2021 SYLLABUS

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REIMAGINING INDIA VIRTUAL STUDY TOUR 2021

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Reimagining India 2021: A Virtual Study Tour

Executive Summary

This course has been designed to help bridge the gap created by current travel restrictions *and* to help internationalise student experience by widening awareness of India.

Due to the complexity and costs of study abroad, this one-of-a-kind virtual study tour provides students an opportunity to learn in an engaging interactive format about an important part of the world which they otherwise may not.

Working with India based education specialist IndoGenius enables CQU and the Reimagining India Consortium of 18 Australian universities to gain access to resources and networks on the ground in India. The IndoGenius team have more than nine years experience teaching Australian and other international students about India on study tours and has already delivered a highly acclaimed Massive Open Online Course on Coursera.

The Reimagining India Virtual Study Tour enables students to learn about the relevance of India to their future careers using culturally contextualized case studies from startups, corporates and social enterprises.

Delivered in an engaging and interactive format live from India the course will actually take students to places that otherwise would not be possible even during a traditional study tour.

Students will have the option to use the course as a launchpad for further engagement with India including study tours, study abroad and internships once traditional mobility opportunities returns.

Short Term Programs 2021

2021 Dates	Duration	Contact Sessions
21 June – 16 July	6 Weeks (Twice Weekly)	12 x 3 hrs + study time
26 July – 3 September	6 Weeks (Twice Weekly)	12 x 3 hrs + study time
15 Nov – 20 Dec	6 Weeks (Twice Weekly)	12 x 3 hrs + study time
17 Jan – 28 Feb 2022	6 Weeks (Twice Weekly)	12 x 3 hrs + study time

Given the preparation time required for each class, the reading and other assignments we believe that 4-6 weeks is an ideal for this intensive short term course.

We welcome suggestions with respect to dates and durations.

How the Reimagining India Virtual Study Tour adds value to student's studies and future careers

India is the most diverse place on earth and has been at the heart of the human story for thousands of years. Now it is re-emerging as an economic superpower. In January 2020 Amazon's Jeff Bezos joined those who predict that the 21st Century will be the Indian Century.

During the RIVST students will learn about the significance and importance of India whilst developing the very skills required to flourish in the Post-COVID world.

Yet India is a country we actually know relatively little about. Partly because it has traditionally been overlooked and also because of its sheer scale, diversity and complexity. Those attributes that make India so difficult to understand are also the drivers of its creativity and increasingly realised potential as a creative and inventive culture and economy.

Students will be made aware how 21st Century careers are increasingly connected with India in four broad ways:

1) Indian startups and corporates are hiring internationally as they expand around the world
2) All MNCs collaborate with India and Indians (co-workers, outsourcing partners, offshore centres)
3) The need to understand the Indian market by designing and delivering products and services from ANZ Bank to Byron Bay Chilli Sauce!
4) Working with India on public policy issues – whether that be in Government, Think Tanks or public policy challenges (eg. Climate, Security & Trade)

Our Remote Working Project Based Learning Methodology

A Virtual Study Tour can go beyond what is possible in a normal study tour and we have considered that throughout the instructional design of the program. Collaborative Online Working a key 21st century skill. In many fields this increasingly takes place with colleagues based in India. This means the Reimagining India VST can actually offer experiences which in a sense are closer to the future careers of students working with India than even a normal study tour.

With this in mind Reimagining India VST includes a series of assignments and activities to help students develop remote working skills, digital creativity as well as cross-cultural collaboration.

During the tour the students will work in groups to deliver short presentations – one will be for Indian school children and another for University students.

Remote working skills will be taught alongside the India specific content – these include online collaboration using Zoom breakout rooms, Google Doc and designing and delivering high impact presentations.

Developing Cross-Cultural Awareness

The Reimagining India Virtual Study Tour brings this extraordinary country to life through innovative and interactive activities including live on location Zoom sessions from a Hindu temple; a walking tour of Dharavi to meet the residents of Asia's largest slum; and virtual treasure hunts to reveal incredible India using Google Earth.

