

MUS 492 *From the Big Temples to the Silver Screen—The Music of South India*
January 6-30, 2016



Bengaluru, Chennai, Mahabalipuram, Thanjavur, Tiruvaiyaru, Thillaisthanam

Course Website <http://mark-harbold.elmhurst.edu/India2016/>

Academic Overview This independent research experience offers rich, profound encounters with South Indian music and the historic, religious, classical, folk, and popular contexts in which it grew and still flourishes. Pt. Havaldar of Sunaada Art Foundation, our Bengaluru host, provides intensive lessons in Hindustani classical music. Madras Christian College, our Chennai host, provides lectures, lessons, and “hands-on” sessions with renowned Indian musicians, scholars, & dancers. We make music, learn yoga, and enjoy India’s vegetarian-friendly cuisine. We witness world-class performances at Chennai’s famed “December Season” festival, one of the largest in the world. We see a “Kollywood” movie, A.R. Rahman’s music school, a film studio, Mahabalipuram’s Dance Festival, a beach resort, and historic churches and temples, ancient and modern. In Thanjavur we see iconic Chola bronzes and explore one of South India’s spectacular temple complexes. In Tiruvaiyaru, home to revered composer Tyagaraja, we visit a foundation that teaches music to children of all castes and join 1000 musicians at the Tyagaraja Aradhana as they sing the Pancharatna Kritis on the anniversary of this great composer-saint’s death. This third-world immersion seeks to provide an authentic Indian experience. Accommodations will be safe but often simple. (We cannot always guarantee access to hot showers, Western-style toilets, or toilet paper!)

Comprehensive Fee

Costs – TBD (Awaiting pricing. Estimated price is \$5,000.)

Comprehensive Fee Includes: Transportation, guest musicians & scholars, course arrangements, guest house or hotel accommodations in twin and triple rooms, all meals daily, 3-5 cultural performances, and admission to all museums & historic sites. Bring money for souvenirs, laundry, and incidental expenses.

Prerequisites – A genuine interest in music is necessary, but no previous academic experience is required. Since we will occasionally hike over rough terrain, reasonably good physical condition is helpful.

Required Readings – • Chatterjee, Samir. *Music of India*, 2nd ed.

- Neuman, Daniel M. *The Life of Music in North India: The Organization of an Artistic Tradition*.
- Viswanathan, Tanjore and Matthew Harp Allen. *Music in South India* (with accompanying CD).

Evaluation – 20% Attendance & Participation 20% Readings 20% Academic Journal 40% Paper

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Instructions for Online Application – <http://elmhurst.studioabroad.com> (Registration is closed.)

