

ED 496 Special Topics in Education

ED 590 Special Topics in Teaching and Learning

Course Title:

**Study Abroad: Exploring Culture and Education in China**

**2019**

Dr. Hiller A. Spires

May 15th (1:00 – 7:00 pm), May 18th through May 31st

Instructor Information

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**Course Purposes and Objectives**

Education breeds confidence. Confidence breeds hope. Hope breeds peace.

– Confucius

Educational transformation lies at the center of creating a new generation with the heart and mind for solving our world’s most pressing issues. With more than 1.4 billion people, the People’s Republic of China is a critical piece of the puzzle in solving our global problems. In recent years, China has experienced profound economic and social change as it emerged as an economic superpower.

A key driver as well as a recipient of change is China’s educational system. Since the Chinese Basic Education Curriculum Reform in 2001 was issued, China has been attempting to modernize and globalize their educational system. A substantial accomplishment is China’s universal access to basic education, which is aligned with its population mobility trends. In terms of international standing, Shanghai was a top performer on PISA in 2012 along with Beijing and Jiangsu in 2015. This recent accomplishment has caused the international community to take a renewed interest in the Chinese educational system.

We believe that it is important for educators and future educators to understand Chinese culture and the Chinese educational system. Therefore, the purpose of this course is to introduce undergraduate and graduate students culture and education in China. Students will engage in cultural and educational experiences within three cities: Shanghai, Suzhou, and Beijing.

The primary aims of this course are:

* Immerse NCSU students within Chinese culture and the Chinese educational system in order that they develop an international perspective on learning;
* Enhance students’ self-awareness and understanding of Chinese culture as well as encourage them to reflect on differences and similarities within their own culture, values, and educational system;
* Develop skills for relating to cultural differences; stimulate students’ interest in cross-cultural, international, and comparative learning;
* Create research projects as a result of the learning experiences in China.

**Teaching Strategies**

We will use a number of teaching strategies for this course. Among them are group discussions (online and face-to-face), electronic communications, reflection, inquiry activities, collaboration, travel abroad, and cultural experiences.

**Required Text**

*Osnos, E. (2014). Age of ambition: Chasing fortune, truth, and faith in the new China. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux.*

**Suggested Text**

Li, J. (2012). *Cultural foundations of learning: East and west.* New York: Cambridge University Press.

**Minimum Required Technology**

* Access to a smartphone **and** laptop or tablet (laptop recommended) prior to departure and throughout travel abroad
* Maintain and use NCSU Gmail account and associated Google tools (e.g. Google Docs)
* Access Wolfware/Moodle on a regular basis
* Access WordPress for course blog

**Methods of Instruction and Course Expectations**

The course will employ a variety of approaches of instruction and will rely heavily on student participation. You will be assessed on individual assignments, group work, and participation.

1. **Class participation (25%)**. Class participation means that you attend and are actively involved throughout the trip. We expect you to participate in discussions in a manner that demonstrates thoughtful reflection and understanding of the subject matter, as well as respect for your colleagues in the class. Active participation also means that you are willing to listen to other points of view. This means you must listen to others, respond thoughtfully, demonstrate an understanding of the issues, and show a willingness to learn and grow. See anchored discussion assignment for pre-departure participation.

2. **Blog posts (20%).** Students will be assigned one day during travel where she/he will blog about individual and/or group experiences that day. Students may work in dyads if desired. We expect that you will use this opportunity to synthesize what you learned that day and document what we are doing on our trip. These should be thoughtful reflections about your experiences, including images. We will share the blog publicly during our trip on Word Press.

3**. Lesson Design and Delivery (25%)**. Students (individually or in dyads) will design a lesson to be taught at SNA and BRS. Students will share their lesson with Chinese teachers, revise lesson collaboratively, and then teach the lesson at each school. Lesson focus can be on the student’s content area (e.g. English language arts, social studies, science, mathematics, etc.) and/or about cultural topic of your choice (eg. hip-hop in America, Southern food in America, etc.). After lesson delivery, students will write a 1 page reflection on teaching the lesson. A lesson template will be provided. A draft of the lesson plan should be submitted during our May 15th session.

