

International field programs in Geography, 2018



School of Geosciences

The Geography program at the University of Sydney has a long and proud tradition of engagement with Asia via undergraduate student field schools. Many graduates with majors in Geography have gone onto careers or further studies at Honours or postgraduate levels specialising in the region. In 2018, the Geography program in the School of Geosciences will be involved in running four field school programs to Asia. Preliminary information about these opportunities is listed below.

Important information. This is preliminary information, current at August 2017. Specific dates and estimated costs may change. The *Southeast Asia Field School* (GEOS3053) has long been incorporated within the geography major at Sydney, and will be held in Indonesia in July 2018. In 2018, the School of Geosciences will be offering additional international field program opportunities for geography students to Thailand, India and Indonesia under the GEOS3055 unity of study code (*Field Studies in Geography*). Students can enrol in only one GEOS3055 unit over the course of their degree. Note that two of the GEOS3055 trips offered in 2018 (Thailand and India) cannot be used to count towards the requirements of 24 senior credit points that constitute a Geography major as they are interdisciplinary, but do provide you with 6cp. GEOS3053 (to Indonesia) and an Indonesian GEOS3055 (as part of a semester-long geography immersion program) can each be counted as 6 senior credit points towards a Geography major. Students can enrol in one of the GEOS3055 trips (Thailand **OR** India **OR** Indonesia) **AND** GEOS3053 (Indonesia). Admission to all these units requires Special Permission approval by the School of Geosciences.



India



Photo: Bill Pritchard

GEOS3055 (February Intensive), 5-23 February 2018

What it's about: This is a unique program designed to introduce students to the political economy of development and environment in India. It involves classes at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences in the bustling city of Mumbai, followed by visits to villages and national parks in the states of Rajasthan and Karnataka, before finishing in the IT city of Bangalore. This is an active program in which students will learn about India's developmental and environmental challenges by experiencing a cross-section of Indian life – from villages to IT parks.

Key dates: Applications due (email to bill.pritchard@sydney.edu.au): 1 September 2017. Shortlisted students will be interviewed during the week of 11 September and successful applicants will be notified shortly afterwards. Compulsory pre-departure program: 9 November 2017 (STUVAC)

Preliminary estimation of costs: It is estimated that students will be required to pay AUD\$1800 which will cover all costs in India (accommodation, meals, domestic flights and other travel for 18 days). Students are required to pay for and make their own air travel arrangements to India, although we will coordinate these arrangements as much as possible.

Who can apply? Any student proposing to complete a major in Geography and by the end of 2017 would have completed 12cp of junior Geography (GEOS1001/GEOS1002 or Advanced versions of both). The field school is run jointly with the School of Political Economy at the University of Sydney. There will be 16 places of the field school, of which half are allocated to Geography students.

Next steps: If you're interested in this field school, attend the briefing at: **4pm, Thursday 24 August, Madsen Conference Room (room 449) Madsen Building.**

Thailand



Photo: Phil Hirsch

GEOS3055 (January Intensive), 10-26 January 2018

What it's about: This program has two key aims. Firstly, it is designed to give students a first-hand understanding of changing livelihoods seen through the lens of shifting land uses and land ownership in and around Chiang Mai in Northern Thailand. It highlights issues that include the rural/urban divide, generational change, access to services, ethnicity and its shifting meanings, and the growth of creative industries in and around the city. Secondly, the field school

introduces students to the challenges and rewards of doing field-based research and working in interdisciplinary groups.

Key dates: Applications due (online): 11/8/17. Shortlisted students will be informed by 19/8/17 and successful applicants will be notified by early September. Compulsory pre-departure training: 6-8 Nov 2017 (STUVAC)

Preliminary estimation of costs: Up to AUD\$3000 per student. This includes accommodation, flights, a short cultural induction at Chang Mai University and field trip transportation costs. Please note that this may vary, particularly depending on flight prices. Each successful student is eligible for a **AUD\$2000** grant from the Sydney Southeast Asia Centre to contribute towards these costs. The estimate excludes meals and day-to-day living costs.

Who can apply? Student entering 3rd year Geography in 2018. A minimum of four places on this field school are reserved for Geography students who will be studying alongside students from Anthropology, Medicine and Urban Planning.

Next steps: If you're interested in this field school, see [here](#) for the online application

Indonesia (GEOS3053 Field School)



Title: Southeast Asia Field School

GEOS3053 (July Intensive), July 1 - 15 2018 (approximate dates)

What it's about: This unit develops field-based skills and experiential learning in geography. There will be three modules in 2018, covering: i) agrarian change, ritual and migration in the Toraja highlands; ii) coastal resource management in a Makassan fishing community; and iii) informal settlements, private spaces and contemporary urbanisms in Jakarta. In partnership with peers from the University of Indonesia, students attend lectures and stakeholder meetings, participate in fishing and farming activities, experience a village homestay, undertake household surveys, and engage in reading-based discussion groups.

Key dates: Expressions of Interest are to be sent to jeffrey.neilson@sydney.edu.au by 27 October, 2017, stating your full name, degree enrolled in, intended major(s) and a copy of your academic results. Accepted students are notified by 30 November, 2017. Full payments are due in March 2018 and students must attend compulsory pre-departure seminars in May and June 2018.

Preliminary estimation of costs: \$1200. This includes local travel, accommodation, academic assistance, and approximately 80% of meals. Students must book and pay for their own return flights to Jakarta. Students should budget a further \$200 available for incidental costs during the field school.

Who can apply? Students entering 3rd year in 2018 and intending to major in Geography. Students are expected to enrol in GEOS3524 (Global Development and Livelihoods) in S1 2018, as an integral feeder unit for GEOS3053. The field school is capped at 24 students.

Indonesia (Semester-long geography immersion program)

This longer-term exchange model (first offered in 2015) allows students to develop deeper geographical knowledge and gain expertise in the Indonesian language through an immersion program at the University of Indonesia that is integrated with the geography curriculum at Sydney.

Title: Indonesia Geography Immersion Program

Academic Credit: Includes GEOS3053, GEOS3055, and a further 30 credit points in Indonesian Studies (INMS2650, INMS2651, INMS2652, INMS2653, INMS2654).

When: Students spend up to eight months in Indonesia (July 2018 – February 2019).

What it's about: Students participate in the GEOS3053 field school in July 2018 and then enrol in: i) geography units and field activities in partnership with the University of Indonesia (under GEOS3055); ii) the highly-regarded BIPA program in Indonesian language (August-December 2018); and iii) an internship at an Indonesian-based company, NGO, or other organisation (December 2018-February 2019). For more information see: http://sydney.edu.au/science/geosciences/undergrad/ug_immersion.shtml or contact jeffrey.neilson@sydney.edu.au to arrange a consultation.

Key dates: Applications are to be sent to jeffrey.neilson@sydney.edu.au by 27 October, 2017, stating your full name, degree enrolled in, intended major(s), and a copy of your academic results. You should also include a 300 word statement on why your participation in the program is important to your study plan at University and for your future career, and what additional skills and experience you can contribute to the program. Applicants will be interviewed in November 2017 and successful students will be notified in December 2017.

Estimation of costs: The full program (airfares, tuition, living costs, participation in GEOS3053 and GEOS3055, short courses and language classes) is estimated at \$8000. In 2018, the University will offer New Colombo Plan Scholarships each worth \$8000 to 4 geography students to participate in the immersion program.

Who can apply? Students entering 3rd year in 2018 and intending to major in Geography. Students are expected to enrol in GEOS3524 (Global Development and Livelihoods) and INMS1001 (Indonesian 1A) in S1 2018.