Study and meditate while living in a monastery near the site of Buddha Shakyamuni’s enlightenment.

Explore Buddhism in India through interdisciplinary courses and Buddhist meditation traditions—plus a unique opportunity to conduct rigorous independent research in the field.

Courses
- Buddhist Philosophy
- Contemporary Buddhist Culture
- History of South Asian Buddhism
- Buddhist Meditation Traditions
- Independent Study/Field Research
- Hindi or Tibetan Language

Credit
Carleton College awards students the equivalent of 16 semester credits.

Application Deadline
March 15

Learn More
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OUR PROGRAM
A semester of study and meditation while living in a Buddhist monastery near the site of Buddha Shakyamuni’s enlightenment.

LOCATION
Bodh Gaya is a unique pilgrimage center in northern India and home to more than 40 Buddhist temples within a largely Hindu and Muslim community. Students live in a Burmese Vihar, or monastery, where our highly qualified team of faculty and on-site staff provide an engaging and supportive environment.

COURSES
- Buddhist Philosophy
- History of South Asian Buddhism
- Contemporary Buddhist Culture
- Hindi or Tibetan Language
- Buddhist Meditation Traditions
- Independent Study/Field Research

LANGUAGE
All coursework is conducted in English. Students may elect to take classes in introductory or intermediate Hindi or introductory Tibetan.

MEDITATION TRADITIONS
Instruction in basic meditation techniques will be given from the major Buddhist traditions: Vipassana, Zazen, and Dzogchen.

INDEPENDENT STUDY
Participants spend the final month working on independent study projects which build on their earlier coursework. This may involve travel to other parts of India or neighboring countries.

CREDIT
Carleton College awards students the equivalent of 16 semester credits.

LEADERSHIP
The program is led by Arthur McKeown, PhD, Associate Professor of Asian Studies, Carleton College. Professor Robert Pryor, program director since 1979, continues as Consulting Director.

APPLICATION DEADLINE
March 15

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