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CHI 3955 Foreign Study: Language & Culture

A Global Learning* Course



Semester: Summer A, 2017	Faculty Director: Li Ma, Ph.D
Class Days: M Tu W Th	Office: Tingsong Bldg 6 Rm. 103
Class Time: 8:00am - 12:00pm	Office hours: By appointment
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

For foreign language learners, true cultural intricacies and understandings are situated well beyond the textbook. Meaning must be constructed through the target language in its cultural context, which is not one-dimensional as both the target language and culture and the learner's own language and culture are simultaneously engaged. This summer study abroad course is designed so that students have the opportunity to gain (at the beginner level) or improve (at the intermediate level) their proficiency in Chinese in authentic situations. Workshops in martial arts, tea ceremony, paper cutting, knot making, calligraphy and painting provide first-hand encounter with the Chinese culture, while daily interactions with a group of selected Chinese students at the host university challenge pre-conceived notions of current social trends and development in the "Middle Kingdom" in modern time. Weekly field trips and weekend excursions include visits to historic sites, towns and e-commerce companies.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Students will build confidence in communicating with native speakers of Chinese in everyday settings (stores, restaurants, in a taxi, etc.).
2. Students will develop speaking proficiency by completing assignments in and outside classes.
3. Students will have basic (at the beginner level) or sharpened (at the intermediate level) listening comprehension of Chinese.
4. Students will acquire reading and writing skills through formal lessons.
5. Students will learn aspects of Chinese culture and society via daily interactions with the local community and field visits.

*This is a Discipline-Specific Global Learning Course that counts towards your Global Learning graduation requirement.

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GLOBAL LEARNING COURSE OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, the student will:

1. Be able to demonstrate an understanding of globalization and the interrelatedness of the western impact on China and the impact of China on the rest of the globe.
2. Be able to conduct a multi-perspective analysis of current social issues in China.
3. Demonstrate a willingness to address current concerns in the local Chinese community by making suggested plans of action.

ACTIVE LEARNING STRATEGIES

Students will be engaged in semi-authentic settings in class to practice appropriate language use for various occasions. Assignments are designed to complement classroom learning in real life situations. Daily interactions with language buddies from the host university will help maximize student learning in meaningful ways. Additionally, the class will benefit from field trips in the city and to nearby historic towns.

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS:

Gamer, Robert E. (2012). Understanding Contemporary China, 4th Edition. Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Osno, Evan (2014). Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth and Faith in the New China. Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

GRADING SCALE:

93 – 100	A	83 – 86	B	70 – 76	C
90 – 92	A-	80 – 82	B-	60 – 69	D
87 – 89	B+	77 – 79	C+	59 & below	F

GRADING CATEGORIES:

Class attendance & participation (1.5% x 16)	24%
Homework (1% x 16)	16%
Field trip report (5% x 5)	25%
Weekly presentation (5% x 4)	20%
Final interview	15%

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION (1.5% x 16):

You must attend every class and arrive on time. A tardy will be given for anyone who is 5 minutes late. Three tardies will count as one unexcused absence. If you are sick and cannot attend class, a doctor's note must be issued and missing assignments must be turned in upon your return. Extensive participation and constructive collaboration in class is strongly encouraged for satisfactory "daily score".

Daily Scoring Rubric

- 1.5 Excellent preparation with superior performance; no assistance required from peers or instructor

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- 1 Preparation with good performance, but some noticeable errors or hesitation
- 0.5 Little or no preparation; a lot of help is required from peers or instructor
- 0 Absent

HOMEWORK (1% x 16):

These daily assignments will guide your preparation for the next class. Each assignment consists of questions that you must complete in order to be an active participant for the upcoming discussion.

FIELD TRIP REPORT (5% x 5):

Every week you will take part in one field trip in the city of Hangzhou and one weekend excursion to nearby historic towns. You will choose five places among the visits to write five short reports based on your experience and reflection. The locations may vary each year but you will be notified of the schedule upon arrival.

WEEKLY PRESENTATION (5% x 4):

You will attend cultural workshops twice a week in the afternoon. Masters in their respective fields will give demonstration and you will have the opportunity to be hands-on with practicing Chinese martial arts, tea ceremony, paper cutting, knot making, calligraphy and painting. After the workshop, you will be paired with another classmate to discuss your experience. Your co-presenter will be different each time.

FINAL INTERVIEWS (15%):

With the help of your language buddy, you will find three Chinese people to interview. They must be from different walks of life. You should make your own questions which must all eventually lead to issues of local, global, international or intercultural concern. The interviews will be video-taped. All questions will be prepared in Chinese. The minimum number of questions asked to each interviewee is 10. On the day of presenting your final interviews, be prepared to address your interviewees' concerns by making suggested plans of action.

DISABILITY STATEMENT:

It is the student's responsibility to inform the faculty director of any documented special needs. The faculty director will make every effort to pre-arrange service with the host university in China.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Any student who cheats or plagiarizes will receive a grade of zero for the corresponding test or assignment. A second time will result in an automatic zero for the **course**.

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CLASS SCHEDULE:

5/7/17 Sunday	Arrival ① pick-up ② dorm arrangement ③ campus tour ④ meeting ZUST students Activity: Welcome Party
5/8/17 Monday	Class: Speaking & Grammar
5/9/17 Tuesday	Class: Speaking & Grammar Activity: Chinese Kung Fu
5/10/17 Wednesday	Class: Grammar & Chinese Culture Field Trip: A night tour to the Grand Canal of China
5/11/17 Thursday	Class: Grammar & Speaking Activity: Chinese Kung Fu
5/12/17 Friday	Field Trip: Hangzhou city tour; visit West Lake; night opera "West Lake Impression"
5/13/17 Saturday	Excursion: Visit Anji Campus and the Bamboo Garden - meet pandas

5/15/17 Monday	Class: Speaking & Grammar
5/16/17 Tuesday	Class: Speaking & Grammar Activity: Chinese Paper Cut
5/17/17 Wednesday	Class: Grammar & Chinese Culture Field Trip: Visit to Hefang History and Culture Street
5/18/17 Thursday	Class: Grammar & Speaking Activity: Chinese Calligraphy
5/19/17 Friday	Field Trip: Visit Local Company
5/20/17 Saturday	Excursion: 1 day tour to Shanghai

5/22/17 Monday	Class: Speaking & Grammar
5/23/17 Tuesday	Class: Speaking & Grammar Activity: Chinese Art of Tea
5/24/17 Wednesday	Class: Grammar & Chinese Culture Field Trip: Visit to Lingyin Temple

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5/25/17 Thursday	Class: Grammar & Speaking Activity: <i>Chinese Painting</i>
5/26/17 Friday	Field Trip: <i>Visit Song Dynasty Town and watch a wonderful opera</i>
5/27/17 Saturday	Excursion: <i>the ancient town of Wuzhen</i>

5/29/17 Monday	Class: Speaking & Grammar
5/30/17 Tuesday	Class: Speaking & Grammar Activity: <i>Making Chinese Knot</i>
5/31/17 Wednesday	Class: Grammar & Chinese Culture Field Trip: <i>Pottery Museum</i>
6/1/17 Thursday	Class: Grammar & Speaking
6/2/17 Friday	Class: Presentation of Final Interviews Activity: <i>Closing Ceremony, Exchange with Chinese Faculty and students</i>
6/3/17 Saturday	Departure

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