Innovative Instructional Design and Delivery

Each session includes at least three different ways for students to experience India: a seminar; an interactive activity; and a thematic panel discussion or case study shared by a guest speaker.

Guest experts typically include interactions with employees of the world's most exciting companies including Google, Facebook, EY, Infosys, Fabindia, Zomato and more.

Weekly office hours enable small groups or individuals to book time to speak with the instructors.

Program Fee

- The cost per student is $1750
- This represents 50% less than the in person fee meaning nearly twice as many students will be able to benefit from learning about India this mode of delivery.

Course Outline

Session	Seminar	Interactive Activity	Case Studies
Session 1	Welcome to Reimagining India! • About the New Colombo Plan • About Reimagining India • How we are virtually bringing India to life during the course • The impact of Coronavirus on India • Cultural performance to commence the virtual study tour	What do you already know about India? • Inspired by Hans Rosling's acclaimed Factfulness Quiz • We establish our baseline preconceptions regarding India. • Discuss the results and what they mean	The Importance of India to Australia and Australians • From common culture to business and careers • Meet NCP Reimagining India alumni
Session 2	Why India? Why Now? • How India is re-emerging as a major 21st Century superpower • What this means for the lives of ordinary Indians? For Australians?	An Incredible India Treasure Hunt (Google Earth) • Learn about India through virtual visits to UNESCO World Heritage sites	Iconic India • The stories behind some of India's best known places
Session 3	The most diverse place on earth • How landscape and wildlife has shaped Indian culture • The range of Indian food, fashion, language, dance and music • Dance performance	The Seven Wonders of Natural India • Explore the seven biomes of India • Travelling across the country we stop off at places representative of Indians diversity including the Thar desert, Buddhist Ladakh, the Ganges, the grassland of Madhya Pradesh and rainforests of Kerala.	We visit Asia's Largest Slum • Guides on the ground connected with mobiles take us to experience the way of life of Dharavi residents. • How did Dharavi defy the odds and beat coronavirus? • Basic Hindi related to introductions
Session 4	Hinduism • The Vedic Origins	Hindu Temple Tour	Introduction to Yoga and Meditation

	• What are the Upanishads • The Great Hindu Epics of the Mahabharata and Ramayana • Life Rituals	• How do Indians worship at a temple (Puja and Aarti) • A very brief introduction to several of the key stories and their messages (Krishna, Ram, Vishnu & Lakshmi, Durga)	• Basics of the philosophy • Some key principles (breathing, postures)
Session 5	India's Religious Plurality • Buddhism • Jainism • Sikhism • Judaism • Zoroastrianism • Christianity • Bahai • Islam	Street Tour of Old Delhi • Experiencing Historic and Contemporary Plurality • Basic Hindi related to getting around a city	Is there an Indian way of doing business? • Key cultural differences between India, the West and China
Session 6	India and the World • The Indian diaspora (early humans to present day) • Religions spreading out of India (eg. Hinduism in SE Asia and Buddhism across Asia) • Trade from ancient history to 21st century	The Indian Connection • A Global Treasure Hunt of Indian Influence (Google Earth) • Indian words in the English language	From Rich to Poor… and Back Again? • Colonial influence on India's development • Contemporary resurgence as India becomes fastest growing world economy • Impact of COVID
Session 7	The World's Largest Democracy • How India gained Independence (Gandhi and Nehru) • The Political System and Constitution (Ambedkar) • Main Parties (Congress and BJP) • Core Electoral Issues and Current Government Policies & Issues	How Does India Get its News Follow and summarise the main stories and trending topics through a variety of mediums • Newspapers • TV • Online • Twitter • WhatsApp	How India Does Digital (Google Story) • Search • Internet usage • YouTube demographics

Session 8	From IT Services to Make in India • How India Re-Emerged as the Fastest Growing Major Economy in the World	Revealing Invisible India and Your Career • Indian and MNC employers with operations in India and Australia • Data analytics, consulting, accountancy	The Global Business Delivery Model (Infosys, EY, ANZ)
Session 9	Digital India, eCommerce and Startups – Who is Building Billion Dollar Businesses in India and How • The India Stack • Mobile first • Startup ecosystem	Working as Partners to Solve Global Challenges (Group Discussion) • SWOT analysis on Australia and India • Complimentary partners • Potential for collaboration	Digital Payments Revolution (Paytm, Google, Facebook)
Session 10	Why India is a World Leader in Compassionate Innovation? • The challenges faced in India • Sources of change • Unique approaches to problem solving Five kinds of innovation	Social Enterprise Case Study Presentations • Students working in groups select an Indian social enterprise and work on a ten-minute presentation Students then present to the rest of the class	Solving for India, Solves for the World (Akshaya Patra, Jaipur Foot) Case studies of two of India's most innovative and impactful organisations
Session 11	Experiencing India Online –From YouTube to Netflix	In a Post-COVID world which Indian startup product should be launched in Australia? (Case Method)	What will be different in a Post-COVID India? (Panel Discussion)
Session 12	Looking to the Future: India's and Yours • Economic forecasts • Careers and internships • Study Abroad opportunities in India	Startup or Social Enterprise Pitch-Day • Culmination of the last few weeks learning • Group Presentations • Peer and Instructor assessed	Leveraging Reimagining India Opportunity • Articulating Your Experience with Employers

Online Course Goals and Objectives

The course provides participants will include:

a) An introductory knowledge of India's past, present and future from an interdisciplinary standpoint, with a focus on growth and opportunity
b) A broad overview of Indian history, geography and culture helping them establish context and appreciate the bigger picture
c) Descriptions of diversity emphasizing the range of cultural dimensions to India, i.e. customs, religions, languages, festivals, foods, performing arts, etc.
d) Delineate ways India is relevant to their studies and/or work by hosting field specific sessions will demonstrate ways India fits into their studies and careers (e.g. case studies)
e) Awareness of 21st century skills such as creativity, collaboration, communication, civic awareness, cultural intelligence, critical thinking and personal character development
f) Resources in the form of reading materials, online content, contacts, etc. for deepening their experience of India
g) Pathways to future opportunity such as further studies, study tours, internships, startup incubators and graduate schemes.

Course Duration

Two variations of the course will be run to enable as diverse range of participants as possible to benefit from the experience. There will be a two week version (4 hours per day live instruction, five days per week) which will virtually recreate the immersive format of the in-person study tour and a six week version (2.5hrs twice per week) from Jan-Feb 2021. Both will include project based remote work experience.

Contact Hours

The course combines:

- Lectures (8 hours)
- Expert talks (12 hours)
- Cultural sessions (8 hours)
- Group presentation sessions (4 hours)
- Virtual visits to factories, offices, NGOs and sites of historical, and cultural interest (6 hours).

Additionally students will be set assignments including readings, research tasks and the preparation of the presentations they will be giving for the final project.

Assessment Summary

Assessments have been designed to encourage and reinforce learning. Grading is accomplished using scoring matrices and transparent rubrics.

Assessment Task	Task Type	Word Count / Time	Due	Weighting
Weekly Activities	Individual Formative	10-20 Questions	Weekly Quiz	30%
Presentation	Collaborative Group Work	10 Slide / 15 mins	Wk 11	20%
Final Project	Individual Summative	1500 Words	Wk 12	50%
Total				100%

- Weekly Quizzes will be done during live via Kahoot! and available asynchronously too
- Students are expected to contribute to a group presentations (Week 5 and Week 11). They will work in groups using Google Slides and Zoom breakout rooms and will present live to the class. Established rubrics will be used to peer review and score the presentations.
- The final project will be assessed using a rubric shared with students in advance. Using a scoring matrix with criteria such as:
  o Research
  o Knowledge and Comprehension
  o Creativity and Imagination
  o Structure and Presentation
  o Problem Solving and Critical Thinking

APPENDICES

A. About the Reimagining India Consortium

Eighteen Australian universities are now members of the Reimagining India Consortium led by CQU and IndoGenius:

Australian Catholic University, Charles Darwin University, CQU, Curtin University, Deakin University, La Trobe University, Macquarie University, Murdoch University, Queensland University of Technology, RMIT University, Southern Cross University, The Australian National University, The University of Adelaide, The University of Queensland, University of New England, University of New South Wales, University of Newcastle and University of Technology Sydney.