4. **Culminating Reflection Paper on Chinese Culture and Education (30%).** All students will write a paper on a topic/issue related to Chinese culture and/or its education system. This paper should be 4-5 double-spaced pages using APA format. Paper is due to Dr. Spires through email by 11:59PM on June 5, 2019 (after our return).

**Grading**

Your final grade for this class will be based upon the following:

Class participation 25%

Blog posts 20%

Lesson Plan & Delivery 25%

Culminating reflection paper 30%

For students enrolled in ECI 496, you will be graded using the S/U system.

For students enrolled in ED 590, your grades will be calculated using the following scale:

98—100%........................A+

93—97.9%.......................A

90—92.9%.......................A-

87—89.9%.......................B+

83—86.9%.......................B

80—82.9%.......................B-

77—79.9%.......................C+

73—76.9%.......................C

70—72.9%.......................C

**Late submission of assignments**

All assignments should be turned in on the due date. 10 points per day will be deducted for late assignments. If you have extenuating circumstances, please let me know before the due date.

**Important information**

A complete list of reminders for the beginning of the semester can be found at

http://www.ncsu.edu/provost/academic\_regulations/beg\_of\_semester.html

University policy dictates that the following be included in the course syllabus:

University policies on attendance, (excused and unexcused) absences, and scheduling makeup work please see:<http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php>

Students are bound by the academic integrity policy as stated in the code of student conduct. Therefore, students are required to uphold the university pledge of honor and exercise honesty in completing any assignment. See the website for a full explanation:<http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/student_services/student_discipline/POL11.35.1.php>

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with Disability Services for Students at 1900 Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 515-7653. http://www.ncsu.edu/provost/offices/affirm\_action/dss/ For more information on NC State's policy on working with students with disabilities, please see http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\_affairs/courses\_undergrad/REG02.20.1.php

The College of Education’s Conceptual Framework may be found in its entirety at<http://ced.ncsu.edu/about/conceptual_framework.htm>

**Assignment Details (For May 15th)**

**Anchored Discussion on *Age of Ambition: Chasing fortune, truth, and faith in the new China.***

 You and a colleague will lead an anchored discussion (20 minutes) for the class on May 15th. We are asking you to create a 20 minute anchored discussion on the chapters you were assigned. Please prepare questions for discussion, activities, and handouts as necessary. Feel free to apply an issue or topic you learned in the assigned readings.

**Lesson Plan (Details to be explained and announced at the April 12th meeting)**

**COURSE SCHEDULE, ITINERARY AND SYLLABUS**

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| **Tentative agenda of class meetings and activities** |  |
| **Dates** | **Location, Accommodations, & Meals** | **Activities** | **Assignment** |
| Prior to departureMarch 5 April 126 - 7:30 PMMay 15 1:00-5:00PM5:30-7:00PMOptional Group Dinner  | On campusOn campus: Poe Hall 120Friday Institute (Room BB&T)Chengdu 7 Sichuan Restaurant748 E Chatham StSte ECary, NC 27511\*For group bonding/family-style dinner (pay-on-your-own) | Initial Discussion  Syllabus discussion and Course IntroductionDiscuss goals for the study abroad trip; Draft Lesson plans; Anchored discussion on Osnos books | Bring Osnos book to April meetingOsnos book Reading and Anchored Discussions due on May 15th \*Partners to be announced Chapters 1-4: Hiller Chapters 5-8: Lili and Elizabeth Chapters 9-12: Jack and Ben Chapters 13-16: Jenna and BriannaChapters 17-20: Thomas and CurtisChapters 21-24: Jasmine, Alyssa, Darya |
| May 18, Saturday | Depart from RaleighFlight Number: UA2126(Hiller, Ted, and 11 Study Abroad Students)Departure time: 7:20 am● Arrive at Newark Flight Number: UA86(Hiller, Crystal, Ted, and 11 Study Abroad Students)Departure time: 10:45 amLili Wang Depart from RaleighFlight Number: AA1302Departure Time: 7:20am* Arrive at Dallas

