Global Perspectives in Higher Education: India  
HPSE-GE 2152 (3 credit points)  
January Term Program  
January 6-19, 2018

Class session dates and locations at NYU Campus,  
Location TBD:  
Friday, Nov. 3, 2017, 4:30-6:30 pm  
Friday, Dec. 1, 2017. 4:30-6:30 pm  
Friday, Feb. 16, 2018, 4:30-6:30 pm

Faculty:  
Professor Teboho Moja  
Teboho.moja@nyu.edu  
(212) 998-5589  
Professor Ann Marcus  
Ann.marcus@nyu.edu  
(212) 998-5005

Purpose of Program

The study trip to India is designed to provide graduate students with an opportunity to examine India's higher education system and to discover and analyze similarities and differences in comparison to higher education in the United States and other countries. Through visits to universities and public and private colleges, we will engage in discussions with rectors, faculty members, deans of students and their staffs and students themselves. Special lectures with sociologists and national officials will help us understand the goals and future aspirations of Indian higher education and how higher education meets the social, political and cultural needs of society.

Course Description

E98.2151, GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES IN HIGHER EDUCATION: INDIA.  
In addition to preparatory meetings at NYU, students will participate in a two-week field trip to India that will provide an in-depth case study of its higher education system. The trip includes lectures from scholars and visits to Indian colleges and universities to meet with faculty, administrators and students. Additional sessions will be held with scholars and local experts on higher education in India to explore current issues and government priorities. Our campus visits will include public colleges, state universities, "central" universities, and private and religiously affiliated institutions; elite technical and management institutes. Topics will include curricular opportunities; college admissions requirements; distribution of students by class and ethnicity; college climate and student services.
Visits will be made to two very different states in India: Kerala, Maharashtra and the National Capital Territory of Delhi. The state of Kerala in the southwest maintains a unique political dynamic with strong community involvement and emphasis on educational standards; it has extremely high literacy rates as well as diverse higher educational options including state, federal and private institutions. Mumbai is the capital city of the state of Maharashtra and the most populous city in India with a melting pot of individuals from diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds. This cosmopolitan city is the commercial, cultural and entertainment capital of India as well as home to huge slums and immense poverty. Delhi is the national capital and hosts many universities as well as the leading higher education research center.

Course requirements:

1. Each student is expected to attend class meetings before and after the field trip to India. The dates for class meetings are below. All NYU class sessions will be held at location TBD.
   - Friday, Nov. 3, 2017, 4:30-6:30 pm
   - Friday, Dec. 1, 2017 4:30-6:30 pm
   - Friday, Feb. 16, 2018, 4:30-6:30 pm

2. Each student will turn in a reflective response paper based on preliminary course readings, which will be due on Thursday, November 30, 2017 by 5 PM on NYU Classes.

3. Each student is expected to keep a journal recording six entries that respond to the campus visits, readings, presentations, and travel. The journal will be submitted by Monday, January 29, 2018 after our return to New York. Please submit the journal through NYU Classes.

4. Each student is expected to prepare a research paper due on Wednesday, March 7, 2018 on NYU Classes. An outline of this paper will be due Wednesday, February 14, 2018 by 5 PM on NYU Classes, and each student will also present his/her research topic at our NYU class session on Friday, February 16, 2018 to obtain feedback and guidance from the group. The choice of an area of focus for the paper can be informed by the experience in India but will also be a response to course readings and additional academic and journalistic sources.

5. All written assignments, including the journals, should be typed, double-spaced and submitted through NYU Classes via the "Assignments" section.

Description of Course Requirements:

**Class Contribution:**

The contribution you make to the success of this class and to this study abroad experience is important. Students are expected to contribute to the development
of a strong, inclusive learning community. As in any graduate course, you are expected to come to class having read the assigned materials thoroughly enough to contribute to a discussion on critical issues within the readings. Students are also expected to attend and actively participate in all classes and scheduled trips except where it is indicated that the activity is optional.

Short Response Paper:

In order to prepare for the trip, students will be required to read literature on the Indian higher education system. Based on the readings, students are expected to prepare a 3-4 double-spaced page reflective response paper due by 5 PM on Thursday, November 30, 2017 on NYU Classes. This paper should discuss an issue from the readings that the student will likely study further during our time in India and may be part of preparation for the final research paper.

Journal:

Journaling while we are in India will provide you with an opportunity for daily reflection on what you are learning and experiencing. This journal provides a place for capturing your personal reflections on issues we address in class, through presentations, as well as on the broader experiences that you have in India. You will need to submit six entries from the daily journal you kept while in India by Monday, January 29, 2018 using NYU Classes. These entries should contain reflections on Indian higher education or Indian culture, society, or politics. The entries must be typed and double-spaced.

Final Research Paper/Project and Presentation:

You will conduct a study and write a final research paper on your area of specialization grounded in issues relevant to India. The purpose of this paper is to deepen your understanding of critical educational issues in India. The final research paper should be approximately 12-15 pages long (typed, APA format).

An outline of this paper will be due Wednesday, February 14, 2018 by 5 PM on NYU Classes. Each student will also present his/her research topic at our NYU class session on Friday, February 16, 2018 to obtain feedback and guidance from the group.

By no later than Wednesday, March 7 students will submit their final papers on NYU Classes.

