Cornell in Nepal

Location
• Kathmandu; Pop. - 2.5 million

Partner Institution
• Tribhuvan National University

Housing
• Residential Program Houses with Nepali Students

Eligibility
• 3.0 GPA or above
• Cornell & Non-Cornell Students;
• Second-Semester Sophomores, Juniors & First-Semester Seniors;
• M.A. and Ph.D candidates

Program Terms
• Semester or Academic Year

Costs
• See website for current costs
• Includes tuition, housing, activities & administrative fees
• Not included: personal expenses, meals, travel
• Non Cornell students contact Cornell Abroad

Application Deadlines
• March 2- Fall/Year
• October 1 - Spring

Program Advisor
• Dr. Kristen Grace

Cornell Resources
• cuabroad.cornell.edu/?go=nepal
• blogs.cornell.edu/studyabroad
• Cornell Application

WWW.CUABROAD.CORNELL.EDU

Cornell Nepal Study Program (CNSP)
The curriculum provides a foundation in Nepali language and Nepalese studies in addition to instruction in Research Design and Proposal Writing. Field study options include environment and ecology development studies, rural sociology, the anthropology of Nepal, or other special interests, including art or religion. Excursions include a rural village stay and a one-week trek, and other field trips. Volunteer community service opportunities are available with various community development agencies.

CNSP is administered on-site in Nepal by a Resident Administrator, working with the Tribhuvan National University faculty. Administration from Ithaca is coordinated by Cornell Abroad with faculty direction in the establishment of the curriculum and research program. On-site staff also includes a Teaching Fellow and a Residential Coordinator.

Nepal
Nepal, running along the ridge of the Himalayan mountain range between India and China, offers a splendid venue for a study abroad program in a developing country. The geographical diversity of Nepal ranges from the sub-tropical Terai region in the south, with an elevation of only 600 feet above sea level, to the mountains of the north where the elevation reaches over 29,000 feet. Nepal’s amazing geographic diversity has created equally amazing cultural diversity; over 50 distinct languages are spoken by ethnic groups living in the hill and valley regions of Nepal. You will have the chance to experience first-hand the country often called the “roof of the world.” Nepal has a fledgling democratic political system.

Kirtipur & Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, the site of CNSP, had been an important town since the settlement of the medieval hill kingdoms in the Kathmandu Valley. It lost its independence in 1765 on being conquered by the Gorkha King, Prithvi Narayan Shah, who founded the recent Nepalese monarchy. The monarchy was abolished and a republic established in 2008; since then Nepal has seen an election and peaceful transitions of government. Pagoda-style temples dot the hills of the old town and commemorate the battles of the pre-conquest kingdom by displaying antique weapons and other artifacts. Tribhuvan National University was built in 1964, just below the old town on former rice paddies; there are spectacular vistas of the Kathmandu Valley and the Himalayas.

Although tourists are often told about the historic beauty of Kirtipur, few actually visit. CNSP students are welcomed at both the university and the old town and find their own pleasures walking to hear music at temples in the early morning, enjoying displays of seasonal fruits and vegetables in the open market, biking or hiking throughout the Valley, socializing and studying with other students, familiarizing themselves with the many international and national non-governmental organizations and agencies based in Kathmandu, and, of course, exploring Nepal itself.