Picture yourself here! You just finished a morning yoga session in the nearby park, which has now become a part of your daily routine, and are now heading back home, where your host mom has prepared the South Indian staple breakfast of idly, sambar, and vada (rice cakes, vegetable stew with tamarind and peas, and a spicy, savory fritter). Your mouth begins to water, just thinking of the delicious meal waiting for you. As you walk through the door, the sweet and spicy aroma has filled the whole house, you have no choice but to line towards the kitchen. Everyone is gathering around the table and is excitedly curious about your first week of classes! It's been amazing. At the University of Hyderabad, you're taking Conversational Hindi, Religion and Politics in Modern India, Sociology of Gender, and Indian Philosophy. From sitting alongside local students in class to going on field trips to Golconda Fort, ancient mosques and temples, Mysore Maharaja's Palace, to eating mouthwatering curries to attending classical dance festivals and performances, you've been able to fully immerse yourself and learn so much about Indian society, history, and culture.

Every hour of your day abroad has been a mini-adventure.

Why Study Abroad?
Regardless of your future career choice, studying abroad will help you develop skills that are critical to a liberal arts education.

Consider your value to an employer or a graduate program if you've:
- Participated in a different educational system
- Increased your proficiency in another language
- Improved your critical thinking skills
- Expanded your worldview by experiencing another culture firsthand
- Developed self-confidence and independence
- Prepared for a career in an internationally competitive world
Enhanced resumes and/or applications for graduate school

100% of Sociology students who took courses in their major abroad received or are in the process of receiving major credit.

Social Science Majors Who Studied Abroad
Four-Year Graduation Rate

• 72%

Social Science Majors Who Did Not Study Abroad
Four-Year Graduation Rate

• 61%

What are my First Steps?

☐ Attend a First Steps session
☐ Research the program that is right for you
☐ Meet with a Programs Abroad advisor
☐ Search for courses you can take abroad that may fulfill major/minor/GE requirements to add to your Academic Planning Form
☐ Meet with your major/minor advisor
☐ Meet with your college advisor

[Studying abroad] in India helped me gain a greater understanding of sociological aspects in these communities. I wrote about contemporary issues in India such as women’s inequality, and how Hindu-Muslim conflict in the past has affected social relations in the present. My study abroad experience has enhanced my interest in India, and in possibly taking part in an NGO.” – Snehal Patha, EAP India
Study abroad may be more affordable than you think. The cost of studying abroad can be comparable to staying at UCSD and may even be less expensive.

Financial Aid
In almost all instances, students can use most or all of their financial aid packages for study abroad. Over half of UCSD’s study abroad participants are financial aid recipients.

Scholarships
UCSD students were awarded about $500,000 in study abroad scholarships last year. The Programs Abroad Office offers regular workshops to help students prepare a competitive scholarship essay.

Visit Our Website to Learn More: http://pao.ucsd.edu/pao/funding.htm

The support of the Programs Abroad Office does not end when you return. We continue to help you with the process of receiving credit for your classes and also provide opportunities to reflect on your time abroad and connect with other returnees and prospective students.

To Petition Courses for Major Credit
- Bring all course work from abroad to the Sociology advisor (notes, tests, quizzes, syllabi, etc.)
- Wait for courses taken abroad to post to your UCSD transcript
- Fill out an undergraduate student petition for each course you would like to satisfy a major requirement
- The Sociology faculty advisor will review courses for final approval

To Use What You’ve Learned Abroad:
http://pao.ucsd.edu/pao/uponreturn.html