



South Asia Studies at the University of Pittsburgh

The South Asia Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh is dedicated to promoting knowledge about the history, society, and culture of the countries of South Asia, one of the world's most dynamic and influential regions. To that end it provides training in some of the languages of that part of the world and in area studies throughout a variety of courses.

The South Asia Studies Program encourages multi-disciplinary research, and facilitates the exchange of ideas and information through seminars,



conferences, and outreach activities for members of both the academic and

local communities. The Asian Studies Center (ASC) at Pitt, part of the University Center for International Studies, directs these activities.

One of the most valuable resources for the continued growth of South Asia Studies at Pitt is the Pittsburgh Indian community. The Pittsburgh area is home to the ninth-largest Indian population in the U.S. The western PA region has five temples to serve this community: the Jain-Hindu Temple; the Sri Venkatesh-wara Temple; the Sikh Gurdwara Temple; the Sri Sai Baba Temple; and Iskcon (Hari Krishna) Commune in nearby West Virginia. There is a South Asian Muslim center in the area, as well as a mosque constructed for families of South Asian descent.

Pitt has been a member of the American Institute of India Studies since 1979. The University also is home to the Center for the Performing Arts of India, which sponsors many classical music and dance-drama events throughout the year. Pitt has in the past also supported the Encyclopedia of Hinduism project.

Less Commonly Taught Languages

The Department of Linguistics, through the Less-Commonly Taught Languages Center (LCTL), offers opportunities for the study of languages not otherwise

available in the University curriculum. The Center will undertake the development of a course of study for which adequate instructional materials



exist, except for those which are taught in the regular foreign language departments of the University. Languages of South Asia that have been offered by LCTL include **Hindi, Bengali and Urdu.**

Study Abroad

Each summer the Pitt in India study abroad program introduces students to the fascinating country of India, and in the Fall term Pitt in the Himalayas provides a more in depth study abroad experience in the Himalayas. The University of Pittsburgh's Study Abroad Office sponsors these programs in Mussoorie, Uttaranchal, India, at the scenic and beautifully located Hanifl Center for Outdoor Education. Students can earn academic credits

through multiple course offerings, and take part in field trips, ethnographic opportunities, and directed study.

Study Abroad Scholarships

At the University of Pittsburgh, Study Abroad scholarships, Provost's Scholarships for Study Abroad, and Nationality Room scholarships are applicable to the Pitt in India program as well as state and federal financial aid and most Pitt scholarships.

Indian Nationality Classroom

The Indian Nationality Classroom is modeled after a typical instructional courtyard at Nalanda University in central India, which was a center of learning that flourished between the 3rd and 9th centuries C.E., the time of India's "Golden Age." Guided or audio tours can be arranged through the Information Desk at the Cathedral of Learning.

Courses Offered

The South Asian Studies program can offer a selection of courses from several departments in the College of Arts & Sciences. Students may pursue more advanced course work in India

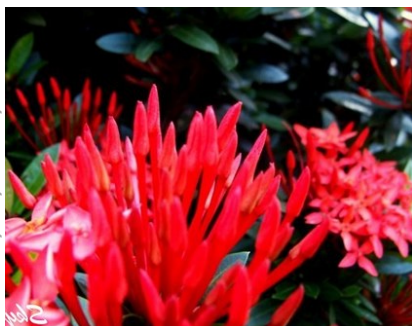


Photo by Skyless Skylark

Studies by enrolling in Independent Studies courses with specific faculty members.

Anthropology

- >> Alternative Health & Healing
- >> Cultures & Societies of India
- >> Archaeology of South & Southeast



Photo by Mystapaki

Asia

- >> Special Topics: Ethno-National Violence

Classics

- >> Sanskrit 1 & 2
- >> Topics in Sanskrit

Fine Arts

- >> Art of India
- >> Hindu Art

History

- >> Religion in India 1 & 2

Music

- >> Music in South Asia
- >> Introduction to World Music

Religious Studies

- >> Buddhist Civilizations
- >> Mysticism: East & East
- >> Religion and Civilization in South Asia
- >> Temple, Icon, & Deity in India

Certificate Program

Students enrolled in BA, MA, or PhD degree programs in any department or professional school at Pitt may earn a Certificate in Asian Studies with a focus on South Asia. The certificate is another academic credential for students who want to intensify their study of South Asia—either because they intend to use their knowledge of that critical part of the world in their careers after graduation or because they realize the importance of an understanding of South Asian history, language and culture as part of their liberal arts education. Upon graduation, both the academic degree and Certificate in Asian Studies are

posted on the student's transcript.

For more information on undergraduate and graduate certificate requirements, please visit the Asian Studies Center website at www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc/academics/

South Asia Studies Faculty

For the most up-to-date information on South Asia Studies Faculty, visit the Asian Studies Center website: www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc/academics/faculty



Photo by Ben Smethers

LINKS

SOUTH ASIA STUDIES

www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc/academics/

SCHOLARSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS

www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc/funding/

INDIAN NATIONALITY CLASSROOM

www.pitt.edu/~natrooms/countries/indian.html

LESS COMMONLY TAUGHT LANGUAGES CENTER

www.linguistics.pitt.edu/lctl/

Asian Studies Center . 4400 Posvar Hall . University of Pittsburgh . Pittsburgh, PA 15260
Phone: (412) 648-7370 . Email: asia@pitt.edu . Web: www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc