China, Beijing – Chinese Language and Culture Studies
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

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UW-MADISON INFORMATION

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(608) 262 6998 fax
www.studyabroad.wisc.edu

For Program Advising & Grades:
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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.

American Citizen Services
U.S. Embassy, Beijing
No.2 Xiu Shui Dong Jie, Chaoyang District
Beijing, P.R. China 100600
(8610) 6532-3431
amcitbeijing@state.gov

Program Dates

Spring 2010
Program start date: February 14, 2010
Student end date: June 13, 2010

CIEE will provide more detailed dates with other additional acceptance materials. Make sure to check your My CIEE account for updates.

**All students must participate in the orientation and must arrive at the CIEE Study Center office in Beijing on the date specified in the acceptance materials. 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/. 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 Minzu University of China (formally the Central University for Nationalities) opened in spring 2007. It offers students an opportunity to learn about China through the lens of the construction of the Chinese identity and China’s ethnic minorities and their traditions. The program takes full advantage of Minzu’s campus environment which enrolls and supports China’s 55 national minority populations including Tibetan and Uyghur (Muslim) minority groups.

MINZU UNIVERSITY OF CHINA
Since the 1950’s, the Minzu University of China has been teaching foreign students about the rich ethnic, cultural and linguistic diversity that exists in China. The university, located in a western suburb of Beijing, consists of 10 colleges, 19 faculties and research centers. The campus also includes an ethnic minority museum that contains traditional ethnic dress, a library containing the largest collection of ethnic minority publications with over 1,300,000 books and surrounding shops that sell ethnic clothing and handicrafts.

Minzu is one of the most comprehensive research universities with humanities as its main focus and ethnic studies as specialty, while providing courses covering liberal arts, history, philosophy, economics, administration, law, sciences, engineering, medicine, and pedagogy. Minzu has a faculty of more than 400 professors and associate professors, as well as 300 strong lectures.

As a key research center for Chinese ethnic minorities, Minzu is acknowledged for influencing national policies towards ethnic minorities while assisting in de-escalating volatile ethnic issues. Minzu scholars have contributed to influential research on the identification of different ethnic groups, the implementation of its regional autonomy policies, social history of ethnic minorities, and social reform in minority areas.

Minzu has a student body of 13,000. Of all the full-time students, 70% have minority backgrounds. Up to now, more than 60,000 students have graduated from Minzu; 80 have become leaders in provincial, municipal or autonomous regional governments, with some becoming national leaders, and 8,500 working as leaders at or above the county administrative level.

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: Students attend classes Monday through Friday for a total of eight hours per week for 12 weeks. Daily structured tutorial sessions will also be available for students to practice their spoken Chinese and review phonological and grammatical patterns with tutors. Weekly cultural activities provide students with opportunities to speak Chinese in particular cultural settings.

Students are required to take a Chinese Language course based on their level at the start of the program. Students will take a placement test during orientation and continue language study throughout the program.

In addition to the Chinese Language course, all students are required to enroll in two required CIEE Area Studies Courses: Visual Anthropology of Contemporary China and Ethnic Diversity in China. For the final course, students can choose between two electives: Ethnic Dance in Western China OR Spoken Tibetan – Amdo Dialect.

The required core and elective courses take place three times per week for three hours each. The general area studies class format is a seminar setting where students are expected to come prepared and discuss issues learned in their assigned readings. These three courses open more gateways for students to connect language learning with the cultural history of China, emphasizing the dialectic relation between China’s national identity and its ethnic minorities.

Registration: 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.

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. Some courses for this program have been approved for equivalents in more than one department, so you will need to tell IAP through your CERF form what department you want to receive credit in.

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.

Limits and Load: Total recommended credit for the semester is 15 semester/22.5 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 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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-/C+</td>
<td>BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C/C-</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+/D/D-</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Intercultural Experience in Northwest China
Each semester students take part in a mid-semester ten-day excursion to several rural areas in northwestern China. Students prepare for the experience by completing reading assignments and seminar discussions on the ethnic diversity of China prior to the trip. Students also receive fieldwork assignments from faculty instructors prior to their departure. The excursion likely includes homestay experiences with Tibetan farmers, nomads, and traditional artists in eastern Qinghai and southern Gansu Provinces. Students engage in reflective discussion both during and following the experience to enable them to put their experience in context of their broader experience living and studying in China.