**Is This Course Right For You?**

**Course:** Culture and Sustainability in Bali

**Course requirements:**

* 2 credits; travel portion will take place in June/July or January
* Several articles, one book on Balinese life and culture, videos, and independent research
* Graded assignments: large and small group projects, class discussion, and one reflection project.

**Travel required:**

* Approximately 24-30 hours travel time with at least 1 layovers
* Within Bali, travel in a van with a driver and guide.

**Location(s):**

* We will spend most of our 2 weeks in Les Village on the northern coast of the island, and two nights in the cultural center of Ubud on our return.

**Climate:**

* Warm – in the 80’s. There may be an occasional afternoon shower.
* Intense sun requires frequent application of sunscreen. Please have sunscreen with you at all times. Sunglasses, a light, long-sleeved shirt and hat are advisable.
* To avoid dehydration you must drink plenty of water (bring a water bottle, carry it with you!)

**Physical Requirements:**

* It will not be uncommon to walk several miles in a day, not always on level or dry ground. There will be at least 2 significant hikes on trails with sharp inclines at various points. Sensible shoes are required.
* The primary volunteer work will be reef restoration which involves snorkeling. Must be able to swim. Prior snorkeling experience is not required. We will also be working with the villagers on a recycling project.

**Accommodations:**

* In the village--homestays with local families; shared bedroom (two students) and shared bathrooms (with family); Town of Ubud--hotel with western amenities. Fans available in each room.

**Cultural considerations:**

* Les Village is a small, Hindu village. Women dress modestly. We will be given a sarong when we arrive. The sarong is common attire for men and women going to temple. Avoid skimpy clothing. Hindus request that women who are menstruating should not enter the temple.
* While in the village, we will not drink alcohol.

**Food:**

* Chicken, seafood, vegetarian and gluten free options are abundant with very limited dairy and no beef. Rice and fruit are served with most meals. Food allergies or limitations must be reported in advance.
* Meals will be shared in the community center where there is a professional cook. Students are invited to help in the kitchen if they would like to learn Balinese cooking. Three meals a day are provided.

**Not covered in the budget:**

* Snacks or extra drinks are not covered. Meals outside set times and on travel days to and from Indonesia are the student’s responsibility.
* Most people budget about $100.00-$200.00 in spending money. ATMS are available only on the last two days of the trip.

**Free time:**

* Time is mostly spent with the group participating in scheduled activities. There is a little free time every day. Shopping will be primarily limited to the time spent in Ubud.
* Report whereabouts at all times during periods where individual or small group exploration is possible.
* No swimming or snorkeling alone.

**Parental Involvement**

* Students should discuss all details with family in the planning stages. However, any requests for additional information or assistance, or help with problems, must come directly from the student. Parents should be aware that students will not be in contact on a daily basis while travelling. It is not possible for parents to travel with the group. Wifi is available for communication. Students are invited to bring phones if they would like. Teacher will have a phone with ability to call the US in emergencies.