IMPORTANT: Unless there is an extenuating circumstance, no incompletes will be given for late/missing/unfinished work.
Required Books:

The syllabus lists the required readings for the course per the class schedule on the pages that follow. The following books are required for this course. Selected chapters will be posted to the NYU Classes site.


Novels:


Required Reading Assignments:

For Class #1 on Nov. 3, 2017

Books


NYU Classes


For Class #2 on Dec. 1, 2017

**Books**


**NYU Classes**


Readings to complete before start of program on Jan. 6, 2018

NYU Classes


Additional Resources

Background on India

Jadhav, a leading economist and policy maker in India, is a member of India's Dalits--or untouchables--a group that numbers 165 million. His moving memoir is a tribute to his parents, who made it their goal to educate their children, especially his father, Damu, who stood up to the caste system (American Library Association).


Katherine Boo spent three years among the residents of the Annawadi slum, a sprawling, cockeyed settlement of more than 300 tin-roof huts and shacks in the shadow of Mumbai’s International Airport. From within this “sumpy plug of slum” Boo unearths stories both tragic and poignant--about residents’ efforts to raise families, earn a living, or simply survive. These unforgettable characters all nurture far-fetched dreams of a better life.


On Kerala:


Higher education books and articles:


Fiction:

We encourage you to read additional novels and make recommendations to the group via email.


Umrigar's novel illustrates the intimacy, and the irreconcilable class divide, between two women in contemporary Bombay. Bhima, a 65-year-old slum dweller, has worked for Sera, a younger upper-middle-class Parsi woman, for years: cooking, cleaning and tending Sera. Sera, in turn, nurses Bhima back to health from typhoid fever and sends her granddaughter Maya to college.

Films:

We highly recommend viewing films depicting Indian life. Search Amazon.com for Indian movies or this site for movies and their reviews:
http://www.imdb.com/Sections/Countries/India/

*Slumdog Millionaire* (2009) – Winner of Academy Award Best Picture, 2009
A Mumbai teen who grew up in the slums becomes a contestant on the Indian version of "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?" He is arrested under suspicion of cheating, and while being interrogated, events from his life history are shown which explain why he knows the answers.

*Three Idiots* (2009) – Bollywood comedy that follows the antics of three men in search of a college friend. The characters met as students at the fictional Imperial College of Engineering in Delhi and, among other escapades, have a run-in with their college dean. *Three Idiots* is the highest-grossing Bollywood film of all time.

*Monsoon Wedding* (2001). A stressed father, a bride-to-be with a secret, a smitten event planner, and relatives from around the world create much ado about the preparations for an arranged marriage in India.

*Gandhi* (1982). Biography of Mahatma Gandhi, the lawyer who became the famed leader of the Indian revolts against the British through his philosophy of non-violent protest.

*Daughters of Destiny* (2017). Five girls from India's most impoverished families attend a boarding school designed to create opportunities as they strive for a brighter future.
## Proposed Schedule of Class Meetings and Assignments (subject to change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri., Nov. 3, 2017</td>
<td>Class session from 4:30-6:30 PM, <em>Location TBD</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs., Nov. 30, 2017</td>
<td>Due – 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; reflection paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri., Dec. 1, 2017</td>
<td>Class session from 4:30-6:30 PM, <em>Location TBD</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon., January 29, 2018</td>
<td>Due – six entries from daily journals from India trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed., Feb. 14, 2018</td>
<td>Due – research paper outline</td>
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</tbody>
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| Fri., Feb. 16, 2018      | Class session from 4:30-6:30 PM, *Location TBD*  
Presentation of research paper topic |
| Wed., March 7, 2018      | Final research paper due                        |
# Proposed Travel and Site Visit Itinerary (subject to change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat. 1/6/2018</td>
<td>Arrive in Kerala by early afternoon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. 1/7/2018</td>
<td>Tour of Trivandrum (half day); evening class and welcome dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. 1/8/2018</td>
<td>Visit Mar Ivanious Bishop and College</td>
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<td>Visit Mar Baselias College of Engineering</td>
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<td>Tues. 1/9/2018</td>
<td>Visit University of Kerala English Department</td>
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<td>Visit Council for Higher Education</td>
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<td>Wed. 1/10/2018</td>
<td>Free time plus houseboat close to Trivandum for overnight</td>
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<td>Thurs. 1/11/2018</td>
<td>Amarita University</td>
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<td>Fly to Mumbai</td>
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<td>Fri. 1/12/2018</td>
<td>Free time in Mumbai plus half day tour</td>
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<td>Sat. 1/13/2018</td>
<td>College visit TBD</td>
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<td>Sun. 1/14/2018</td>
<td>Tour Dharavi</td>
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<td>Half day free time</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. 1/15/2018</td>
<td>Visit St. Xavier College</td>
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<td>Visit Chetna Management or Sofia College</td>
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<td>Tues. 1/16/2018</td>
<td>Visit Birla College</td>
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<td>Fly to Delhi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. 1/17/2018</td>
<td>Visit NUEPA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Half day tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs. 1/18/2018</td>
<td>Visit Taj Mahal</td>
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<td>Fri. 1/19/2018</td>
<td>Visit JNU</td>
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<td>Visit IIT-Delhi</td>
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<td>Farewell Dinner</td>
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<td>Depart for airport</td>
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