Why an international course?
Globalization and internationalization have become commonplace terms across all sectors of the economy; social and political fields. Short-term study abroad programs have been shown to be appropriate and will likely become the new standard in preparing students for the global challenges that await them.

Why a water-focused course in India?
India faces a turbulent water future. Increasing population pressures, dwindling groundwater resources and a highly seasonal rainfall pattern creates a pressing need for increasing efficiency in water management. The course will expose the students to some of these issues, and provide them with opportunities to help in the design of sustainable solutions.

What are the academic aspects of the course?
This is a 3 SH credit course for junior, seniors, and graduate students with interest in watershed resource development from the scientific (geo-economics, agriculture, water resources, environment), engineering (water and energy infrastructure, energy production and management), and sustainability perspectives. The course requirements include readings, discussions, classroom and field observations and seminar participation, public presentations, and one final presentation on January 14th in India. Within six weeks of their return to the US, all UI students are expected to actively participate in a forum and share their experiences in India with the UI community.

What will we do in India?
Most of the course activities will be conducted on the grounds of the Institute of Rural Research and Development (IRRAD) in Gurgaon, Haryana. Fresh groundwater exists in only 61 of 503 villages in Mewat district in Haryana, a community dependent primarily on groundwater resources for their agricultural and domestic needs. To address the extreme water scarcity, targeted recharge of rainwater is being implemented by IRRAD. We will visit village clusters in the Mewat District, and conduct education and outreach activities for both learning and sharing knowledge. The day by day activities within the NGO will be complemented with afternoon and weekend cultural activities and networking: visits to Jaipur, Agra, Roorke, and Haridwar. Field trips to cultural and historical sites strengthen participants’ cultural awareness and promote networking.

How much will it cost you?
We make every effort to bring the cost of the course as low as possible working closely with our Indian hosts. We strongly encourage you, however, to apply for the merit and need-based scholarship administered by Office of Study Abroad. More information about the application process and deadlines (approaching soon) can be found at: http://international.uiowa.edu/study-abroad/funding/scholarships/grad/default.asp. In addition to these sources funding from IRRAD and IIHR Hydroscience & Engineering are also available.

What other students are saying about their first-hand experience with similar International courses?
See students’ comments at:
- http://www.uiowa.edu/~geog/india/
- http://www.iihr.uiowa.edu/education/international-perspectives

Whom to contact for further information?
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