The Academic Program
The CIEE Study Center in Beijing was established in 1980 and has been managing Study Abroad programs at Minzu University of China since spring 2007. The Sustainable Development program – originally launched as the Environmental, Cultural, and Economic Sustainability program in spring 2013 - introduces the critical field of sustainable development through lecture, discussion, student research, and firsthand experiential activities in China. As defined in 1987 by the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development, sustainable development is “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” Since this initial conceptualization, a "three-pillar" model of sustainability has emerged, articulating the critical need to balance environmental, sociocultural, and economic needs in development. All three pillars and their complex interrelations are explored as part of this program.

There is no language prerequisite for this program, although it includes a requirement for Mandarin Chinese language study for those students with no prior Chinese language. The program takes full advantage of the unique multicultural campus environment and other distinctive opportunities and resources at MUC, and is ideal for students majoring in the social sciences, STEM or humanities with interests in sustainability, environment, policy and development studies, sociology, or Chinese language.

A full course load is five courses, with a total credit load of 15-16 semester credits as follows:
- Those with prior Chinese language study select five content course electives or four content course electives plus one language course
- Those with no prior Chinese language study take four content course electives plus one Chinese language course

Note: Students are placed into the appropriate Chinese language level based on written and oral tests taken during orientation week.

COURSE LOAD EXAMPLES FOR SEMESTER STUDENTS
Sustainability in Context: 3 credits
Environmental Conditions and Public Perception in Contemporary China: 3 credits
Field Research Methods: 3 credits
Environmental Management: 3 credits
Global Environmental Politics and Policy: 3 credits
Total: 15 credits

Chinese Language, Beginning I: 4 credits
Sustainability in Context: 3 credits
Environmental Conditions and Public Perception in Contemporary China: 3 credits
Service Learning: 3 credits
Environmental Management: 3 credits
Total: 16 credits

Registration:
IAP will register you for a special “Study Abroad Course” for the term(s) you will be studying abroad; therefore, it is not necessary for you to register on the UW-Madison campus. This is a temporary registration, which will be converted into graded UW-Madison credit after the completion of your program.

CIEE participants register for courses on-site during orientation and after they have completed a Chinese language placement exam. The Chinese language placement exam will test our participants’ abilities in reading, writing, speaking and listening. Our participants are then placed into the Chinese language level that best suits their abilities.

Course Equivalent Requests and My Study Abroad
Each course you take abroad must be assigned a UW-Madison “equivalent” course in order for your grades and credits to be recorded on your UW-Madison transcript. In order to establish UW-Madison course equivalents for your study abroad courses, you will submit a Course Equivalent Requests through your My Study Abroad account. Detailed information on the UW course equivalent process that you will use through your My Study Abroad account is available in the IAP Study Abroad Handbook.

CREDITS

Conversions: All of the courses offered in China are CIEE courses. The majority of courses are assigned 3 UW-Madison credits and have 45 contact hours. The Chinese language course will be more contact hours and will be equated to credit based on the total number of contact hours for the course.

Limits and Load: Total recommended credit for the semester is 15-18 credits.

PASS/FAIL/DROP/AUDIT
Please refer to the IAP Study Abroad Handbook for academic policies.

GRADES AND GRADE CONVERSIONS
Grades are determined by mid-term and final exams or research papers, fieldwork reports, book reviews, active course participation, and other course requirements. Each course syllabus details the percentage of each course’s requirements, totaling 100%. Letter grades of A, B, C, D, and F are given with pluses and minuses.

CIEE will report grades to UW Madison using their CIEE equivalent grades. The grade conversion scale for this program is as follows:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CIEE Grade</th>
<th>UW-Madison Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+/A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-/B+</td>
<td>AB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-/C+</td>
<td>BC</td>
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<tr>
<td>C/C-</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+/D/D-</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
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