

Preliminary Overseas Project Itinerary

Mon., May 31: Leave for Uzbekistan.

Day 1, Wed., June 2:

Overview and introductions.

1:05 am: Arrival in Tashkent. Go to hotel to bathe and rest after the long trip.

11:00: Face-to-face meeting and orientation.

Lunch.

Afternoon: Overview of the city. Talk on “The History of Uzbekistan: Ancient and Medieval Times.”

Early dinner.

- Overnight in Tashkent.

Day 2, Thurs., June 3:

Old Tashkent

Morning: Exploring medieval sites in Tashkent – Kukeldash Madrasah, Kaffal Shashi Mausoleum, Barak Khan Madrasah, Hast Imam Street mosque and library.

Lunch

Afternoon: Talk on “The Uzbek language.” Later afternoon: Visit the Chor-Su Bazaar to watch craftsmen at work. Watch bread-making and pilaf demonstration at Pilaf House or Oshhona.

- Overnight in Tashkent.

Day 3, Fri., June 4:

Tashkent’s cultures/history

Morning: Visit Bukharan and Ashkenazi Synagogues with tour of the museum and community center. Meet the community leaders. Talk: “Jewish Traditions along the Silk Road.”

Lunch

Afternoon: Metro ride to visit National Museum and the Alisher Navoi Theatre.

Meet students at the National University of Uzbekistan.

Dinner at the international restaurant.

See the night panorama of the city

- Overnight in Tashkent.

Day 4, Sat., June 5:

Traditional and modern Tashkent

Morning: Tour of the Abul Kasim complex and center for traditional crafts, Oliy Majlis, People’s Friendship Square, and State Art Museum of Uzbekistan.

Lunch

Afternoon: 1-hour Persian language lesson, then visit Independence Square, the earthquake memorial, and a church from the 19th century. Talk on “The History of Uzbekistan: From Russian Rule through the Post-Soviet Era.”

- Overnight in Tashkent.

Day 5, Sun., June 6:

Shahrisabz

Take the high-speed train to Shahrisabz (birthplace of Amir Temur).

Visit ancient ruins in Ak-Saroy, Hazrat-i Imam Mosque, Kok Gumbaz, and Chorraha and crafts centers.

1-hour Persian lesson and talk about “The Legacy of Temur.”

- Overnight in Shakhrisabz.

Day 6, Mon., June 7:

Rural Uzbekistan

Morning: Visit with local families in nearby villages, 1-hour hike in the mountains.

Lunch

Afternoon: Drive to Bukhara through Kizil Kum Desert and visit to a nature reserve en route.

- Overnight in Bukhara.

Day 7, Tues., June 8:

Bukhara

Morning: Visit Chor Minor complex, Mausoleum Ismail Samanid, Chashmai Ayyub, Bolo Khauz Mosque, and Ark Citadel.

Lunch

Afternoon: 2-hour Persian lesson. Talk on “Persianate Art and Architecture.”

- Overnight in Bukhara.

Day 8, Wed., June 9:

Bukhara

Morning: Minaret Kalian, Mosque Kalian, Madrassah of Mir Arab, Madrassah of Ulughbek, Madrassah of Abdulazizkhan, and Hanaka & Madrassah Nadir Divan Begui. Day, Magoki Attari – oldest surviving mosque in Central Asia/now a carpet museum.

Lunch

Afternoon: 1-hour Persian lesson. Talk on “Classical Persian Literature.” Curriculum Development meeting.

- Overnight in Bukhara.

Day 9, Thurs., June 10:

Bukhara

Free time to relax, explore, shop for classroom materials.

Late afternoon: 2-hour Persian lesson.

Folklore show (dancing, singing, and fashion show) at the Nadir Divan Begi.

- Overnight in Bukhara.

Day 10, Fri., June 11:

Bukhara

Morning: Meet with professors/teachers. Talk on Uzbek educational system.

Lunch

Afternoon: 2-hour Persian lesson.

- Overnight in Bukhara.

Day 11, Sat., June 12:

Outskirts of Bukhara

Morning: Tour Sufi Center Bahauddin Nakshbandi Complex and Chor Bakr Complexes located outside of Bukhara. Ceramic and embroidery artisan shops.

Lunch with a local family.

Afternoon: 2-hour Persian lesson.

- Overnight in Bukhara.

Day 12, Sun., June 13:

Travel to Khiva

Morning: 2-hour Persian lesson.

Noon: Take the train to Khiva (arriving near 6:00 pm).

Early evening: overview of the city.

- Overnight in Khiva.

Day 13, Mon., June 14:

Old City of Khiva

Morning: Ata-Darvaza (West Gate), Kalta Minar minaret, Madrassah of Mohammad Amin, Kunya Ark, Pahlavan Mahmud Mausoleum, Khokja Islam Madrassah, Tash Hauli Palace, Juma Mosque.

Lunch

Afternoon: Talk on the history of Khiva, time to explore the bazaar.

- Overnight in Khiva.

