

India Now:

Contemporary Art, Craft, Ecology, and Culture

MassArt Travel Course to Bangalore and the Andaman Islands, India for Studio Elective credit through the Art Education Department

In this fall/winter travel course to India, students can expect the following:

- **making art** in response to their experiences in India, with Indian art students and faculty, while learning about the practices and challenges of traditional and contemporary arts and crafts in a globalized economy;
- **observing and carrying out service work** in the Drishya Kallika Kendra community learning centers, where art propels the curriculum for some of India's most impoverished students;
- **using art to investigate a tropical archipelago** devastated by the 2004 tsunami -- one of the most unique ecologies in the world -- by integrating observation, interactive research, and art-making and traveling and working with students taking the LAMS credit version of this course.

Course Overview

This course facilitates exploration of the aesthetics, ecology, educational innovations, and contradictions of India's culture-in-rapid-transition. Soon to be the world's most populous country (projected for 2025) and with about 20% of its people between ages 15 and 24, cultural transformation is accelerating, led by a generation of highly educated young adults who have returned to the country from abroad following the world economic collapse of 2008. India, the world's largest democracy, is riding a wave of change as it struggles to meet challenges that include

- High rates of poverty within the fast-paced technological connectivity of this global society,
- Inequitable access to quality education, and
- Sustainability in the face of climate change and pollution.

Hosted by the Srishti College of Art, Design, and Technology -- one of the few Indian art colleges based on indigenous instead of the colonial Kensington model of art education imported from Britain—we explore two sites: the cosmopolitan urban center of Bangalore and the restricted rural preserves of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, a tropical paradise of biodiversity with rainforests and mangroves to tramp, coral reefs to snorkel, and beaches to probe and poke.

Fall 2014 Class Meetings: Thursdays 7:00-9:00 PM

Travel Dates to India: January 2-19, 2015

Tuition: \$3600; Need-based scholarships are available.

Faculty: Lois Hetland, Art Education (lheland@massart.edu);
Saúl Nava, Liberal Arts (snava@massart.edu);

APPLY ONLINE -- Deadline: April 1, 2014

Apply Here: <http://cof.studioabroad.com/?go=MassArtIndia>

