This course is a case study on water poverty in rural India. Students will learn firsthand about the freshwater crisis that exists in the Mewat District, a rural agricultural valley in northern India that is under-developed economically, even by the country’s standards. Fresh groundwater is the primary water source for drinking and irrigation in the area. However, this resource is threatened by overuse, increasing demand from a growing population, and climatic changes in monsoon rains. During their time in India, students will be engaged in projects that investigate practices aimed at enhancing water supplies. Through these activities, and interactions with the local partner and population in Mewat, students learn how culture, economics, and the environment shape this region and determine the sustainability of water resources.

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