Day 4):** Culture and architectural tour of Bhaktapur City.
- January 2 (Day 5):** Visit Orchid Garden.
- January 3 (Day 6):** Visit Orchid Garden.
- January 4 (Day 7):** (Weekend) Morning free. Afternoon and evening Tour of Kathmandu City and Swayambhunath.
- January 5 (Day 8):** Visit Sadhana Kala Kendra.
- January 6 (Day 9):** Drive to Pokhara. Rafting on the Trishuli River en route.
- January 7 (Day 10):** Drive to project site, Syastri Village, Kaski.
- January 8 (Day 11):** Work at project site, Syastri Village, Kaski.
- January 9 (Day 12):** Drive to Kande and hike to Australian camp.
- January 10 (Day 13):** Hike down to Suikhet via Dhampus / Drive to Pokhara.
- January 11 (Day 14):** Drive to Kathmandu, farewell dinner.
- January 12 (Day 15):** Return to USA.

Program Contacts:

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