

# India Study Tour



**Southern India**

**May 2018**

**History 2798 – Spring Semester 2018 and tour in May 2018  
The Ohio State University at Marion**

**Overview:** This study tour has been planned to provide students with opportunities to study and experience Indian culture. This trip will provide a first-hand opportunity to view an emerging Asian nation in a globalizing world.

**Program:** The itinerary includes visits to key places: Chennai, Kanchipuram, Mamallapuram, Pondicherry, Thanjavure, Madurai, Cochin, Mysore, Bangalore. A description of some of the sites:

**Chennai:** - Under the Pallava dynasty the area was a collection of fishing villages and a port. The English East India Company founded Madras, which became a key center of the British Empire. View Fort St. George, visit Parthasarathi and Kapaleshvara Temples and St. Thomas Basilica, and walk along the Marina.

**Kanchipuram and Mamallapuram:** - Kanchipuram was the capital and center of learning for all major religions of the Pallava kingdom from the 4th to the 10th century. Visit the Kailsantha, Ekambareshvara, and Varadaraja temples. In Mamallapuram the Pancha Rathas are some of the oldest examples of Dravidian architecture carved from granite boulders.

**Pondicherry:** - Pondicherry was the largest French colony in India. The cobble stone streets are lined with Mediterranean style houses.

**Thanjavur:** - Thanjavur was the capital of the Chola kingdom. Between the 10th and the 14th century it was center of learning and culture. The Brahadeeswara Temple, established in 1011 CE is an example of South Indian temple architecture.

**Madurai:** - The city is famous for its temples built by Pandyan kings in the Dravidian style of architecture. The most famous is the Meenakshi Temple, dedicated to the goddess Meenakshi (considered a form of Parvati) with a sanctum for her consort, Sundareshwarar (or Shiva).

**Cochin:** - Cochin (aka as Kochi) was a center of the spice trade: India merchants traded spices such as black pepper and cardamom with the Arabs, Dutch, Phoenicians, Portuguese, and Chinese more than 600 years ago. It was from Cochin that the colonization of India started. Portugal was first to establish its base in Cochin, followed by the Dutch and English.



**Mysore:** - The city served as the capital of Wodeyar Kingdom for nearly six centuries, from 1399 until 1947. Mysore has

a history going back a thousand years. Mysore View Amba Vilas Palace, Chamundi Hill, and a statue of Nandi carved from a boulder..

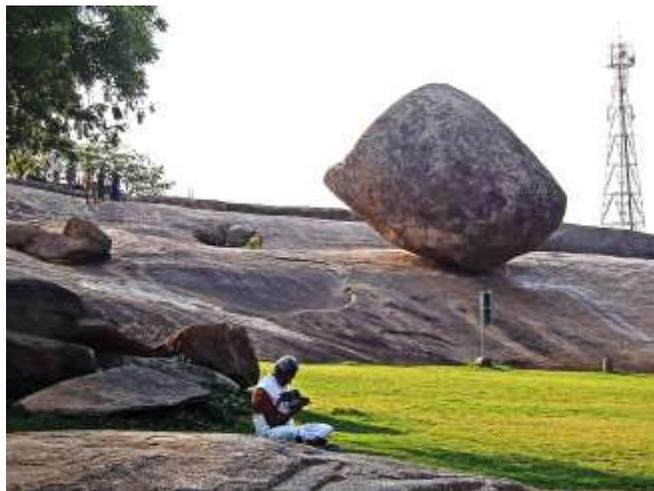
**Bangalore:** - Once called the "Garden City of India", Bangalore now is the major center of India's IT industry, popularly known as the Silicon Valley of India.

**Participants:** Open to OSU and MTC students, staff, and faculty. Approximately fifteen applicants will be accepted into the study tour. The program is designed for individuals who have an interest in contemporary affairs, global studies and India's history, cultures, economy, and educational system.

**Academic Credit:** Traditional and non-traditional students will register for 5 credit hours of History 2798, Spring Semester 2018. Details regarding academic requirements and responsibilities will be provided upon request. The course will prepare and orient students for the study tour and acquaint students with Indian geography, ethnic groups, and religious institutions (Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Jainism, and Islam), as well as with social, political, and economic developments that have combined to produce a constantly evolving Indian nation.

**Course Audit:** Students who have participated in previous India Study Tours will register as Audits for 2 credit hours

**Scholarship:** Ohio State Marion students may apply for an Ohio State Marion Study Travel Scholarship.



**Dates:** Tentatively the group will depart for India on *Wednesday*, 2 May and will return on *Thursday*, 17 May, 2018.

**Arrangements for Travel:**

**Price:** The tentative price of \$2750 includes: roundtrip air fare; guest houses with bath or shower throughout the itinerary based on double occupancy; meals; program related transportation in India; the total program abroad, including entrance fees, scheduled briefings, visits, tours,

lectures, performances, and cultural events; baggage handling for one bag (not to exceed 44 lbs.); all air and land transfers with assistance; gratuities and taxes normally added to hotel bills; carefully selected English speaking guides; and gratuities for local guides and drivers. **(Please understand that there may be changes in the plan, and costs are subject to airline and transportation costs.)**

**Not included in the price:** Passport (currently, \$135); Indian visa (currently \$76. including processing); immunization shots; meals not mentioned as scheduled; personal items such as a la carte orders, room service, and laundry charges; transportation to the departure city prior to the study tour and return to participants' homes following the study tour; health, flight cancellation, or baggage insurance; tuition and fees at The Ohio State University. Thus a student's expenses not included in the package are estimated at \$700.



**Deposit:** A deposit of \$350 per person will be required on one's admission to the program. The balance will be due no later xx February 2018.

**Application Deadline:** Applications will be accepted until *day of week*, 1 December 2017. However, early application is encouraged since the number of spaces will be limited. Please note that we will need your passport information by *day of week*, 15 January 2018. Your passport must be valid through November 2018.

**Insurance:** Participants are required to be enrolled in Ohio State University's supplemental health insurance plan. Ohio State University makes available a health insurance program. Trip cancellation, baggage, and travel insurance is the responsibility of the student.

**Cancellation Policy:** The following cancellation/refund policy will be in effect for the study tour:

Full refund less \$100 for any cancellation received in writing up to 91 days before departure. After that period, the cancellation fees are as follows:

Number of Days Prior to Departure	Cancellation Fees as % of Total Tour Price
90 – 61	25%
60 – 45	50%

44 – 31  
30 – 0

75%  
100%

After the departure date, all unused services provided by pre-arrangement during the trip, including hotel accommodations, ground transportation, domestic or international flights, meals, and programmed experiences are neither refundable nor exchangeable.

**Required Meeting:** The Office of International Affairs requires that all participants attend an OIA orientation meeting on the Ohio State Marion Campus. The meeting will coincide with a class in March 2018.

(Please understand that there may be changes in the plan and costs are subject to airline and transportation costs.)

**Study Tour Leaders and**

**Instructors:** The study tour is organized by Professors Steffel and Pandey. Professor Pandey (Mathematics and OSUM Associate Dean) was raised and educated in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, which will be the focus of the field aspect of the study tour. Professor Steffel (History emeritus) taught World History at OSU and for Semester at Sea (University of Virginia).

**For an Application or additional material contact:**  
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India Study Tour **Web Page:**  
<https://u.osu.edu/vsteffel/history-2798-india-study-tour/>

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