Program Overview

Hong Kong and Shanghai are two of the most developed cosmopolitan cities in China where traditional Chinese culture meets Western culture in all aspects of life including education. Not only are they leaders in China’s economic development in recent decades, both cities have also taken numerous initiatives in educational reform of all kinds.

Offered by the Department of Teaching and Learning, this three-week summer study abroad program provides aspiring educators and practitioners in the education professions with an opportunity to examine (1) the culture, people, education, and society of modern China by studying in two of the country’s most dynamic metropolitan centers, (2) intercultural, international, and intra-regional perspectives on education in China, and (3) teaching and learning, particularly the teaching of English as a foreign language, in Chinese schools of all levels. The theme of this program is “teaching and learning in the East and the West.” The program is designed for graduate students, teachers, and curriculum specialists in TESOL, bilingual education, foreign language education, international education, English education, social studies, humanities, urban education, educational reform, and intercultural communication. Students interested in learning about traditional and contemporary Chinese cultures should also find this program of relevance. This program also meets one of the area study requirements in International Education.

Teaching and learning activities during our three weeks in Hong Kong and Shanghai include classes and seminars taught by NYU faculty members and lectures by faculty members from local higher education institutions such as the University of Hong Kong, East China Normal University, and Shanghai Normal University. Students also have the opportunity to do field trips Hong Kong and Shanghai. In addition to classes, seminars and workshops, program participants may visit local schools, educational institution, NYU in Shanghai Center, as well as other specialized educational venues. They also can interact with teachers, college students, foreigners working in Shanghai, as well as conduct individual field research and case studies.
Courses

To fulfill the academic requirements of the program, each student is expected to take a combination of two of the following courses for a total of six (6) graduate credits:

- E29.2005 Intercultural Perspectives in Multilingual Multicultural Education (3)
- E29.2039 Advanced Individual Project in Multilingual Multicultural Education (3)
- E29.2300 Independent Study in MMS (3)
- E53.2802 Field Study and Seminar in International Education (4)
- E53.2300 Independent Study in International Education (3)

Faculty

Frank Tang, Ph.D., Department of Teaching and Learning, Steinhardt, NYU (program adviser)

Guest Lecturers (TBA; see Sample Schedules below)

Course objectives

Students are expected to read and understand the following areas of topics, and conduct research in one of those areas:

1. Chinese society, people, and thought: Past and present
2. Education reform in China
3. Teaching and learning of English in China
4. International education and educational exchanges
5. Globalization and its impact on Chinese culture and society
6. College students in China: Life, study, and world view

Requirements

1. Full and active participation in all course-related academic activities including orientations in NYC and program activities in China (50%)

2. Timely and satisfactory completion of all specific course-related assignments: (a) readings, literature review, and research proposal outline (due by June 23; 10%) and (b) a research project and portfolio (due by Tuesday, August 23; a total of 40%).

Required Readings:

Tentative Sample Schedules

In New York (some important dates in Spring 2011)

* Rolling applications will continue to be considered throughout the spring semester dependent on space availability. The sooner the students are committed, the sooner they can begin preparing for the program’s academic requirements and for the trip’s travel arrangements.

March 25, 2011: Orientation #1 – Steinhardt Summer Study Abroad Programs Reception (5:00-7:00pm, Friday; venue TBA)

April 8, 2011: Orientation #2 (Friday, 6:00-9:00pm; venue at Pless TBA)

May 6, 2011: Orientation #3 (Friday, 6:00-9:00pm; venue at Pless TBA)

June 23, 2011: Pre-trip Literature Review/Research Project Proposal-Outline Due by 12:00 noon EST (with an e-mail Word attachment file)

In Hong Kong (July 3-13)

July 3: Arrival in Hong Kong*. Hotel check-in (2:30pm til midnight). A guided city tour of Hong Kong at 7:00-10:00pm. *Students should not purchase their plane tickets until after the program’s second orientation meeting (see above). Suggested flight itineraries (and instructions on visa or entry permit application) will be provided during that meeting.

