

2018 Nazareth in China Short-term Study Abroad Experience

Overall Program Itinerary and Rationale for Itinerary:

This 2014 Nazareth in China *short-term study abroad experience* program overview should provide a general sense of how the 2018 trip will look with some changes in destinations and price. It is designed to fully immerse college students in the culture, history, society, and economy of China. For 18 days, students will crisscross the country with Professors Nevan Fisher and Yuanting Zhao, specialists in China's history and performing arts. Students will be exposed to China's rich diversity and dynamic vibrancy – traits largely unknown to most Americans. By exploring the country through the prism of “paired opposites,” students will witness this diversity themselves. We will travel from rich coastal areas to poor interior zones, study the clash of traditions with the fast paced race to modernize, witness explosive capitalism under the watchful gaze of the Communist Party, and experience the dizzying shift from extreme urbanization to sleepy rural villages.

The 18-day national study tour follows a grand circuit across China's vast expanse, running counterclockwise from the north to the east. It includes the megacities of Beijing, Shanghai, and Xi'an, as well as the remote mountains of Hunan Province in the central southwest, and the rice fields and karst topography of the far south (the actual mountain range is dependent on estimates of our final trip costs). These locations include both the political and economic capitals of the country, and the historic capital of an empire more than a thousand years into the past; they also include the dramatic natural landscape featured so prominently in traditional Chinese paintings, and now, even in contemporary American cinema.

(2014 itinerary attached at the end of this document as sample itinerary for 2018)

Students must complete an application process to be considered for this program, and all applicants will be vetted thoroughly by the Office of the Vice President of Student Development and the Center for International Education.

Optional Course Credit Content:

As a liberal arts “lab” course worth 3 credits, our primary expectation of students is to view this course as an experience-based lab taken “in the field.” It is associated with one of several courses taken in the preceding year: including HIS 329 (Imperial China), HIS 328 (China in the 20th Century), HIS Q 106 and HIS Q 107 (East Asian Civilizations I & II). Every moment of every day you are learning, be it through what you see, do, eat, hear, and breathe. Once students arrive in China they must maintain a daily academic journal, responding to “prompt” questions that they are asked in advance. In addition, we will conduct 4 hour-long group discussions during the tour that focus intensively on what we have seen and experienced. These discussions are designed to focus upon social, economic, and political developments that are obvious to witness during the national tour, but that might need some elaboration/explanation to be fully understood.

Participation in the 2018 Nazareth in China Program does not require that students enroll in one of the above-mentioned history courses. However, should they wish to receive the optional “lab” credits for the experience, they must successfully complete one of 4 courses prior to the trip. One of the primary reasons students may desire to enroll in optional credits stems from the designation they will receive on their official college transcript. Study abroad experience is increasingly recognized as an important aspect of undergraduate education, particularly in giving students opportunities to broaden their education experience, gain practical knowledge of a different culture, and challenge preconceived notions and ideas of the wider world.

Professor Zhao and I will meet several times with ALL students participating in the 2018 Program during the spring semester, equipping them with the necessary skills and required background information they need to travel safely and smartly in China. Topics will include visa application procedures, proper packing, health and hygiene, currency exchange rates and bargaining, cultural sensitivity and appreciation, as well as conducting team building exercises.

Course Grading and Assessment Components:

This three credit course is offered as a Pass/Fail (S, U), and all students seeking this credit must complete a trip journal during their time in China. This academic journal is more than just a recitation of each day's events. It requires that they

reflect on particular prompts that they are given in advance, and respond to issues that are raised in our on-the-ground lectures. (Example of an advance prompt question: How does the size, scale, and construction of the Forbidden City influence visitors today, and what might foreign dignitaries have thought when they first set eyes on the palace complex in previous centuries? How does imperial architecture emphasize the Chinese belief of their world centrality? Second example: Much has been written lately about the mass migration of Chinese peasants to the coastal cities. Now that you have seen both the cities and the countryside, what are the advantages and disadvantages of such a migration? What challenges does the State face with ongoing mass migration?)

In addition to the trip journal, credit-seeking students must complete a 3-page essay that requires them to reflect on their overall experience. This is due within 2 weeks of their return to the US. This essay is more than a “final entry” in their trip journal and must be typed according to the standard practice of formal writing in the History Department.

The Return Essay must address the following set of questions:

- 1) Now that you have seen and experienced China first-hand, how and why should China matter to the United States?
- 2) Many news sources depict China’s rise in global power as a threat to the United States. In light of your recent trip, do you agree with such depictions? Why or why not?
- 3) What are the 3 strongest positive impressions of China that remain in your thoughts, and what are the 3 strongest negative impressions? Elaborate on each one.

BUDGET INFORMATION

Cost Per Student ____\$4,650_(estimate)_+ optional three credit hour costs____
Total Cost____\$80K, assuming 20 students and two faculty leaders_____

Budget Breakdown Per Student:

International Airfare: \$1,800

Travel visa: \$250

Travel Insurance: \$100

On-the-ground costs: \$2,500

Hotels: \$800

In-Country transportation (plane, train, coach): \$800

Meals: \$700

Local guides: \$200

Lead Instructor Compensation: \$200

Total Cost = 4,650 (this is a high end figure, but it also assumes that the students bear the total travel costs and compensation of the two lead instructors)

Faculty Compensation and Minimum/Maximum Number of Student Participants:

Total Instructor Compensation: \$1500 per instructor (\$3000 total, for 2 instructors)

* Inclusive of round-the-clock in-country supervision of students, grading of journals and return essay, orchestration of pre-departure programming and return to campus presentations.

Minimum Required: 12 students are required as the minimum needed to cover the expenses of the 2 faculty members.

Maximum Required: 20 students is the upper limit of what is reasonable for 2 faculty members to supervise while traveling in China. Should we take 20 students, it is possible that the total cost/student will decrease by several hundred dollars, at which point we will re-examine the total itinerary and either increase our travel options, or issue a refund.

Sources of Funding for Program:

During the spring semester, Ting Zhao and Nevan Fisher, together with the accepted students, will approach the 1) Student Union Association, and the 2) Center for International Education to see about supplemental sources of funding for each student. It is assumed that students must first pay for the total costs of the trip up front, and in 3 installments (January 15, February 15, and March 15, each nonrefundable). Upon successful completion of the program and the optional credit requirements, students will be reimbursed a portion of their total expenses by what is promised them from the UA and the CIE.

2014 Nazareth in China

(May 15-June 2)

**All hotel numbers include the international calling prefix, country code, city area code, and local number. Please note that China is 12 hours ahead of the United States, EST.*

May 15: Rochester Airport – **8am group gathering in front of United Check-in Counter**

Rochester to Dulles International, United Airlines Flight 4778, 10:08am departure
Dulles International to Beijing, United Airlines Flight 897, 12:20pm departure
“Golden Flyers Fly!”

May 16: Arrive Beijing Airport, 2:20pm, pickup to hotel, dinner

Beijing Hotel Address:
Jialong Sunshine Hotel
75 Chaoyangmen Inner Street, Bldg 7
Dongcheng District, Beijing
011-86-10-64038888

May 17: Beijing (Breakfast Lunch Dinner)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * local guide meets us and the in-country journey begins!
- * Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City (Imperial Palace)
- * Lunch Chinese dishes
- * Afternoon tour of the Temple of Heaven
- * Beijing Duck Dinner
- * Return to hotel

May 18: Beijing (Breakfast Lunch Dinner)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * Bus ride to the Great Wall (Mutianyu section), with morning tour.
- * Lunch Chinese dishes (group meals Standard)
- * 798 Art District
- * Olympic Park (bus view only)
- * Return to hotel

May 19: Beijing (Breakfast lunch, dinner)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * Lama Temple (Lama Temple)
- * Lunch Chinese dishes
- * Rickshaw Tour of Old Hutongs of Beijing
- * Dinner
- * Evening Performance at Beijing Chaoyang Theater Acrobatics World

May 20: Beijing (breakfast and dinner)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * Summer Palace, lunch on own
- * Free afternoon
- * Dinner

May 21: Beijing to Xi'an (travel day)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * Free morning
- * High Speed Train G87: Beijing departure is 2pm, arrival in Xi'an is 6:40pm
- * Check in to the hotel

