



Nine Reasons You Should Join The 2010 GVSU Summer School in China For Study Abroad

1. It is China!

- If your purpose for study abroad is to see something different, China is the place to go! The 12 hours time difference is indicative of the differences you will experience.
- With 5,000 years of civilization, China has a rich, thick, and unique culture, including its language, philosophy, religions, art, and life style.
- China has 1/5 of the world's entire population. The number of native speakers of the Chinese language is almost 3 times as large as the number of native speakers of English in the world (1,113 million vs. 372 million)!
- China is emerging as a major player in world economy and politics.

“By having changed itself, China is changing the world.” “So perhaps we will be as Europe is to us today, and China will be our America” (Ted C. Fishman, “The Chinese Century,” *New York Times Magazine*, July 4th, 2004).

“At this point in our history we stand at the threshold of a new era in American foreign policy and indeed of world history. For the first time ever an economic and military superpower is about to emerge without war or catastrophe: Asia's middle kingdom: the People's Republic of China, stands at the precipice of becoming one of the two most influential nations on Earth.” (United States-China Cultural Engagement Act of 2005, proposed by Democrat Senator Joseph Lieberman from Connecticut and Republican Senator Lamar Alexander from Tennessee).



- China is full with opportunities. At a time of global financial crisis, China's economy remains amazingly active. Many Americans are going to China to teach English, to seek for employment, to start business there, or to study. Last year alone we had 3 GVSU graduates who got full scholarship from our host university to do graduate study there!

2. It Is Located In Shanghai, at ECNU!

Shanghai to China is like New York to America. A city with 23 million people, it radiates ineffable elegance, sophistication, and vitality. It magically gives one both a homely feeling and a cosmopolitan feeling. Previously known as Paris of the Orient, today's Shanghai makes Paris look pale in comparison.

Our host institution, East China Normal University, is one of the best universities in China. It has been GVSU's partner institution in China since 1997. Known as a "garden university" for its beautiful campus, it now attracts an average of

1,000 international students year round for the great programs it offers, including the university's Global Center for Teaching Chinese to Speakers of Other Languages.



3. It Has Exciting Side Trips!

The 2010 China Summer School program has multiple exciting side trips.

The Spring session will have a side trip to Beijing, where we shall visit the Great Wall and spend a night at a farmer's house at the foot of the Great Wall. We will also visit the "Forbidden City", where the emperors used to live. Other than these highlights, we will see the Temple of Heaven, where emperors performed their annual rituals for praying for harvest; Tiananmen Square, the largest public square in the world where many important historical events took place; and the site of the 2008 Olympics.



From Beijing we will take a bus ride to Shanxi, one of the birthplaces of the Chinese civilization with the reputation of a "museum of ancient arts." We will visit Yungang Grottoes in Datong City, the ancient city of Pingyao which was listed as a World Cultural Heritage site by UNESCO in

1997, and Wutai Mountain, one of the four most well-known Buddhist holy lands of China.





The Summer term field trips will take you to the picturesque views of an ancient capital, Hangzhou, a city known for both its natural

beauty and rich history and culture, and has the reputation of being "Heaven on Earth." The trip will continue to the Yellow Mountain, China's most celebrated mountain for all its grandeur and beauty. In 1990 Yellow Mountain was declared a World Natural and Cultural Heritage by UNESCO Heritage Committee.

The Summer term will also most likely contain a 3 day trip to "China's Hawaii" -- Hainan Island, at the south end of China, a place rich with ethnic minority cultures.

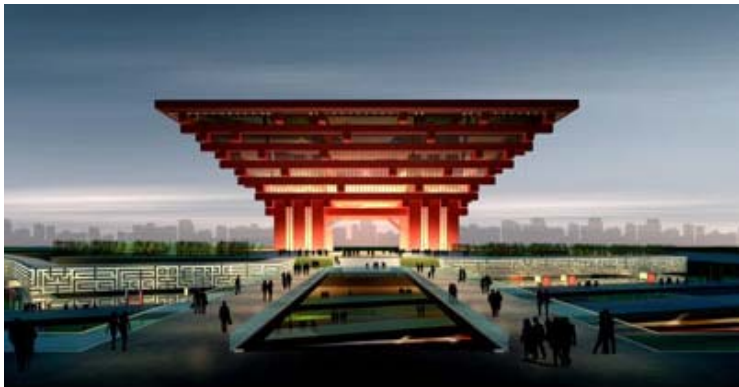
Want to have a glimpse of the past year's program? See video and pictures from the following web sites:

