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**LEWIS & CLARK COLLEGE**

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**GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND COUNSELING  
CPSY 902: CULTURE AND COMMUNITY: INDIA  
SPRING - 2016**

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**DATES:** MARCH 16-MARCH 27, 2016

**Instructor:** Elena Diamond, Ph.D. & Teresa McDowell, EdD

**Destination/Hosts:** Montfort College, Bangalore, India

**CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION**

An intensive international or intercultural immersion course designed to raise awareness of issues in personal and community wellbeing in a particular community or region. After pre-visit briefings and readings, students visit professionals at schools, clinics, and NGOs to learn about cultural and social realities of the community or region. The visit is followed by systematic reflection on implications for local practice and the understanding of one's own self and society. Interdisciplinary approaches and inter-professional collaboration are emphasized.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course explores contextual self-of-the-therapist, counselor, school psychologist, 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. Participants are encouraged to deeply consider their own "growing edges" relative to cultural competence and to track these throughout the experience. The trip itself includes learning from professors through lectures, engaging in cultural events, collaborating with professionals and fellow students, visiting schools, agencies, and community groups, and so on. Throughout this course, we will use an anti-colonial, critical multicultural, transnational lens to understand ourselves in relation to global issues, as well as power and cultural issues between countries.

**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, school 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 participants' work in their local context with members of groups who are both similar and different from themselves.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attend pre-trip meetings;
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. Participate in group process meetings while on the journey;
6. Be a responsible and accountable to the group and to our hosts; and
7. Maintain openness to the experience.

### 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 NEEDS/ ACCOMMODATIONS

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

International courses rely heavily on informal, experiential learning. While study groups and readings will help prepare students, the key to deep cultural learning is processing and engaging in ongoing dialogue that reflects on self-in-context relative to in-country experience. All students are expected to openly and enthusiastically engage in daily dialogue groups throughout the trip. Written reflections may also be required during and after the travel experience. Evaluation for this course will therefore be based on participation. Active participation in trip preparations, being present for all lectures and learning opportunities, and contributing to the group learning experience are foundational to passing the course. Each student will be graded on participation in pre-course readings and discussions (20 points), participation in dialogue while traveling (40 points) and professional participation in all activities while on our journey (40 points). A = 92-100; A- = 90-92; B+ = 87-88; B = 84-86; B- = 80-83.

## 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. The following is a **tentative** plan:

March 16 & 17: Travel from Portland to Bangalore, India

March 18: Arrive & Rest

March 19: Cultural Orientation

March 20: Home visit

March 21: MCFT students participate in supervision workshop; School Psychology students visit a school

March 22: School Psychology students participate in supervision workshop; MCFT students visit a community agency

March 23: Faculty complete supervision workshop; students attend Rangwali Holi celebration

March 23: Alternative healing lectures

March 24: Visit healing & yoga centers

March 25: Shopping and cultural activities

March 26-27: Travel from Bangalore to Portland