China, Beijing – Intensive Chinese Language Program  
SPRING 2010 PROGRAM HANDBOOK  

This program is offered by International Academic Programs (IAP) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in partnership with the Council for International Educational Exchange (CIEE). Throughout the course of your study abroad experience you will be communicating with both IAP and CIEE staff. It is essential that you pay close attention to all information provided to you from both organizations. This IAP Program Handbook supplements handbook(s) or materials you receive from CIEE as well as the IAP Study Abroad Handbook and provides you with the most up-to-date information and advice available at the time of printing. Changes may occur before your departure or while you are abroad.

CIEE handles the program’s day-to-day operations. Generally, questions about aspects of your program abroad should be directed to CIEE (e.g., program housing options, program facilities abroad, cultural tours offered as part of the program, etc.) Questions relating to your relationship with UW-Madison or your academics should be addressed to International Academic Programs at UW-Madison (e.g., course credits, equivalents, UW Madison registration, etc.)

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Contact Information

ON-SITE PROGRAM INFORMATION
Your contacts will be:

United States
Chris Bettera
Enrollment Officer
CIEE
300 Fore St
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 553 4000
(207) 553 7635 direct
(207) 253 0697 fax
cbettera@ciee.org
www.ciee.org

China
Dr. Yuan Tian
Resident Director
Shao Yuan 2-110
Peking University
Beijing 100871
People’s Republic of China
Tel: 011-86-10-6275-7007/7010
E-mail: TYuan@ciee.org

UW-MADISON INFORMATION
International Academic Programs (IAP)
University of Wisconsin-Madison
250 Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive
Madison, WI 53706
(608) 265 6329
(608) 262 6998 fax
www.studyabroad.wisc.edu

For Program Advising & Grades:
Erin Polnaszek
IAP Study Abroad Advisor
(608) 262 1446
eepolnaszek@bascom.wisc.edu

For Financial Matters:
Judy Humphrey
IAP Financial Specialist
(608) 262 6785
jhumphrey@bascom.wisc.edu

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION
In case of an emergency, call the main IAP number (608) 265 6329 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday; after-hours or on weekends call the IAP staff on call at (608) 516 9440.

U.S. EMBASSY REGISTRATION
All program participants who are U.S. citizens must register at the U.S. Embassy before departure as this will help in case of a lost passport or other mishap. You can register on-line at https://travelregistration.state.gov. If you are not a U.S. citizen, register at your home country’s embassy or consulate.
Program Dates

Spring 2010
Program start date: February 22, 2010
Program end date: June 6, 2010

**All students must participate in the orientation and must arrive at the CIEE Study Center office in Beijing by the date given. The orientation will help you to familiarize yourself with the campus, its facilities, and surrounding areas of interest. It will also cover academic issues, health and safety in China and culture shock.**

Preparation Before Leaving

**IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS**

**Passport:** A passport is needed to travel to China. Apply immediately for a passport if you do not already have one. Passport information and application forms can be found on the U.S. State Department website [http://travel.state.gov/passport/](http://travel.state.gov/passport/). If you already have your passport, make sure it will be valid for at least 6 months beyond the length of your stay abroad.

**Visa:** Participants will need to obtain a student visa for this program. CIEE provides detailed information on the visa process in their acceptance materials online, which you should follow closely. Contact CIEE with questions regarding the visa process.

Travel and Arrival

Travel and arrival Information will be provided by CIEE.

The Academic Program

**GENERAL INFORMATION**
The CIEE Study Center at Peking University was founded in 1980. It offers students an opportunity to improve their fluency in spoken and written Mandarin Chinese through intensive
language training. Students may also elect to take one course in English to supplement their understanding of China. Electives in English are offered in conjunction with the Thunderbird LAB program with a focus on business and culture.

**CIEE Community Language Commitment**

On this program, students are asked to take part in the CIEE Community Language Commitment. By signing an agreement during orientation, students indicate their intention to speak only Chinese when in class, during class breaks, with tutors, during the language practicum, and during Chinese meals. Students are allowed to speak English in emergency situations. Students, thus immersed in the host country language, not only speak Chinese, but come to think in Chinese as well. This Language Commitment fosters a program environment and learning community that encourages Chinese language and cultural acquisition, thereby improving proficiency and understanding of both the Chinese language and Chinese society.

**PEKING UNIVERSITY**

Peking University—the official name in English, even though the city is now known as Beijing—is the most prestigious institution in China, attracting the country’s elite. Referred to as Beida, short for the Chinese Beijing Daxue, it is located in the northwestern corner of Beijing, over an hour by either bicycle or bus from Tiananmen Square. In 1952 it was moved to its present site, the campus of the old Yenching University, as part of the re-organization of higher education after liberation. The campus, which has traditional and modern buildings, as well as gardens and a large lake, provides a beautiful setting for studying. Nearby is the Haidian district, clustered with many universities and academic institutes (notably Qinghua University, Renmin University, the Beijing Language University, the Beijing University of Physical Education and a part of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), making the area a gathering place of teachers, students and researchers. Between downtown Haidian and the equally close Zhongguancun shopping/computer district, daily necessities are in ample supply within walking distance, even though some may prefer to take the long bike ride to various shopping districts in the city.

**ORIENTATION**

All students must arrive on-site by the arrival date and before the start of orientation. If you are delayed en route to the orientation site, you must leave a message with the CIEE home office. During orientation, the resident staff and some local students provide a structured introduction to the country, the culture, and the academic program. They also give you lots of practical information about living in Beijing, including emergency procedures, health and safety issues and offer local tours.

