

## OSU FACULTY-LED PROGRAMS | BHUTAN

# Gross National Happiness: Experiencing the Life and Culture of Bhutan



## PROGRAM DATES: Sept. 4 - 20, 2026

### Program Description:

Bhutan is a relatively isolated country on the southern slope of the Himalayas, where mass tourism and foreign investment have historically been limited. Rather than emphasizing the often-used metric of Gross Domestic Product to measure success, Bhutan introduced the philosophy of Gross National Happiness to the world. OSU's Center for Resilient Agriculture and Food Systems has partnered with the College of Natural Resources at the Royal University of Bhutan to develop this two-week summer program. This course will give you deep insight into how Tibetan Buddhism is put into practice in Bhutanese culture, architecture, food, music, agriculture, and forestry and water resource management. You will also learn key principles of Gross National Happiness and study how it is measured and promoted. We hope this immersive experience will inspire reflection on our own values and how we put them into practice in our lives.

### Program Leaders:

Leader: Anne Gearhart, Head Advisor/ Instructor, Horticulture

Contact: Nick Andrews, Professor of Practice, Horticulture

### Office of Global Opportunities

[osuglobal.oregonstate.edu/faculty-led-program-offerings](https://osuglobal.oregonstate.edu/faculty-led-program-offerings)

Check OSU  
GO Events  
Calendar for  
INFO Sessions

Application  
Deadline:  
April 1

Learn about Bhutanese history, architecture and agriculture with local experts. Experience firsthand, cultural heritage sites and life in a rural community.

Earn 6 credits (two 3 cr. courses) OPEN to all MAJORS!

- SUS 499 | Gross National Happiness and Bhutanese Culture
- SUS 499 | Rural Life and Livelihoods in Bhutan

### INFO Sessions

- Feb. 3 and Feb. 25
- 12-1pm
- Crop Science 119 / zoom