Since 2016, IndoGenius have delivered six "Reimagining India" experiential learning programs with 250 NCP Short Term Grant recipients.

B. About the Delivery Partner's Online Teaching Experience

IndoGenius have previously designed and delivered a number of online projects including a Massive Open Online Course for the U.S. Department of State called "The Importance of India" in conjunction with The Ohio State University. It received a 4.7 rating on Coursera and subsequently also proved popular on YouTube.

Nick Booker was the lead instructor and IndoGenius were responsible for the scripting, graphics, filming, editing, hosting and other production related tasks.

IndoGenius have also managed online webinars and pre-departure briefings about India for clients including British Council, FICCI, European Commission and Government of India.

C. Reading List

Each week there is a prescribed list of articles (journal and popular press) as well as documentaries/movies. Curated Twitter lists and YouTube playlists will also be shared.

Subject specific reading lists are prepared so students from different disciplines can pursue their interests through recommended works relevant to their studies.

Amartya Sen's **The Argumentative Indian** and Gurcharan Das's **India Unbound** are interesting reads.
Mumbai, try **Maximum City: Bombay Lost and Found**, a narrative non-fiction book by Suketu Mehta.
Aman Sethi's **A Free Man** provides very interesting insight into the life of Delhi's mazdoors, or workers.
Akash Kapur's **India Becoming** is another great work of narrative non-fiction, particularly drawing on experiences in South India.
Sunil Khilnani's **The Idea of India** is a great introduction to post-independence India. We also recommend Pawan Verma's *Being Indian* and *Becoming Indian*. *In Spite of the Gods* is a popular work on India's recent economic and political history by the Edward Luce.
Mark Tully's **No Full Stops in India** and more recently **Non Stop India** are great journalistic works exploring the country through travel, his personal history and many characters along the way.
Fabindia MD William Bissell's **The Next Enlightenment** and **Making India Work** provide thought-provoking manifestos for how India could develop more sustainably and inclusively.
John Keay's **India** provides the best general history.
For those interested in mythology, we would recommend works by Devdutt Pattnaik such as **Myth-Mithya** and Gurcharan Das's **The Difficulty of Being Good.**
Vikram Chandra's **Love and Longing in Bombay** is a book of short stories starting in Mumbai and won the Eurasia Region Commonwealth Writers Prize for Best Book 1997.
Arundhati Roy's **The God of Small Things**, set in Kerala, tells the story of fraternal twins torn apart by a local scandal and won the Man Booker Prize in 1997.
Amitav Ghosh's **Shadow Lines**, set in Calcutta, Delhi and London, is another story of separated families and takes place during the Second World War, India's freedom struggle and the communal riots of 1963-63 in Calcutta and Dhaka. The book won the 1989 Sahitya Akademi Award for English.
Rohinton Mistry's **A Fine Balance**, set in an unidentified city in India, tells the story of four quite different lives that come together in the mid 1970's – mid 1980's including the time when Indira Gandhi's Emergency was taking place. **A Fine Balance** won the 1995 Scotiabank Giller Prize

Sadat Hassan Manto's Selected Short Stories (Many are available online) are celebrated as some of the best modern fiction in South Asia. Many of Manto's stories, including his best known story **Toba Tek Singh**, deal with the partition of India and Pakistan in 1947.

Pankaj Mishra's **The Romantics**, set in Varanasi, examines ways in which we seek personal growth and spiritual solace from that which is culturally different.

