



PROPOSED STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM IN INDIA

31 JULY – 14 AUGUST, 2019

Bronx Community College/CUNY

Dept. of Chemistry & Chemical Technology

Program Description

This program presents a practical approach to sustainability that aims at equipping students with an understanding of today's sustainability challenges and solutions in an experiential manner and inspires participants to engage in transformative change of the world.

We understand that true sustainability extends from the inside out: with heart, mind, and worldview in true harmony with the immediate surroundings and at the same time a global perspective. That's why this course addresses four dimensions of sustainability: **ecological**, including traditional and innovative design, food and infrastructure, rural and urban contexts and transition; **social**, or our relationships, community structures, and societal needs; **economic**, from personal livelihood to local economies and beyond; **culture and spirituality**, or our beliefs and forms of expression, and the spiritual self.

Each dimension addresses these topics on a very experiential level, helping students gain knowledge, examine their beliefs and assumptions in each area and opening up opportunities for new ways of thinking. Each dimension involves experiences that will broaden the participant's cultural perspectives and provide a holistic understanding of sustainable development.

Program Objectives

- Provide knowledge of sustainable development in theory and practice, with continuous opportunities throughout the course for experiential learning.

- Inspire students with a holistic worldview that bridges tradition and modernity, spirituality and science, wisdom and practice.

- Facilitate cultural exchange and provide a rich cultural experience of India, broadening the participant's perspectives on life.

About location

The program will be conducted at Govardhan School of Sustainability (GSOS), an education initiative based in Govardhan Ecovillage, a multi award-winning eco-community located around 100km from Mumbai. With its 250 residents, Govardhan Ecovillage is striving to set up a role model village, nested in an ecological infrastructure amidst a picturesque landscape of the Sahyadri Mountains. The ecovillage is composed of farms, animal shelter, yoga school, temples, ayurveda center, recreation area, community area and geotourism site, all nested in the setting of an ashram. Now GEV has broadened its outreach by being host for the GSOS, a learning center oriented towards studies of ecology and transformation of self and society.

Program participants	
Medgar Evers College	2 Students
Bronx Community College/CUNY	10 Students + 4 Faculties
York College/CUNY	2 Students
LaGuardia College/CUNY	1 Student
	15 Students

Program Schedule	
Wednesday July 31, 2019	Depart from NYC
Thursday August 1, 2019 (Day 1)	<p>Arrive in GEV, Mumbai</p> <p>Welcome and Introduction</p> <p>Group orientation/Hindi for Travelling (Prof. Paramita Sen)</p> <p>Team Activity – Lost on an Island</p> <p><i>A Team activity for bringing out the basics of ecosystem design and the need for sustainability</i></p> <p>Dinner</p>
Friday August 2, 2019 (Day 2)	<p>7:00 – 8:00: Introduction to Classical Yoga</p> <p>8:30 – 9:30: Breakfast</p> <p>10:00 – 12:00: Set-up Weather Station at GEV</p> <p>12:00 – 13:00 Pottery Workshop - <i>Traditional Indian ceramic pottery workshop</i></p> <p>13:00 – 15:00: Lunch</p> <p>15:00 – 16:00: Story of Sustainability: Shades of Green (<i>Introduction to uses and abuses of concept of sustainability</i>)</p> <p>16:00 – 16:30: Snack break</p> <p>16:00 – 18:00: Tour of GEV Sustainability</p>

	<p>Initiatives</p> <p>19:00: Dinner</p>
<p>Saturday August 3, 2019 (Day 3)</p>	<p>7:00 – 8:00: Classical Yoga</p> <p>8:30 – 9:30: Breakfast</p> <p>Mumbai Beach Clean Up</p> <p>Discover Mumbai (Walk Around Mumbai)</p> <p>Lunch at Juhu (Mumbai)</p> <p>19:00: Dinner at GEV</p>
<p>Sunday August 4, 2019 (Day 4)</p>	<p>7:00 – 8:00: Classical Yoga</p> <p>8:30 – 9:30: Breakfast</p> <p>9:30 – 11:00: Set up Backpack Weather Stations</p> <p>11:00 – 12:00: Organic Farming: Theory and Practice</p> <p>13.00 – 15.00: Lunch</p> <p>15.00 – 16.00: Organic farming <i>Practical workshop</i></p> <p>16.00 –16:30: Snack Break</p> <p>16.30 – 18.30: Eco Hunt</p> <p><i>An Eco lesson based team game designed along the lines of the popular Treasure Hunt, where students have to find some objects in the Ecovillage based on few cryptic clues and a map</i></p> <p>19.00 – 20.00: Dinner</p> <p>20.00 – 21.00: Reflection circle</p> <p><i>A synopsis of students experience</i></p>
<p>Monday August 5, 2019 (Day 5)</p>	<p>7:00 – 8:00: Classical Yoga</p> <p>8:30 – 9:30: Breakfast</p>

	<p>9:30: US Consulate visit (Mumbai)</p> <p>13:00: Lunch in Mumbai</p> <p>15:00: Use Backpack Weather Station at Ryan International school (Mumbai)</p> <p>19:00: Dinner at GEV</p>
<p>Tuesday August 6, 2019 (Day 6)</p>	<p>7.45 – 8.45: Nature Walk with Cows <i>A fun filled walk with the Cows into the grazing area in the forest surrounding the Ecovillage</i></p> <p>9.00 – 10.00: Breakfast</p> <p>10.00 – 12.00: Introduction to Deep Ecology <i>Workshop to redefine one's world view towards ecology</i></p> <p>13.00 – 15.00: Lunch</p> <p>15.00 – 16.00: Visit to Animal Barn <i>An awareness and activity tour to the Animal Barn to understand our extended ecosystem</i></p> <p>16.00 – Snack Break</p> <p>16.30 – 18.30: Vrindavan Heritage Tourism Visit <i>A guide tour of the 12-acre Vrindavan forest project in</i> <i>GEV with storytelling and activities</i></p> <p>19.00 – 20.00: Dinner</p> <p>20.00 – 21.00: Reflection circle <i>A synopsis of students experience</i></p>
<p>Wednesday August 7, 2019 (Day 7)</p>	<p>7:00 – 8:00: Classical Yoga</p> <p>8:30 – 9:30: Breakfast</p> <p>10:00: Visit to IIT Mumbai</p>

	13:00: Lunch in Mumbai Leave for Lonavala. Night stay in Lonavala
Thursday August 8, 2019 (Day 8)	Sight seeing in Lonavala and Pune. Leave for Goa in the night
Friday - Sunday August 9 – 11, 2019 (Day 9 - 11)	Visit to Goa
Monday August 12, 2019 (Day 12)	Arrival from Goa 13.00 – 15.00: Lunch Rest or optional Ayurveda visit
Tuesday August 13, 2019 (Day 13)	7:00 – 8:00: Classical Yoga 8:30 – 9:30: Breakfast 10:00: Mumbai University visit Lunch at Mumbai Dinner at GEV
Wednesday August 14, 2019 (Day 14)	7:00 – Trek up Mount Kohoj 13:00 – 15:00: Lunch & Relax Rest or optional Ayurveda visit
Thursday August 15, 2019 (Day 15)	Breakfast Independence day celebration in Mumbai Lunch Sightseeing in Mumbai Dinner Depart to New York