

# Study in India Program



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## **Introduction**

The University's Study in India Program (SIP), which began in 1998 with only 8 students, has considerably expanded in recent years. There are usually about 200 participants in a year.

SIP is an interdisciplinary initiative, emphasizing heritage, continuity and change in India. The unique aspect of SIP has been that the students' interests have been given primary attention. One-on-one counseling on e-mail, contact prior to arrival, meeting after arrival provided by the SIP faculty and program assistants, lead to a good match between students' preferences and the courses they take. In some cases, independent studies are devised for SIP students.

Courses that have been taken by SIP students include Indian Diaspora, Women's Studies, Folk Culture Studies, Religious Studies, Indian Philosophy, Indian Dance, Indian Music, Indian Cinema, Art, Literature, Indian Politics and Foreign Policy, Linguistics, Communication Technologies, Anthropology, Indian History, Mathematics, Ayurveda etc. Basic and advanced language courses like Hindi, Telugu, Urdu, Sanskrit, and other Indian languages are also offered. There is growing interest in different science courses as well.

The University of Hyderabad (UoH) is a central university created through an Act of Parliament and is regarded as among India's top universities. In the last 12 years, faculties have been involved in the conceptualization and development of the SIP, which is the only program of its kind in an Indian university. SIP is an interdisciplinary initiative emphasizing the study of the culture and heritage of India along with providing insights into India's emergence as an economic power and a leader in scientific and technological innovation that ensures a smooth ride for the program. It takes at least a year or more for new agreements to get operationalized.

## **Why join SIP at UoH?**

- It is the only comprehensive study abroad program in India
- Internationally acclaimed faculty, many of whom have teaching and research experience abroad.
- The modular structure of a rigorous and flexible semester-based program.
- Economical and variable tuition fee, related to the credits earned by the students.
- Credits are transferred to the students' institutions, if we have an agreement. In other cases, a student is given the transcript directly.
- A fully computerized library (the first of its kind in India).
- Email/Internet facilities.
- A diverse campus, with international students and Indians from different parts of the country.
- A pollution-free, nature-rich campus of over 2000 acres.
- A secure, hygienic and modern International Students' Hostel, the Tagore International House, on the campus.

## **Who Can Join?**

The program is aimed at overseas students who have proficiency in English and meet the special prerequisites of the courses desired. The following can approach SIP:

- Universities and their International Studies divisions or Study Abroad Programs.
- Heads of Academic Programs, Disciplines, or Departments of Universities.
- Institutions with a South Asia/Area Studies Program.
- Higher education institutes or Councils of International Education.
- NRI groups or associations.
- Trade or business delegations or groups (for short-term courses).
- Individual students after meeting the requirements of SIP.

## Different Programs

### Semester Program

The Fall semester runs from late July till the end of November, and the Spring Semester from early January till early May. Students can take 12 to 20 credits (3-5 courses) in a semester. Students are allowed to take any regular classes (provided they have the prerequisites) being offered in the University of Hyderabad during the semester and interact with Indian students in a classroom setting. The Semester program is the backbone of the internationalization of the campus.

SIP acts as a single-window system facilitating both academic and administrative support to the students. At the orientation, university faculty who are SIP coordinators provide one-on-one course counseling for the semester students. Students can take any of the following types of classes:

1. Regular courses of the university, along with other Indian students. SIP provides a broad list of the courses offered by different departments/schools.
2. Specially designed SIP courses offered exclusively for foreign students, if three or more students opt for such a course. The courses on Indian languages -- Hindi, Urdu, Telugu, Sanskrit, etc. -- are examples of SIP courses. The other courses which have been of interest to SIP students in the past are: Kuchipudi Dance, Indian Philosophy, Gender and Film etc.
3. Independent/Directed study where a faculty member supervises readings, field study and/or research focused on a topic. A few examples of such courses taken by the students in the past are: Pearl Markets in Hyderabad, Dalit Women and Water Rights, Organic Farming and Environment, An Introduction to Hindustani Classical Music etc.
4. Courses involving practice/performance, e.g. Indian Classical Dance, Theatre, Sitar, Painting, Sculpture, etc.
5. Non-credit courses such as Yoga, Tabla, Kathak, etc.

At SIP, while we strive to offer special courses designed to meet the interests of students, we attempt to integrate foreign students into the common classroom with other Indian students. SIP also offers specially designed programs during the semester for example a 10 week program for Dartmouth College to accommodate their quarter system.

### Summer Programs

These are the more flexible programs designed in consultation with faculty and study abroad partner institutions.

There are two models. One is a six-week program, which runs from the second week of June till the third week of July. Students normally take from 6 to 9 credits (2-3 courses). The courses are specially designed for the SIP students, eg Indian Politics, Gender and Society and Basic Hindi.

Contemporary India is an interdisciplinary four week course in the month which is very popular for more than 10 years.

Courses as per the specific needs of an institution can also be designed. The examples of such courses are: 'Contemporary India' and 'Gender and Society in Contemporary India' being offered in July,14 -August 10, 2022 for students from Nordic Centre in India and University of Pittsburgh, as well as Media and Development for University of San Francisco and Pace University, New York.

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