Jansen, Herodotus, and Indiana Jones
Sabbatical presentation
by Matt Furmanski
The main focus of my sabbatical was to gain a “primary source” experience of the places, people and things that I teach about, and that I studied throughout my education. I was interested in the tools and the techniques in context. I wanted to have first hand knowledge that I could pass on to my students in the classroom. To borrow a metaphor, I have spent much of my academic career as an astronomer gazing from afar, it was time to become an astronaut and actually walk and see with my own eyes the places and things I had always and only experienced in books.

everything we do is based in some way on the past, or the history, and to know the past, is to have an Idea of the possible direction of the future.
• 20 countries
• seven and a half months
• travel by any means necessary, including but not limited to car, bus, plane, boat, raft, camel, horse, elephant, tuk-tuk, cart, foot, stroller, and so on.
• Adventurers included my wife Monica, and our three children, Samuel, Roan and Ani, ages 12, 10, and 4.
• visiting museums of all sorts, archeological sites, artisan workshops, schools, architecture, markets, festivals, and so on.
Frequently Asked Questions

My wife is a digital photography professor at both Ventura College and Oxnard College, and was able to take a leave of absence for the journey.

We home schooled our kids over the course of the year, and visited first hand many of the places there classmates were studying back home from textbooks.

We were not modest while planning the trip, or about what we were doing on our trip, and took advantage of as many opportunities from friends and relatives, and friends of friends as possible, with regards of places to stay etc.

I am still trying to pay off the credit card.
What follows is a series of images which represent some of the highlights of the sabbatical. We came back with well over 10,000 images, and close to 60 hours of video. We all shared the cameras, so there may be pictures and video included that were created by all of us.