Kiran Nagarkar's **Cuckold** is set in the 17th century kingdom of Mewar, presently part of Rajasthan state and tells the story of the then king and his wife, the celebrated mystic saint Mirabai. The book won the 2000 Sahitya Akademi Award for English

R.K. Narayan's **Malgudi Days**, originally published in 1942, takes place in the fictional Indian town of Malgudi. This collection of short stories focuses on day to day life, with each story bringing out different peculiar facets of the people of Malgudi.

Gregory David Roberts' **Shantaram** (2003) is the now famous tale of an Australian criminal fugitive and drug addict living in the slums of Mumbai.

Salman Rushdie's **Midnight's Children**, winner of the 1981 Man Booker Prize, is a surreal tale of the events surrounding India's road to independence (and partition form Pakistan) in 1947.

Vikram Seth's **A Suitable Boy** is the story of four families living in a fictional town between Varanasi (in modern day Uttar Pradesh) and Patna (in modern day Bihar). The book, which takes place in the wake of India's independence from Britain, is one of the longest novels ever published in a single volume in the English language. *A Suitable Boy* won the 1994 Commonwealth Writers Prize (Overall Winner, Best Book) and the WH Smith Literary Award.

Many of the above works have now been adapted for the screen including the recent Netflix/BBC series A Suitable Boy.

D. Interactive Virtual Activities and Learning Objectives

Beyond the engaging multimedia presentation format Reimagining India will also make the most of the virtual medium by using innovative techniques to enable students to experience India. Below are a list of interactive thematic sessions which will feature hosts/experts from across India; virtual site visits, reflection discussions; cultural performances; language, yoga and Bollywood classes; on-the-ground video walkthroughs and guided Google Earth based treasure hunts.

Activity	Learning Objectives
Virtual Visits	
Virtual School visit	- Know about learning environments and curricula in Indian schools - Observe classroom culture and dynamics between students and teachers - Practice 21st century skills of creativity (i.e. creatively coming up with ways to teach certain information), collaboration (working in teams), communication (communicating information and questions to students) and critical thinking (critically evaluating what is learned from teachers and students)
Virtual College visit	- Student led presentations followed by discussion - Compare and contrast life on campus in India vs Australia - Learn about areas of academic focus and about student career goals - Explore outlooks on the world and issues which resonate
Dharavi virtual slum visit	- Working with our partners on the ground students will be taken by mobile phone (using zoom breakout rooms) through Dharavi. - Understand Dharavi's role in Mumbai's economy and waste management - Be familiar with a variety of Dharavi-based industries and the communities behind them - Know about government service and infrastructure provision and planning for the area - Be able to articulate problems in the community and how they are addressed - Know the history of Dharavi and proposed ideas for its future - Be familiar with perspectives of local residents and business people

	· Understand how all of the above interact within a system to influence different initiatives, decisions and attitudes
Incredible India Google Earth Treasure Hunt	· Digitally visit places of cultural, historical and general interest across India · Using Google Arts & Cultures, multimedia content with Google Earth serving as the navigating tool
Old Delhi Virtual Tour visit	· Contextualise the historic importance of Old Delhi · Learn about Delhi's long history as a site of empire and its many capital cities built by rulers over the centuries · Understand aspects of the local economy and livelihoods