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/album.php?aid=112796&id=695903766>

http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/delamara?v=app_2392950137&viewas=695903766



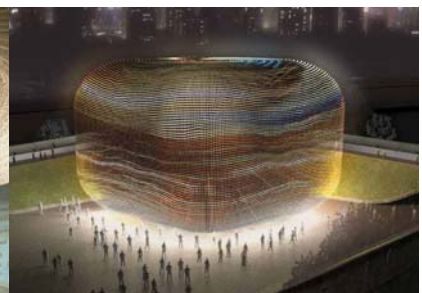
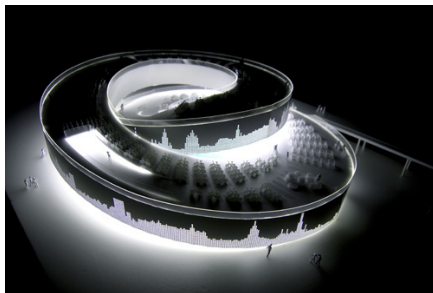
4. 2010 World Expo Is There!



A highlight of the 2010 program is that during the time, the World Expo will be in Shanghai! With 200 expected participating countries and international organizations, the "Olympic Games of the economy, science and technology" will for the first time be held at a developing country! It is worth taking a trip to China just for this event!

You will need to spend 3 days (!) at the Expo to get a good sample of the displays. Here are pictures of the China pavilion

(above), the Denmark pavilion (left below), the Spanish pavilion (center below), and the U.K pavilion (right below).



5. The Program Has Enough Length for A Real Emergence!

A meaningful study abroad experience requires enough length of stay and travel to make serious emersion into the local culture possible. By offering two consecutive 6 weeks sessions, students are offered not only the flexibility of choosing either the Spring session or the Summer session, but also the possibility of staying in the country for nearly three months to maximize the money's worth and to gain a more in-depth learning experience.

- Spring: May 4-June 12, 2010
- Summer: June 18-July 28, 2010
- Spring and Summer: May 4-July 28, 2010



6. It Will Be A Big Step Toward Fulfilling Your College Education!

- The program offers a variety of courses to choose from, and no previous knowledge of the Chinese language is required. Students will register for a total of 5 to 9 credits for *each* session:



Spring session course options:

- ◆ **CHI 180: Survival Chinese.** 2 credits. Taught by host univ. instructor.
- ◆ **EAS 201: East Asia in the Contemporary World.** 3 credits. Prof. Peimin Ni.
- ◆ **PHI 210/EAS 380: Eastern Philosophy.** 3 credits. Prof. Geling Shang
- ◆ **SS 351: Gender and Family in Third World Development.** 3 credits. Prof. Yan Yu
- ◆ **ART 380/EAS 380: Chinese Art.** 3 credits. Profs. Don and Sharon Kerr

Summer session course options:

- ◆ **CHI 180: Survival Chinese.** 2 credits. Taught by host univ. instructor.
- ◆ **EAS 301: Masterpieces of East Asian Literature.** 3 credits. Prof. Peimin Ni
- ◆ **PHI 380: Comparative Philosophy.** 3 credits. Prof. Geling Shang
- ◆ **PLS 283: Chinese Politics and US-China Relations.** 3 credits. Prof. Yi Zhao (the course is still pending approval)

**Courses enrolling fewer than 10 students will be canceled.*

- By going on this trip you can have the entire gen ed theme requirement fulfilled. Go to <http://www.gvsu.edu/studyabroad/index.cfm?id=F0A840A7-CF3C-0F91-AD6F464F50CBD770> or ask the staff at Padnos International Center for details.
- **Internships.** The China program also offers internship options. Students on internship in the program will take Spring session courses, followed



by a Summer session internship, with arrangements to still be able to go on the side trips with the group.