We kept a running Blog, which is still available at furmanskiworldtour.blogspot.com
our bags, we had four checked bags for the five of us, and a carry on bag as well. I had the backpack, so I could push a stroller when needed.
England to start! we almost speak the same language anyway
Prime meridian, Greenwich mean time, the Longitude Prize, and the Harrison Clocks.
Victoria and Albert Museum, Matt with his tactical stroller pack.
V&A introduction to Ironwork
Stonehenge of course
Bath, the Roman Museum at Bath
Bath, how the Romans moved heavy stone to build the bath
Stone masons and cathedral building tools
Looking at colleges for the kids, Cambridge
Paris for Bastille Day, one of Cleopatras needles
Notradame and the “rose window”
Catacombs beneath Paris
Roan and Tower Eiffel, as seen from the River Seine
Natural History Museum, Paris, my favorite! Many long hours were spent browsing its collections.
Mont Sant Michel, a days worth of exploring
Louvre, Venus De Milo and Sam, some fun in the museum
Sam and Mona Lisa
“Raft of the Medusa”
Holland, Amsterdam, public art abounds in the Netherlands
Rijksmuseum in the back, Rembrandt, Vermeer, etc.
Venice, view from St. Marks across the canal
Ice-cream on Crusade-era spoils of war in St. Marks Square.
Venice Biennale, (Clause Oldenburg) amazing exhibition, all over the city and in several main pavilions.
Peggy Guggenheim’s house/art collection on the Grand Canal
Peggy's garden
Ani in the Throne in the Garden at Peggy Guggenheims house
Greece, the Parthenon on the Acropolis
Temple to Aphrodite acropolis
Santorini, volcanic rim and excavations
Pompeii, Rome
Pompeii house with beautiful garden and murals
Pompeii wall painting
Pompeii mosaic rug
Pompeii wall fresco
Pompeii street seen, notice crosswalk in the background
Street in Pompeii
artifacts, pompeii, amphora and a human cast in the center
cast of dog caught in Pompeii
Sam as Caesar, studding ancient Rome for school
Colosseum
Colosseum from the top
underneath the Colisseum floor
Vatican Treasures
Vatican Bernini’s square and Egyptian obelisk
Galileo’s grave, Florence, Italy
Pisa, the leaning tower and the main basilica
Exhibition of work by Matisse and Rodin, Villefranche
La Sagrada Familia, Barcelona Spain, Gaudi
Forest, Antoni Gaudi, inside the Sagrada Familia
exterior of Sagrada Familia
Casa Batllo, Gaudi
Gaudi Roof
Gaudi Roof with Sagrada Familia in the background
Gaudi Attic
Park Guell, Gaudi
Marrakech, Morocco, Riad Orangerie
Shopping in the Medina, the souks, Marrakech
everything and anything in Jemma Al Fina
The Souks, in the Medina, like the organs of some beast
Jemma Al Fina, main square in Marrakech
Re-Bar and cement by horse-cart, Jemma al Fina
Or youngest photographer
Coke in Arabic
Essaouria, a magical place, conquered by the romans for its sea creatures and the purple dye they made, the meeting place of the Bedouin and Touareg nomadic tribes, home to both Jimmy Hendrex and Orson Wells
our room in Essaouria, a Riad on the great sea wall.
Fishing Fleet in Essaouria
The Nets, and boys playing on the Portuguese cannon in the fort
Portuguese Cannon
Portuguese cannon to defend the city
Ramadan began, Muslim festival, Essaouria
Cuenca Spain, the city built on the cliff
Art museum, Cuenca
Art museum, Cuenca
Toledo
Madrid, Guernica by Picaso, the Prado
American Sculptor, Richard Sera
Bilbao, Spain, Frank Ghery museum, and Jeff Koons Sculpture
Bilbao
Carcasone, medieval castle
Les Arnauds, French Alps
our source of heat and hot food
outside of the farmhouse barn home
On to the lake district, northern Italy
Lake Maggiore, Northern Italy
Secret Garden, Inga’s house on Isola Pesciatore
Maritime Museum, Venice Italy
Capadoccia, Anatolia, central Turkey
Video, double click
Cave ceramics, Hittite style, birthplace of the pottery wheel (disputed)
Cave Dwelling, our hotel
Early Christian paintings in the caves, hiding from the romans
Hidden monastery, Cappadocia
Collapsed Church
restored church ceiling
restored paintings on the tufa church ceiling
Hidden cathedral, carved in Tufa, volcanic stone
Indiana Jones, stay away from the light
Citadel, and carved city
traditional silk rugs being made in turkey
Process of making silk
To the Mediterranean, and aboard our Gulet, like Jason and the Argonauts
King Mausolus’ Tomb, the original Mausoleum, and one of the wonders of the ancient world, nothing remains, all used as spolia in surrounding structures.
Greek column blank, recently recovered from the ocean floor. was lost on its way to be carved for some forgotten temple?
Roman Bronze anchor, recovered by accident when it was caught in a fishing net
Spolia
Cow pasture, full of the remains of ancient history!
Ceramic vessel find, by Roan, probably greek!
Rhodian Amphora handle, can tell by the double roll coil handle
spolia, the wall of an old church made from the ruins of an old Greek temple.
ruins at Labranda
Temple of nike?
Port of Iasos
Colosseum, boys have the stage.
Colosseum in Turkey, notice the large Vomitoriums
Large column Temple of zeus, Turkey
Pick-nik in the ruins
Roman God
Museum of antiquities, Turkey
Artemis of Ephesus, 1st century AD
warped perspective in sculpture, it looks great from down here! Emperor Domiti-constantine
Scale, museum of antiquities, Turkey
The boy on the Bronze Dolphin
Ephesus, the good neighborhood, being restored
Private rooms, frescoes and mosaics
quite a puzzle, restoring the grand houses of Ephesus.
public restroom, Ephesus
Ephesus walkway and collonade
The Library at Ephesus
The Library
Techincal details
Istanbul, not Constantinople
The Cistern! only recently discovered
Medusa Head column re used as spolia in the cistern
Hagia Sophia, Basilica and Mosque
The Blue Mosque
Inside the Blue Mosque
Headscarves everyone
Climb the tower my young Jenecarys!
Topkapi Palace, Istanbul
Kunefe, our new favorite desert. Fried cheese, honey and pistachio nut?
Museum of Islamic art and culture and mathematics, astrolabe
Model for the observatory
Saqqara, Egypt, the first pyramid
Cairo Museum
Giza
Big Climb
Up we go
Inside
Classic Egypt
Sun Ships, for Pharoah in the after-life
Pigeon, very tasty! a speciality in Egypt
Making Papyrus paper
meeting place of poets, writers and artist, perhaps the birthplace of the revolution?
Tea time
Abu Simbel
Inside the temple
Luxor
artisan making alabaster vases, much the same way they did 3000 years ago
Tools for working the stone
Hatshetsup temple, the woman pharaoh
entrance to the valley of the kings.
Jordan
Colosseum in Jordan
Amman
Caravanserai, 60 KM from border with Iraq.
Qasr Al Azraq, Caravanserai, inside the basalt fort
Qasr Al Azraq, Caravanserai, inside the basalt fort
Qasr Al Azraq, Caravanserai, inside the basalt fort
Bedouin Tent, hospitality and tea
Ceramic Sarcophagus
Early Ceramic Lamp
Caravanserai, along the silk Rout, every 20 miles, center for trade and commerce.
Petra!, view through the Siq
Petra, the treasury
Playing in Petra, looking for artifacts
Jerash, Jordan, the main Polis
Krak des Chevaliers, Syria, close to the city of Homs  crusade era castle
Krak des Chevaliers
Krak des Chevaliers
India, Mumbai, washer slum, laundry slum
India, Jane Temple, Living Temple
Jane temple, living temple
Victoria station
Gateway to India
Taj Hotel, Mumbai terror attacks, anniversary
Daulatabaud Fort, northern India
Monkeys in Daulatabade Fort
Tile work on the fort
Ellora Caves!
Carved from the solid basalt mountainside
Gandi’s Ashram
Gandhi's words of wisdom, the seven social sins

