



## INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS COURSE FACT SHEET

### **SWRK 748: Microfinance and Women's Empowerment in India**

#### **WINTER 2016 DATES**

##### **Course Dates**

- In Mangalore, India: December 30, 2015 – January 9, 2016
- Pre-travel course sessions at Penn: Monday, November 16, 5:30 – 7:00 PM; Tuesday, December 8, 5:30 – 7:00 PM; Monday, December 14, 5:30 – 7:00 PM. Students who are accepted into the course who have a conflict with these dates should notify the instructor immediately.

##### **Travel Dates**

Students will need to leave the United States no later than December 28 in order to arrive in Mangalore, India by December 30. You will need to schedule your departure from Mangalore on January 9. If you schedule your departure after January 9, you will be responsible for lodging and other expenses after the course ends the morning of January 9.

#### **APPLICATION**

##### **Application Deadline**

Tuesday, October 27 at 12:00 PM

##### **Application Process**

Students must complete the online application in order to be considered for the course. If warranted, the course instructor may conduct application interviews. The online application can be accessed through the Global Opportunities webpage: <http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/global-engagement/global-opportunities-for-sp2-students/courses-and-programs/>.

##### **Notification and Registration**

Students will be notified by November 2, 2015 as to whether they have been accepted into the course. Accepted students will have until November 9, 2015 to register for the course, and will be charged a non-refundable \$650 program fee at this time. Accepted students will receive registration instructions from the Registrar.

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

SWRK 748: Microfinance and Women's Empowerment in India examines microfinance and its engagement with marginalized communities, such as those in India. It is designed to provide students with an understanding of the phenomena of microfinance and its role in poverty alleviation. By studying the use of self-help groups with NGO facilitation, their impact on women's empowerment will be examined and understood through interaction with women engaged in microfinance activities.

## PREREQUISITES

### Eligibility

- Students do not need to speak a foreign language in order to participate in this course.
- Any Penn graduate student may apply for this course.

### In order to participate in this course, students will need to:

- Have a valid passport and tourist visa
- Submit their travel details in Penn's Global Activities Registry

### Prior to departure, students will need to submit the following paperwork to SP2:

- Proof of international health insurance
- Health Review Form with a health professional's signature
- SP2's Global Study Consent Form
- SP2's Emergency Contact Form

## HOUSING AND MEALS

### Housing

- Nights of December 30 – 31: Students will stay in a hotel. Hotel reservations will be made by the course instructor. Students will be expected to share a room
- Nights of January 1 – January 8 (checkout on the morning of January 9): Students will stay in a Nitte University Faculty Guest House. Students will be expected to share a room.

### Meals

Most breakfasts and dinners will be provided at the Guest House and the cost of these meals is included in the program fee. All other the meals will be either on your own or in a group (such as during field visits), and students will be responsible for the cost of these meals (they are not included in the program fee).

## PROGRAM DESIGNATIONS

### MSW Program

This course fulfills a general elective requirement in the MSW program. It does **not** count as a clinical practice elective, macro practice elective, policy option, or research option.

### MSSP Program

This course is pre-approved to count as an elective in the MSSP program.

### Global Human Rights Certificate

This course is **not** pre-approved to fulfill any requirements for the Global Human Rights certificate.

## COURSE SIZE

The maximum enrollment for this course is 10 students.

## **COSTS AND FEES**

### **Tuition and Fees**

- Students are charged regular course tuition for this class.
- In addition, students are charged a \$650 program fee to cover the cost of local guides, travel expenses for field visits, group activities, and lodging and meals at the guest house. This fee is non-refundable after November 9, 2015, even if students withdraw from the course and do not travel to India.

### **Students also pay for the following on their own:**

- Airfare from the United States (or your point of trip origin) to/from Mangalore, India (estimated to be \$1800, but this can vary widely)
- Visa application fees
- Personal expenses while in India, including food and lodging not covered in the program fee (estimated to be \$150 total)

## **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

### **Financial Aid**

SP2 students who are taking this course as part of their degree requirements will receive their regular financial aid allocation towards the tuition for this course. This course is part of the **Spring 2016** schedule, so billing and financial aid distribution will be in accordance with the spring schedule.

### **SP2 Student International Travel Fund**

SP2 students may apply for an award from the SP2 Student International Travel Fund, which awards half the cost of roundtrip airfare to Mangalore, up to \$600. This award is distributed as financial aid and will be posted to the student's financial aid account for the spring semester. To receive the award, students must submit the receipt showing the total cost and flight details of their trip and participate in the course. Instructions for requesting an award from the SP2 Student International Travel Fund will be shared with students after they enroll in the course.

### **Dean's Award**

All students who enroll in the course are eligible for a \$250 Dean's Award to assist with the cost of the trip. Dean's Awards are distributed as financial aid and will be posted to students' financial aid accounts for the spring semester.

## **QUESTIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **Questions about the course**

Contact Dr. Femida Handy, Professor, at [fhandy@sp2.upenn.edu](mailto:fhandy@sp2.upenn.edu)

### **Questions about the online application, course registration, and travel awards**

Contact Emily McCully, Associate Director of Academic Affairs, at [emccully@sp2.upenn.edu](mailto:emccully@sp2.upenn.edu)

### **Questions about financial aid**

Contact the Office of Financial Aid at [finaid@sp2.upenn.edu](mailto:finaid@sp2.upenn.edu)