**COURSE INFORMATION**

Courses: A full course load ranges from 4 – 5 courses for the semester and 8 – 10 courses for the academic year. All students must take Readings in Chinese, Spoken Chinese, and the Language and Culture Practicum, and 1 – 3 other courses, depending on the level of the individual student’s Readings in Chinese course. Students are placed at their level based on a language placement exam taken during orientation. Students may also take one elective taught in English. Three elective area studies courses, taught in English, are offered each semester by CIEE in conjunction with the Thunderbird LAB program. Each course has a limited enrollment of 20 students per class. The course options will be available to participants on-site during orientation.
Students attend language classes Monday through Friday for a total of twenty hours a week. Individual schedules vary depending on course levels. Typical classroom size for core language classes varies from 10 – 20 students. Elective classes typically have 20 – 40 students depending on the elective course topic.

The language center at Peking University (also known as the international College of Chinese Language Studies) offers approximately 30 different levels of language classes, which meet for 18 to 20 hours per week. Your classmates are other international students, primarily from Asia, but also from Europe, Africa and the U.S.

**Registration**: Registration information will be provided by CIEE. In general, CIEE will communicate with you by email. You will receive detailed information on courses and requirements in your online CIEE acceptance materials. Read all of the CIEE materials carefully and return all CIEE forms directly to CIEE by their deadline date.

**Equivalents and Course Equivalent Request Form (CERF)**: 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 Request Form (CERF). Information on the UW course equivalent process is available in the IAP Study Abroad Handbook.

For Chinese language courses, you will receive credits for the next course(s) in the UW-Madison Chinese language sequence. Chinese language classes may be grouped together to form one UW-Madison course equivalent. These course equivalent determinations are made by the Department of East Asian Languages & Literature in consultation with IAP. Courses that are not Chinese language will be reviewed by the appropriate UW-Madison academic department to determine the course equivalent. For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CIEE Beijing Course</th>
<th>CIEE Credits</th>
<th>UW-Madison Course Equivalent</th>
<th>UW-Madison Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>Government and Politics of China</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Political Science 690</td>
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The Chinese Language sequence as of May 2009 is as follows:
101, 102, 201, 202, 301, 302, 401, 402

**CREDITS**

**Conversions**: All of the courses offered in Beijing are CIEE courses. The majority of courses vary in credit and will be determined based on the number of contact hours for each course.

**Limits and Load**: Total recommended credit for the semester is 15 – 17 semester/22.5 – 25.5 quarter hours.

**PASS/FAIL/DROP/AUDIT**

Please refer to the IAP Study Abroad Handbook for academic policies.
GRADES AND GRADE CONVERSIONS

Grades are determined by two monthly exams (80%), homework, quizzes (10%), attendance and participation (10%). 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:

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<tr>
<td>85-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82-84</td>
<td>AB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-81</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72-74</td>
<td>BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64-71</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-63</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-59</td>
<td>F</td>
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STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

The testimonials below are from past participants; they reflect various students’ experiences and are included to provide different perspectives. IAP does not endorse any specific view expressed in this section.

Handling Money Abroad
Travelers checks are useless and a hassle. Students should bring a Visa check card. Visa check cards can be used at almost all ATMs that are found all over any major city with a 1.50 fee. It is the easiest and most convenient way to get money. You don't even have to have a Chinese bank account. Also, with most banks if you talk to them ahead of time parents can deposit money onto the cards from the states.

Packing
Clothing:
*LESS IS MORE : doing laundry in hina is a hassle because they do not have any dryers, so pack light
*The winters are very cold, almost as cold as Madison so heavy clothing is needed for that
*The weather here varies as much as it does in the states, so pack almost like you would for school

Important Items:
*Big cities have most of the daily items you would use like shampoo, conditioner, face wash etc. but items that you need to bring with you is deodorant and for the girls, tampons. They have O.B tampons but no other brand.
Travel
Unfortunately with the CIEE program you do not get a huge spring break, so most of the traveling is done on weekends, but they have a lot of Saturday day trips within this city which are worth while

ALWAYS BRING YOUR STUDENT ID- almost every destination you go offers a discount for students

Also, a copy of your passport is nice to have on weekend trips and for minor things it’s safer to carry around than your real one

Use traveling companies to book your train tickets and hotel stays. It is different than in Europe and the states but here traveling is much more confusing (rates for the same train change hourly, and seat for a train range from standing room only to seats to second in line for a seat...a lot of which I still don't fully understand)

Courses
Try and get a more clear idea of what courses are offered and how they will transfer, because my only regret is that nothing I do this semester will be worth while

Student life
China is a lot more intense than abroad anywhere else, their culture is one of hard work and it shows in the course load. It’s not impossible nor does it stop you from having an amazing time, it’s just more than is expected in other countries where students may go abroad.

The Chinese grading system while in school is a lot harder, but don't let it bring you down, a lot of time grades are curved in the end to reflect the American grading system

Communication
DO NOT GET AN INTERNATIONAL PLAN- they are much more expensive than buying a phone in china. A phone and a number cost me about 30 dollars and I pay about 20 a month for all in-country calls. Also, phones here you can text in Chinese, which is helpful for meeting with tutors and so on

For talking to anyone from back at home, get a Skype account. From computer to computer it’s free talking and video chatting and if you want to use your computer to call a parent or friend's actual cell phone, it’s about 7 cents a minute