

UNCWMPA STUDENTS ABROAD

Student: Allison McMurry (center with big smile and pink shirt)

Dr. Tan's Trip to India, Summer 2009

Program Focus: Development and Globalization in India

What did you love most about India?



Photo: Nirmal Jyothi Training Institute, Bangalore, India (2009)



Photo: Home of Hope Orphanage, Cochin, India (2009)

1. The children--their smiling faces will stay with you for a lifetime.
2. The museums and temples--there is so much history and interesting artifacts, culture, and buildings.
3. Dancing and singing--Oh my, be prepared to laugh at yourself!
4. Relaxing by the pool and drinking Kingfisher!! After all the sightseeing, hustle and bustle, find a nearby pool, and all your worries will melt away. (After your busy day, everything will be so much more in perspective and you can count your blessings.)
5. Colors--Whether it's the food, clothes, or the jungle, India is beautiful!

Bonus Loves: Shopping, spa treatments, and going off exploring Northern India at the end of the trip. All highly recommended!!

What did you learn most on the study abroad experience?

I learned how important it is to be open to new ideas, culture, and traditions. If you close yourself off to these things you can't fully experience India. It is so different you have to just accept it as the way it is and try and be as open as possible to everything, then you can truly learn about this awesome place and be tickled inside with the wonder of it all.

How did you change as a result of the study abroad experience?

I am so grateful for this experience because it changed the way I look at life. I am thankful for the many blessings we have here in the US but that these blessings are not what make you happy. Some of these poor dirty little Indian kids that we met seemed to have more joy inside them than anyone I know in the States. I realized what is really important in my life and how to be grateful for all the little blessings, even just the sunrise and clean water!

Photo: Being blessed by a Jain Priest, Sravana Belgola, Karnataka, India (2009)