Cultural Activities	
How Indian mythology and culture influences business	• Learn some key cultural differences between India and other countries and how these are linked to the belief systems inherent in national cultures
Hindu Temple Visit including fire ritual (havan)	• Become familiar with some of the major gods and goddesses of Hinduism, their stories, and the qualities or powers associated with them • Know about the havan as a ceremony marking important life events in Hinduism and sometimes also other important events such as inauguration of new business spaces • Understand basic concepts behind havan ceremony methods of offering and mantras chanted
Sikh Gurdwara visit	• Understand basic tenets of the Sikh religion • Be familiar with the concept of langar and how it is practiced in gurdwaras around the world • Know some history associated with the Sikh religion and with this gurdwara in particular • Be familiar with Sikhism as practiced at Bangla Sahib
Muslim Sufi dargah virtual visit	• Gain insight into Nizamuddin's Sufi community • Learn about tenets of Sufism and important Sufi saints of India • Observe how retail spaces of particular items are organised around the dargah • Experience qawwali devotional music
Indian cooking class	• Interactive session so students can become familiar with a variety of Indian foods and the regions from which they come • Know some Indian cooking methods and common Indian spices • Know culture and etiquette surrounding welcoming guests and offering them food • Be able to prepare 2-3 common Indian dishes

Bollywood dance (5)	• Gain cultural context • Maintain strong energy levels and bond with one another • Experience some popular Bollywood songs • Great way to bring in some physical activity into remote learning • Optional final zoom performance
Hindi class (5)	• Lively introduction to the predominant language of India • Use of Bollywood films • Basic phrases which will make future travel more engaging • Learn basic Hindi words and phrases for communicating with locals • Gain confidence to approach non-english speaking people
Introduction to Yoga and Meditation (5 – alternating with Bollywood dance)	• Learn basic philosophies and traditional Indian understandings of yoga practice (posture, breathing, diet, meditation) • Following a longer introduction session – several additional shorter practices included • Great way to bring in some physical activity into remote learning
Indian TV Series Assignment	• In their own time students to watch one of several shows available on Australia Netflix • Group discussion afterwards
Business and Social Enterprise	
Outsourcing and Tech Consulting (Infosys, EY)	• Know more about India's role at the centre of the global delivery model of business • Know about ways in which business process outsourcing has expanded to include consulting and management • Learn about internship and graduate career paths
Startup India	• Know the roles of incubators and accelerators in India's startup ecosystem • Be familiar with a range of new ideas and technologies emerging via India's startup ecosystem • Interact with entrepreneurs • Know about national and other policies supporting Indian startups • Know the basic steps in the startup process

Australian Companies in India (eg. ANZ)	• Challenges and opportunities faced by foreign (and specifically Australian) companies trying to enter the Indian market • What it is like to live in India as a foreign business professional
Durable goods company women empowerment project	• Understand some of the needs of rural Indian consumers • Learn about ways in which companies successfully market and conduct outreach to rural clients • Know some of the challenges faced by companies wishing to sell their products in India's 650,000+ villages
Social Enterprise Innovation (Akshaya Patra)	• Understand problems relating to nutrition and quality education • Know the innovative techniques used by the NGO to tackle these problems, such as: • Providing nutritious meals to keep more children in school • Innovations in waste reduction and minimization of per meal costs • Know about the NGO business plan and how they can become involved
Group Discussions	
Reflection sessions (Weekly)	• Understand how the course activities and sessions have cumulatively helped to achieve objectives • Use systems thinking approach to integrate learning from the diverse themes covered and their application to specific student interests • Begin to deeply consider the notion of "Contemporary India" • Discuss various program activities and learnings in comparison and contrast with one another to identify common threads and sites of diversity
Future Relevance with Reimagining India Alumni	• Explore ways students can further their interest in India through future study abroad, internships, volunteering and graduate schemes • Alumni share their experience and what they've gone on to do
The Australia-India Relationship (eg. TBC participation by AusTrade, Australia-India Business	• Understand how Austrade supports companies looking to expand to or set up in India and provides special Support and grants for exporters • Learn about trends in Australian business in India and common

Council or Australian High Commission)	• challenges that Australian companies face in India • Hear from Australians who are living and working in India • Learn about the services provided by the Australian High Commission for Australians traveling, doing business or living in India
Expat and Alumni Panel Discussion and Networking	• Meet a variety of Australians living and/or working in India • Enjoy the opportunity to engage in casual conversation and asks broader range of questions then brief office visits allow • Network and make contacts for future endeavours whether in India or elsewhere • Cultural performance to bring the course to a close