July 4: AM – The history and culture of Hong Kong: Educational perspectives (with a guided visit to the Hong Kong Museum of History). A July Fourth dinner celebration is suggested.

July 5: AM – English and bilingual education in Hong Kong since 1997 (a seminar and guided visit at the University of Hong Kong)

PM – Student Field Research

July 6: AM – Teaching English in a Public Primary School in Hong Kong (this learning module will incorporate an English Festival with the participation of students, English teachers, and NYU students at the Tsuen Wan Government Primary School). An NYU alum from this program who teaches English at this primary school as a native speaker will also share with us her first-hand experience in English-teaching career development in Hong Kong.

PM – Student Field Research
July 7:  A guided day-long field trip to Po Lin Monastery and Tai-O Fishing Village

July 8:  AM – Intercultural Education in Hong Kong (a seminar and guided visit at a private international school or university)
           PM – Student Field Research

July 9 & 10: Personal free time. Student field research. (With advance planning, interested students may arrange for a day-trip to nearby Macau on one of these free days.)

July 11:  AM – English Teachers Training in Hong Kong (a seminar and guided visit at a private university; TBA)
           PM – Student Field Research

July 12:  Rain day for seminar(s) or field trip(s) scheduled above. Final student field research day in Hong Kong. Farewell to Hong Kong dinner early in the evening.

July 13:  Early AM hotel check-out. Transit back to airport in Hong Kong (or HKG) for ongoing flight (suggested departure time: 10:00am). Early PM arrival in Shanghai (code of suggested airport: SHA)

In Shanghai (July 13-23)

July 13:  Early PM – Group transit from airport to residence hall in Shanghai. A light lunch reception at NYU’s Shanghai Center at East China Normal University (is being planned).
           Early EV – A guided tour of the Bund (group departure from residence; time TBA)

July 14:  AM – TESOL, English Education, and International Education in China: An overview (Dr. Frank Tang, NYU)
           PM – English education in an after-school environment (with a guided field trip to a private education center (observing an English class, interact with its pupils, etc.)

July 15:  AM – From Xinjiang to Shanghai: A story of personal and professional growth (Ms. Ying Zhang, Master teacher, Kongjiang High School)
           PM – Student Field Research
           EV – Program participants will attend a show in one of the evenings (TBA).
July 16-17: Personal free time. Student field research. (With advance planning, interested students may arrange for a day-trip or weekend trip nearby cities such as Suzhou, Hangzhou, Nanjing, etc.; round-trip train rides should suffice) or as far as Beijing (round-trip flights required)

July 18: AM – Student Field Research
PM – Studying at Harvard and teaching at Shanghai Normal University (Professor Chen Wu, SHNU)

July 19: AM – Professional Development for In-service Teachers: A panel discussion (the following teachers have presented on this panel in 2010: Xuqin Wang, Yangpu Vocational Technical School; Lu Li, Min Xing High School; Liang Qin, Yangpu High School; Qi Liu, Tong Ji High School; Ling Zhu, Tielin High School; Ting Liang, Fudan Experimental School)
PM – Student Field Research

July 20: A guided cultural field trip: Exploring the culture of a 1000-year old village – Xi Tang in Zejiang Province

July 21: AM – Higher education reform and teacher education in China (Professor Daxi Gu, Shanghai Normal University) and Cultural revolution revisited: Its educational ramifications (Dr. Huanian Ye, SHNU, and Dr. Frank Tang, NYU)
PM – Student Field Research

July 22: Rain day for seminar(s) or field trip(s) scheduled above. Final student field research day in Shanghai. Farewell to China dinner early in the evening.

July 23: AM – Debriefing. Final shopping and packing in AM. Residence hall check-out (by noon, TBA). Students return to either SHA (Hong Qiao International Airport) or PVG (Shanghai Pudong International Airport) to catch their departure flight. With advance planning, interested students may arrange to travel elsewhere in China or Asia after the program’s conclusion today.

August 23: Final project-portfolio due by 12:00 noon today in the form of an email with a Word attachment file).
Recommended readings: