

Kathmandu microgrid applications

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V482/V582; E482/E582 – Microgrids for Rural Development, Exploring Renewable Energy Solutions (3cr.)

Program Director: Amber Greaney

A unique aspect of this course is the field work and research aspect - students will learn about solar microgrid technologies and then actively participate in a community installation of a solar microgrid alongside local organizations.

Planned cultural excursions include visiting a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Patan Durbar Square led by a local historian, and a walking tour of Kathmandu. Other organized cultural activities, such as basic language lessons, trying local cuisine, and taking a yoga class where Yoga originated, will allow students to actively engage with Nepali culture and learn from local experts.

While the program starts and ends in Kathmandu, students will have the opportunity to stay with local families for 3-4 days in a village homestay while making an impact by providing electric access with a solar microgrid installation. This program experience will provide an authentic glimpse into daily life, customs, and traditions of rural Nepali communities as well as allowing students to see first-hand how renewable energy impacts local communities.

The lodging for the majority of this program will be Kathmandu Guesthouse. Students will each have their own bed and will share rooms, usually about 2-3 students per room. Food is generally within walking distance from the guesthouse; breakfast is included at the hotel (buffet breakfast).

For the homestay part of the program, students will stay in a family"s home in a local village. Each homestay has separate rooms for our group to stay in, about 2-3 students per room. Program guides/staff will be split up amongst the group to stay with the students as well. The homestay is a rustic accommodation experience with basic necessities. There is running water, however it might be cold showers and squat toilets.

All breakfasts, lunches, and dinners will feature local cuisine and are included on the program.

All O'Neill International programs are academic, credit-bearing courses that take place abroad. As such, your bursar will be charged two amounts for participation in this program:

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2025 Program Fee: \$3,400

The Program Fee for this program includes:

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