Day 14, Tues., June 15:

Desert life

Travel in the desert to visit archeological sites such as the Ayaz-Kala ruins from the second century CE. Talk on “Nomadic Life: Adaptation to Desert Living in Uzbekistan”
Experience desert life and an overnight stay in a yurt.

- Overnight in a Yurt in Tuprak Kala.

Day 15, Wed., June 16:

From the desert to Bukhara

Morning: Camel riding, hiking, photography.

Return to Khiva and then take a train to Bukhara.

- Overnight in Bukhara.

Day 16, Thurs, June 17:

Bukhara

Visit Gavkushon complex and Biyankhanikhan Mongolian mausoleum and madrasahs.

Meet with students from the madrasah.

Lunch with local teachers and students.

Afternoon: 1-hour Persian lesson. Cooking class.

Dinner and dance show at the Labi Khaus restaurant.

- Overnight in Bukhara.

Day 17, Fri., June 18:

Bukhara

Day trip to Gijduvan Silk Road city to see 14th century Ulugbek Madrassah, Gijduvaniy complex, school of ceramics. On the way, stop by silk road cities of Vabkent to explore the Sufi center of Fakhnaviy and 12th century minaret. Talk: “Sufism in Western and Central Asia.”

- Overnight in Bukhara.

Day 18, Sat., June 19:

Travel to Samarkand

Morning: “Golden Road” to Samarkand through Malikchul Desert and the Zerafshan River. Stop by an ancient caravanserai Rabati Malik and 16th century Sardoba, talk on “Medieval Travels along the Silk Road.”

Arrival in Samarkand in the afternoon.

Early evening: See Registan Square.

- Overnight in Samarkand.

Day 19, Sun., June 20:

Samarkand

Morning: Visit Amir Timur Mausoleum, Bibi Khanum Mosque and Bustling Siyob bazaar. 1-hour Persian language class and discussion of outreach.

Lunch and afternoon: free time.

- Overnight in Samarkand.

Day 20, Mon., June 21:

Samarkand

Morning: Visit Shahi Zinda ensemble which includes ancient mausoleums which date back from the 9th century, Khodjai Hizr Complex, and the mausoleum of first president of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov.

Afternoon: Meeting at the University of Samarkand with teachers and students.

Folk Performance.

- Overnight in Samarkand.

Day 21, Tues., June 22:

Samarkand

Morning: Explore the mausoleum of Khoja Akhror Wali, Al Bukhari Pilgrimage centers, silk paper factories, ruins of Afrasiab, Afrasiyab Museum, and Ulugbek Observatory.

Tour and talk about “Medieval Islamic Science” by a local professor and outstanding curator of Uzbekistan.

Lunch

Afternoon: 2-hour Persian lesson, Curriculum Development meeting, small group work on Persian language modules.

- Overnight in Samarkand.

Day 22, Wed., June 23:

Panjakent, Tajikistan

Early morning: Short drive (plus border crossing to Penjikent, Tajikistan)

Explore the 3,000-year-old city that is a UNESCO World Heritage site: ruins, sacred places, bazaar, museum. Talk “The History of Tajikistan.”

- Overnight in Panjakent, Tajikistan.

Day 23, Thurs., June 24:

Rural Tajikistan

Scenic 4-hour drive through Fann Mountains and villages of Tajikistan, stopping for a picnic and to visit the Saratog Village and school (where we can practice Persian).

Arrival and dinner in Dushanbe.

- Overnight in Dushanbe.

Day 24, Fri., June 25:

Dushanbe

Morning: Visit the monument of Ismail Samani, the founder of the Samanid Kingdom in the IX century, the Museum of National Antiquity, the Opera and Ballet Theatre. Enjoy the tour around the bazaar and the popular tea house, Museum of Ethnography at the Institute of History of Tajikistan.

Lunch

Afternoon: Meeting with Tajik students, visit Gurminj Museum of Music Instruments or Ziyodullo Shahidi Museum of Musical Culture, talk on “Tajik Music,” 1-hour Persian lesson

- Overnight in Dushanbe.

Day 25, Sat., June 26:

Dushanbe

Morning: Drive to Hissar Fortress, to see the remains of an ancient caravanserai, the mausoleum and meddreseh. Photo opportunity at the Nature Reserve.

Lunch:

Afternoon: 2-hour Persian lesson

- Overnight in Dushanbe.

Day 26, Sun., June 27:

Khujand

Morning flight to Khujand.

Lunch

Afternoon: Explore 3000-year-old city – Temurmaliq Fortress, the Museum of Archeology and History, Friday Mosque, Kamoli Khujandi Square (formerly Pushkin Square), Mosque of Muslih al-Din, and Silk Road Bazaar.

- Overnight in Khujand.

Day 27, Mon., June 28:

Trip Conclusions

Morning: Drive to Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Lunch

Afternoon: Meeting to fill out evaluations, turn in receipts, and take post-test.

Closing dinner

- Overnight in Tashkent.

Day 28: Tues., June 29:

Trip Conclusions

Day for individual curriculum development meetings and final exploration.

- Overnight in Tashkent.

Wed., June 30 – leave to return home or continue traveling.