

# TIANJIN, CHINA

## CADE CAMPBELL

**Program:** UW Intensive Chinese Language, Summer

**Cade's Majors:** Journalism; Chinese; East Asian Studies

**Academic Life:** The program was a full immersion program. This course is accelerated and well worth taking once, if not multiple times, if you need additional credits or want to focus on language acquisition. It is rigorous, but the workload is manageable. Teaching also continued outside of the classroom as we had cultural activities each week in which we had to engage with the local environment using the target language asking locals about their daily lives and routines.

**Benefits of Study Abroad:** I spent a summer in Beijing the year prior to this program. Coming back knowing how to speak the language, I felt excited and VERY ready to re-engage with the Chinese diaspora.

**Navigating Difference:** In China, especially if you are not comfortable speaking the language nor look Asian, you will continuously be reminded you do not belong there and that you are a foreigner. In China there is a very intense "us" and "them" mentality among a lot of the local people, so don't take offense to hearing this -- in fact, many are delighted by the fact there are outsiders trying to understand their culture, many are very kind and always want to help where they can.

**New Perspectives:** My program has given me "boots on the ground" experience in east Asia, allowing me to better conceptualize, understand and share with others the culture, beliefs and perspectives of both western and eastern cultures through language abilities, stories and digital photography. How I view the US and China in regards to the rest of the world has changed immensely. These nations are important and I think everyone should hold international relations as an important and relevant issue.



Cade visiting a temple during his time abroad.

**“Being abroad has drastically impacted how I regard the rest of the world.”**