- By going on the trip you can fulfill the entire EAS minor core course requirements.
- By going on this trip, a Chinese Studies Major can earn up to 15 credits toward the major (nearly half of the required credits), plus fulfill your study abroad requirement for the major and the opportunity to practice the Chinese language that is actually used in daily life in China.



The program offers unique “On site teaching.” Imagine having a picnic lunch class on the Great Wall to talk about the history and cultural significance of the Wall, or a class on Buddhism in a Buddhist temple, with a monk of your own age as a guest speaker! This kind of learning experience can never be achieved by regular classroom teaching.

7. It Is Led by Experts!

Both Directors of the program, Professor Peimin Ni and Professor Geling Shang, are native Chinese who grew up in Shanghai, know the place and the people there. They will be staying with you, taking you around, and guide you through your experience. This is not something you get when you travel by yourself, or under the guidance of another outsider, or with any tourist group.



- Being the founder of the program, Prof. Ni served as its director since 1995. He is a former Director of GVSU East Asian Studies Program, recipient of Glenn A. Niemeyer Outstanding Faculty Award, a specialist in Early Confucianism, an accomplished calligraphy artist, a competent teacher of classic Chinese literature, and an author of numerous books and articles on philosophy, particularly on Confucianism.
- Prof. Shang started to be a co-director of the program since 2002. He is an expert on classic Daoism, especially on Zhuangzi and Nietzsche, an author of numerous scholarly books and articles, and a good player of tennis, basketball, and ping pang. His student centered teaching style, extensive knowledge, sense of humor, and relaxed personality makes him a close friend to all his students.

Our other instructors are also highly qualified experts. Both Professor Yan Yu from Sociology Department and Professor Yi Zhao from Political Science Department are native Chinese, with extensive knowledge about the country. Professor Don Kerr and Sharon Kerr are accomplished artists, who have traveled in China and taught Art in Japan for an extended period of time.

8. It Will Be Life Changing!

All the students who went on the trip loved their experience. Many even have repeated the program by going on the trip twice! Why? Here are some of their remarks:

- “Being in China gave me an overwhelming sense of the grandeur of the world around me, and of how much I have left to learn. I came home with a yearning for some sense of purpose in my life, for some sense of security about who I am and what I am supposed to be doing.”

- “It has been an experience that has given me treasured new friends, insights and memories. I somehow knew beforehand that the trip would be amazing, but something is never truly amazing until it manages to captivate and stimulate the mind. I am still both captivated and stimulated. Thanks so much.”
- “I hope that someday I will get to return there after all I think I left half of myself there.”
- “A memorable and life-changing experience.”
- “As soon as I stepped on to the plane, I knew my life was about to change. However, little did I know it was going to be such a significant, inner-change that occurred.”
- “This trip was one that was life changing, eye opening, and led to a self realization of myself.”
- “Living there for six weeks helped me realize that there are many ways of living and seeing things in this world, and I consider that one of the most valuable lessons I will ever learn.”
- “There is no way a person could walk away from these experiences without a more complete and better view of China, the world, and themselves.”
- “In all seriousness, this past summer has changed my life, how I view the world, politically and humanistically. ... At 26 years old I have grown more in three months than I had in perhaps the 25 years that preceded it.”
- “I miss our adventures in China more and more the farther away from summer we get. The China video is painful for me to watch. It brings back so many good memories and I wish it was still May 2009. I want that China experience to last forever.”



9. It Is Most Cost-efficient!

Compare the program fee with what the program offers and with how much other study abroad programs will cost you, you will find the fee for this program to be amazingly low!

The approximate fee (subject to adjustment based on actual exchange rate) for this program is:

- \$4,357 (spring session only)
- \$4,434 (summer session only)
- \$7,066 (both sessions)
- \$7,299 (both sessions and Internship)

Includes:

- Round-trip transportation from Grand Rapids
- Accommodations
- Some meals
- All field trips and entrance fees
- Visa fees
- Ground Transportation

Not included in the fee:

- GVSU Tuition
- Personal expenses
- Passport fees
- Medical/Vaccinations
- Additional meals
- ISIC (optional)

There are varieties of financial aid and grants available. Check with the Padnos International Center for all the options you have.

Application Deadline: Feb. 1, 2010.

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