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| **Co-Instructors:**  Jordan Sooter and Vikas Anand  Department of Management  Walton College of Business  University of Arkansas | **Contact Information:**  **Jordan Sooter**  Telephone: 479-366-5701  E-mail:jasooter@uark.edu  **Vikas Anand**  Office: WJWH 519  Telephone: 479-200-4849  E-mail: [vikas@walton.uark.edu](mailto:vikas@walton.uark.edu)  Dept. Secretary: Lisa Frye  Dept. Secretary Telephone:479-575-4007 |
| **Mailing Address:**  Dept. of Management  Walton College of Business  U. of Arkansas  Fayetteville, AR 72701 | **Course Website:**  A blackboard site will is available for all students. |
| **Course Textbooks:** Reading assignments will be posted on Blackboard.  **Required Software:** None. However, you will be required to extensively and regularly use Blackboard to work on key aspects of the course.  **Blackboard Assistance:**   * Login to the new Blackboard site at <http://learn.uark.edu> * Consult the “Walton College Blackboard Support” Course Website, found within Blackboard * Contact the **Walton College Blackboard Help Desk**   **Email:** [blackboard@walton.uark.edu](mailto:blackboard@walton.uark.edu)  **Telephone:** (479) 530-8427  **Communication & Office Hours**  By appointment only. However, both instructors are easily accessible on email. | |

**Course Description and Objectives**

The India Study Abroad program consists of two, three-hour classes. The first class involves a semester long study on campus about the business and general environment in India. In order to appreciate the nuances of dealing with India, students will be exposed to the history and many dimensions of the Indian culture including religion, food, dress, language and customs. This pre-trip portion of the class is designed to prepare students for the second portion of the program—the three-week visit to India, which is scheduled from Sunday, May 11 through Sunday, June 1. In the spring of 2014, there will be five classes during which students will be exposed to lectures, guest speakers, videos and presentations as well as engage in discussions about India. Between the classes, students will be provided access to information that can be accessed online from Blackboard.

Key Objectives:

1. Understanding the historical, cultural, and economic facts that have shaped India’s current business environment.
2. Understanding the everyday life and experiences of Indians.
3. Gaining insights about the shape of India’s future business environment.
4. Gaining deep understanding of operational and managerial challenges of businesses working in India.
5. Understanding the cultural and other differences between Indian and American ways of doing business.
6. Understanding and coping with the challenges inherent in managing the India-based operations of multinational corporations.

**Course Components and Grading—In Country Class**

Your final grade in this course will be based on your performance on the following components:

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| **Component** | **Points Possible** |
| **Trip Journal with built in focus areas** | **250** |
| **Participation/professionalism on trip** | **100** |
| **Create your own learning** | **150** |
|  |  |
| **TOTAL COURSE POINTS POSSIBLE** | **500** |

Trip Journal: During your visit to India, you will be required to maintain a daily entry where you note your experiences and summarize the key things that you learned in India. The main purpose of this assignment is to encourage you to be a careful and thoughtful observer of what you encounter while we are in India. You will see many things while we are in India that will be new and unusual. We want you to chronicle your observations on a daily basis. Please focus on events and sights that are especially memorable to you. We would like you to focus on interpreting and analyzing these experiences, rather than just describing what you see. We would also like you to place some of these observations in the context of firms entering the Indian market and trying to successfully do business in India. While not all of your key observations will be business oriented, please try to use this lens when it is appropriate. There is no minimum or maximum length to the journal—just write what you think it important so that you will have a record of key events and experiences of the trip. We ask that you write this journal as much for yourself as for a class deliverable.

Focus Study and Create your own Learning: Details will be provided separately.

Participation: During the trip you will be expected to participate actively in a variety of ways. First, you are expected to behave with utmost professionalism during company visits and guest speakers. Distracted behavior that includes (but is not limited to) texting, web surfing, etc. will be penalized. Second, there will be numerous debriefs during the trip in groups as well as one on one where the trip leaders may spend time with you to discuss your observations and help you make sense of them. You are expected to participate in them effectively to contribute to your learning and that of the others. During the bus ride the trip leaders may call on some of you to discuss with the whole group specific questions that they may raise. Finally participation is also judged in terms of your general behavior during the trip – excessive drinking, engaging in any other rule breaking (such as substance abuse, group travel norms) will not only lead to a low grade but can result in immediate removal from the trip.

**Late Assignment Policy:**

You are urged to submit all assignments and papers on time. For every 24 hour delay, you will be assessed a penalty of 10% of the maximum grade you could have earned on the assignment/exam. Any submission received more than 72 hours after it is due, will earn no credit.

## Grading Standards

## The grading scale shown in the table below will be used to determine final course grades.

*General grading philosophy*: Evaluation of your class-work is an important part of the learning process. We do not “give”grades, but assign them based on your performance. We take this aspect of the job very seriously, and work hard to provide you with objective and fair feedback. We do not anticipate curving your grades

| **Points** | **Letter Grade** |
| --- | --- |
| 450-500 | A |
| 400-449 | B |
| 350-399 | C |
| 300-349 | D |
| <300 | F |

**Course Policies**

*Academic Honesty:*

As a core part of its mission, the University of Arkansas provides students with the opportunity to further their educational goals through programs of study and research in an environment that promotes freedom of inquiry and academic responsibility. Accomplishing this mission is only possible when intellectual honesty and individual integrity prevail. Each University of Arkansas student is required to be familiar with and abide by the University’s ‘Academic Integrity Policy’ which may be found at <http://provost.uark.edu/>.  Students with questions about how these policies apply to a particular course or assignment should immediately contact their instructor.

### Inclement Weather

### Since this is not a traditional class, inclement weather is not expected to play a major role. However if exceptional circumstances were to arise we will provide you the necessary information on changes to the itinerary or any other aspect of the trip.

### Access for Students with Disabilities

### University of Arkansas Academic Policy Series 1520.10 requires that students with disabilities are provided reasonable accommodations to ensure their equal access to course content. If you have a documented disability and require accommodations, please contact me privately at the beginning of the semester to make arrangements for necessary classroom adjustments. Please note, you must first verify your eligibility for these through the Center for Educational Access (contact 479–575–3104 or visit [http://cea.uark.edu](http://cea.uark.edu/) for more information on registration procedures).

**Risks**

Like in any study abroad program all students acknowledge that they are undertaking a venture where a variety of risks are involved. These include the risks that were noted in the documents you signed with the Study Abroad Office as part of your acceptance of this trip. The trip leaders will provide you with detailed instructions about health and safety in India. It is expected that all student will comply with these guidelines. Please note especially the guidelines on staying healthy that were provided in the prep class, and the rule of travelling in a minimum group of 3. Any non-compliance with those rules can affect your participation grade and lead to a termination of your participation in the trip.