1. Politics without Principles
2. Wealth without Work
3. Commerce without Morality
4. Education without Character
5. Pleasure without Conscience
6. Science without Humanity
7. Worship without Sacrifice
Ashram Observances

1. Truth
2. Non-Violence (Ahimsa)
3. Chastity (Brahmacharya)
4. Non-Possession
5. Non-Stealing
6. Bread-Labour
7. Control of Palate
8. Fearlessness
9. Equality of Religions
10. Swadeshi
11. Removal of Untouchability

Follow the above observances with humility and resolve.

-Gandhi
Ajanta Cave complex, northern India
Buddha, with the mudra of the teacher, and Matt with the thumb trick
Participation in a Hindu ceremony in the river
releasing the offerings
The Sandstone palace, carving
Amber Fort, Jaipour
Amber Fort, Jaipour
Hindu temple markings
Mogul or indian solar observatory, Jantar Montar
Tuk tuk ride, our usual form of transportation in India
Taj Mahal
Mughal architecture, mausoleum for the 3rd wife of the emperor
Gandhi’s memorial,
exploring temples
sandstone carvings
China!
Freezing at the forbidden palace, Beijing
forbidden palace
Tiananmen square, chairman Mao in the back
The Great wall, with friends and family
Japan
Tokyo
Temple
Rokkaku temple, birthplace of flower arranging Kyoto
Flower arranging and bonsai tools outside the temple
Tools of Ikebana Kanetaka
Knit hats and clothing for the stone deities in the temple
Thailand, Bangkok
Royal palace, Bangkok Thailand
Bangkok Thailand
Stupa, burial shrine
Temple of dawn, Chao Phraya River, Bangkok
water-taxi, long-tail boat, car engine on a swivel with a long driveshaft to a propeller and skag
painting in progress in living temple in Bangkok
Temple of Dawn
signage, be respectful
Cambodia, more land mines than people in the country
Angkor Wat
Angkor Wat
Angkor Wat, Angkor Thom
Exploring Angkor Wat
Exploring Angkor Wat
Steep Climb, Exploring Angkor Wat
Exploring Angkor Wat
Exploring Angkor Wat
Exploring Angkor Wat
Exploring Angkor Wat
Exploring Angkor Wat, still a living temple
Causeway, Angkor Wat
Fish Massage, Siem Reap, after a long day exploring Angkor Wat
Visit to the artisisonal school and workshop
Artisans working stone
Artisans working
Types of stone used to carve the statues and use in the temples
sketches for the projects
Artisans working
Artisans working
Process
Artisans working
process and technique
wood carving
carving buda
Buda
someone having fun
Tonle Sap, on the Mekong
snake girl, Tolon Sap
don’t swim in the lake
floating village, Tolone Sap
floating village, Tolone Sap
snake girl in a washtub boat, floating village
Lunch! fresh from the lake
Uluatu, Bali, Indonesia, Dreamland
Dreamland tempel
Dreamland temple
Dreamland temple, Uluwatu
Dreamland temple, Uluwatu
Dreamland temple, Uluwatu
Bali Gate
Friends in the gate
Cat in the Temple
Temple grounds, Bali
Volcano Lake temple
Hanoman, the monkey king, monkey temple
Hanuman temple gates
offerings to Hanuman, the monkey god
offerings to Hanuman, the monkey god
offerings to Hanuman, the monkey god
offerings to Hanuman, the monkey god
offerings to Hanuman, the monkey god
offerings to Hanuman, the monkey god
see a family resemblance?
Ocean temple
The Holy Snake
Cave of the Holy Snake
wild life in our room, giant gecko, we caught a snake too!
shrine
shrines being made
shrines for sale
wood work
carving and woodwork
ceramic roof decorations
bali street life
ocean temple at low tide
Australia
Australia, Cans, northern Queensland
Great Barrier reef
giant clam, great barrier reef
beach fishing, great catch sam!
our home in Australia
The end