Hotel Address:
Xi'an City Hotel
No. 70 South Street, Xi'an
011-86-29-87697111

- *Dinner in the hotel after our check in

May 22 : Xian (Breakfast Lunch Dinner)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * Morning departure to famed Terracotta Soldiers and Horses
- * Lunch Chinese dishes
- * Old City Wall Bike Tour
- * Dinner dumpling feast
- * Evening visit to Big Wild Goose Pagoda, to see musical fountain and laser light show
- * Return to hotel

May 23: Xian (Breakfast Lunch Dinner)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * Shaanxi Provincial History Museum
- * Muslim Street and Market tour
- * Free afternoon
- * Dinner

May 24: Xi'an to Shanghai (travel day)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * Hanyang Tomb
- * Lunch
- * late afternoon departure for Xi'an Airport
Flight to Shanghai on Hainan Airlines, HU 7845, 2:30pm departure
- * Arrival in Shanghai at 4:35pm, bus ride to hotel and check-in

Hotel Address:

Rayfont Downtown Hotel Shanghai
#7 Zhaojiabang Road
Xuhui District
Shanghai (Dapugiao)
011-86-21-54077000

- * Welcome Dinner

May 25: Shanghai (Breakfast Lunch Dinner)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * Huangpu River Walk
- * Yu Gardens tour
- * Lunch Chinese dishes
- * Shanghai World Financial Center, with aerial view of Shanghai
- * Dinner Chinese dishes
- * Return to the hotel (free time to explore city at night)

May 26: Shanghai (Breakfast only)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * Morning site visit to Shanghai DaTong High School/VIA
- * Free Day – explore city in small groups

May 27: Shanghai - Suzhou (Breakfast Lunch Dinner)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * Approximately 1.5 hours by bus to Suzhou
- * Zhouzhuang Water Town – considered “The Venice of China”
- * Lunch Chinese dishes (group meals Standard)
- * Silk Embroidery Research Institute
- * Dinner Chinese dishes (group meals Standard)
- * Check-in at the hotel

Hotel Address:
Aishangjia Hotel
818 Ganjiang East Rd, Ping Jiang District
Suzhou, Jiangsu, China
86 512 6801 1111

May 28: Suzhou - Huangshan (Breakfast Lunch Dinner)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * Morning tour of the Humble Administrator's Garden
- * Lunch Chinese dishes
- * Approximately 6 hours bus ride to Huangshan (Yellow Mountain region)
- * Check-in at the hotel

Hotel Address:
Huangshan Ming Fu Hotel
Huangshan Scenic District
011-86-559-5579666

- * Dinner Chinese dishes

May 29: Huangshan (Breakfast Lunch Dinner)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * Full day atop Huangshan, ascend via cable car
- * Chinese lunch and dinner on the mountain
- * Check-in to the mountain hotel

Hotel Address:

Beihai Hotel Beihai Scenic Area
(peak of Yellow Mountain, North Cloud Sea Scenic Area)
011-86-559-5581111

May 30: Huangshan - Hangzhou (Breakfast Lunch Dinner)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * Mountain sunrise, descend mountain via cable car
- * tour of World Heritage Site historic village, Hongcun
- * Lunch Chinese dishes
- * Approximately 4 hours to travel to Hangzhou
- * Check in to the hotel

Hotel Address:

Hangzhou Relax Hotel
333 Wangjiang East Road, near Qianjiang Road
City Center, Hangzhou
011-86-571-81065555

May 31: Hangzhou (breakfast lunch)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * tour of famous West Lake
- * Lunch of Chinese dishes
- * Free afternoon, dinner on own

June 1: Hangzhou to Shanghai (Breakfast lunch)

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * Depart for Shanghai
- * Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Center
- * Shanghai Museum
- * Farewell banquet

Hotel Address:

Rayfont Downtown Hotel Shanghai
#7 Zhaojiabang Road
Xuhui District
Shanghai (Dapugiao)
011- 86-21-54077000

June 2: Shanghai

- * Breakfast at hotel
- * Free morning
- * Take maglev train to Shanghai Pudong International Airport
- * Lunch at the airport

* *Golden Flyers bid farewell to China!*

Depart Shanghai on United Flight 87, 3:55pm
Arrival into Newark at 6:30pm
Depart Newark on United Flight 4770, 10:08pm
Arrival into Rochester at 11:50pm