Faculty Director: Professor J. Wang

Study Group Site: Beijing, The People's Republic of China

Duration: Spring 2005, January 19 to May 7, 2005

Academic Purpose
This China study group is designed to give Colgate University students, particularly those with concentrations or minors in Chinese or Asian studies, an opportunity to acquire eyewitness knowledge of cultural, social, economic, and political changes in modern China, and to improve proficiency in Chinese language. By studying in Beijing, Taiwan, and Hong Kong with interspersed field trips, students will obtain a deep sense of changes and continuities between tradition and modernity in Chinese culture, history, and society. This experience will help students understand how China today grapples with diverse issues in its dynamic processes of development.

The study group will be hosted by Peking University Chinese Language and Literature Department. Founded in 1898, Peking University (Beijing Daxue) is the premier institution of higher learning in China. While language classes will be held at Peking University, courses in English will begin as soon as the group arrives in Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Academic Program
The program equals one semester at Colgate. Students are expected to carry a four-course load. The following courses and extracurricular activities are required:

Courses

**Chinese Popular Culture** Professor J. Wang. (Pending Approval).
The course offers an overview of social, cultural, economic, and political development in Chinese urban centers and rural areas by examining various forms of popular culture in China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. Topics may range from film, television, music, and performance art, to advertising, fashion, religious rituals, and feng shui. Through on-site experience as well as reading, discussion, and lectures by the instructor and invited guests, this course explores Chinese modernity alongside tradition and analyzes similarities and differences between China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. It will be interdisciplinary in approach. Grades will be based on participation, examinations, and writing assignments. Classes will begin in Taiwan and continue in Hong Kong and Beijing.

**China in Transition** Professor J. Wang. (Pending Approval)
This course investigates the way of life in China and its changes from pre-modern times to the present. Through biographies, autobiographies, other forms of representations as well as personal interviews, we trace the Chinese journey from tradition to modernity. Historical and social changes will emerge through our deepening acquaintance with actual people’s lived experience. Grades will be based on participation, examinations, and writing assignments. A few guest speakers will give lectures. Classes will begin in Taiwan and continue in Hong Kong and Beijing.

**Chinese Language: Oral.** Peking University Chinese Language and Literature Department Faculty, 10 hrs. /wk. This course emphasizes speaking and listening, through the use of drills, conversation, and audiovisual materials.

**Chinese Language: Written.** Peking University Chinese Language and Literature Department Faculty, 8 hrs. /wk. This course is designed to improve reading and writing skills through textbooks and supplemental reading material. For Chinese language courses, Colgate students may be divided into two groups according to their proficiency levels in Chinese.

Independent Studies may be arranged in consultation with the Director.

Major Field Trips
The Study Group will first fly to Taiwan in mid-January and spend 7 days in Taipei and Kaohsiung. In Taipei, the group will learn about the profound changes in Taiwan, especially the process of democratization in a Chinese culture. In Kaohsiung, we will be hosted by the National Sun Yat-sen University and attend several lectures there. Then the group will spend 6 days in Hong Kong. In both Taiwan and Hong Kong we will visit historical sites, attend cultural events, and will be briefed by local scholars.

The group will then fly to Beijing and have classes at Peking University until the end of April. We will celebrate the week of Chinese New Year learning Chinese customs and taking
short field trips. The week before final examinations the group will make a major field trip to Shanghai, Hangzhou, Suzhou, and Nanjing. We will visit Pudong Development Zone in Shanghai, West Lake and the tea culture in Hangzhou, the gardens of Suzhou, and historical spots in Nanjing. We will see and discuss similarities and differences between Beijing in northern China and these cities in southern China. The schedule and itinerary will be finalized with Peking University in the fall of 2004.

During the Midterm Recess students may choose to travel independently. Participants will also have the opportunity to stay or travel in Asia at the end of the term.

**Extracurricular Activities**
Arrangements will be made for Colgate students to meet informally with Chinese people from all walks of life and to visit Chinese homes. Students will also be paired with Chinese conversation partners at Peking University for language and cultural exchange.

**Housing**
Students will be housed in double rooms, first in hotels then in Peking University Foreign Students Dormitories.

**Prerequisites**
By the time the program begins, all participants are required to have completed at least one year’s coursework in modern standard Chinese or its equivalent, and a CORE China course (CORE China, Women in China, or Greater China) or another background course on China as approved by the Director.

**Basic Expenses**
In addition to the regular semester tuition and student activities fee, books and supplies and personal expenses (including weekend and vacation travel), each member is expected to pay Colgate a total of $4,130 for the following expenses:

- Round-trip flight from NYC to Taipei, Hong Kong, Beijing $1,600
- Charges for room and board on the field trips $2,530
  Total: $4,130

*The charge covers all expenses (room, meals, and transportation) for the field trips in China as well as those to Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Food in Beijing will cost about $10 per day and is to be paid for by the students. Students have considerable freedom to choose where to dine. There is an inexpensive cafeteria in the student dormitory, but students may also eat in local restaurants, or prepare their own food in dormitory kitchens. In general, students should budget $900-$1000 for food expenses in Beijing.

**Application Deadline**
Applications received before Jan. 24, 2004 will be given priority consideration. Final decision will be announced February 7, 2004.

**Inquiries**
For further information, please contact Professor J. Wang by email: jwang@mail.colgate.edu, or telephone 228-7280.