Departure Time: 10:40amElizabeth Uzzell Depart from Raleigh Flight Number: UA 558Departure time: 8:00am Flight Number:UA86Departure Time: 10:45am |  |
| May 19, Sunday | Arrive in ShanghaiFlight Number: UA86Arrival time (PVG): 13:40 (1:40 pm) -All except Lili Lili Wang Flight Number: AA127Arrival (PVG): 14:50 Shanghai Hotel: Fairmont Peace Hotel, 20 Nanjing East Rd(Double occupancy) Breakfast: Airport (on your own)Lunch: Airplane (snacks/on your own/flight)Dinner: Welcome Dinner (Included)\*Wear shoes on flight when walking around  | Suzhou China Travel International picks us up at airport and take us to hotelCheck in to the hotel & restMeet in the hotel lobbyWelcome dinner at Yuxin Sichuan Restaurant (Included)Chinese acrobats  | Blogpost due: Hiller  |
| May 20, Monday | ShanghaiShanghai Hotel: Fairmont Peace Hotel, 20 Nanjing East Rd.(Double occupancy)Breakfast: Fairmont Peace Hotel (Included)Lunch: (Included)Dinner: (Included) | Breakfast at hotel (Included)Meet in hotel lobbyVisit Oriental Pearl Tower & Shanghai MuseumRide back to HotelLunch at Huizen Yuan Restaurant (Included) Free time to walk around The Bund & Nanjing RoadMeet in hotel lobbyDinner at Shunxing Restaurant (Included)Take Huangpu River Cruise *Cross-Cultural Reflections Debrief #1* | Blogpost:Thomas |
| May 21, Tuesday | Shanghai to SuzhouBreakfast: Fairmont Peace Hotel (Included)Lunch: (Included)Dinner: Huanxiu Resort (Included)Suzhou Hotel:Huanxiu Resort Address: No.58, Yuexi Wang Street, Wuzhong District, Suzhou, China(Double occupancy) | Breakfast at hotel Check out of hotel & meet in hotel lobbyVisit French Concession:Xin Tian DiJade Buddha TempleM50 Creative ZoneLunch at Yuezhenxuan Restaurant (Included)Pick up additional NC State people from airport: 1:40 pmDrive to SuzhouDinner with Suzhou Representatives at SNA school VIP Room (Included): 5:30 pm  | Blogpost:Jack |
| May 22, Wednesday | SuzhouSuzhou Hotel:Huanxiu Resort Address: No.58, Yuexi Wang Street, Wuzhong District, Suzhou, China(Double occupancy)Breakfast: Huanxiu Resort (Included)Lunch: SNA Cafeteria (Included)Dinner: (Not included #1) | Breakfast at the hotel (opens at 7:00 am)Meet in hotel lobby & drive to SNA: 8:15 amTour SNA 9:00 am - 9:45 amObserve 2 classes:First: 9:55 am - 10:40 am Second: 10:50 am - 11:35 am Lunch SNA Cafeteria (Included) 12:00 pm - 12:40 pm Visit Humble Administrator’s Garden, Pingjiang Road, Tiger Hill &Dinner (Pay on your own)1:00 pm – 7:30 pm*Cross-Cultural Reflections Debrief #2 in Hotel lobby**9:00 pm - 10:00 pm*  | Blogpost: Lili  |
| May 23, Thursday | SuzhouSuzhou Hotel:Huanxiu Resort Address: No.58, Yuexi Wang Street, Wuzhong District, Suzhou, China(Double occupancy)Breakfast: Huanxiu Resort (Included)Lunch: SNA Cafeteria (Included)Dinner: (Not included #2) | Breakfast at the hotel (opens at 7:00 am)Meet in hotel lobby & drive to SNA: 8:15 am Meet with partner teacher and receive feedback on lesson. 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Lunch SNA Cafeteria (Included) 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Lesson plan work session. 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Visit Tongli town and boat ride &Dinner (Pay on your own)3:00 pm - 8:00 pm  | Blogpost: BrianaBring lesson plan and materials to meet with partner teacher |
| May 24, Friday | SuzhouSuzhou Hotel:Huanxiu Resort Address: No.58, Yuexi Wang Street, Wuzhong District, Suzhou, China(Double occupancy)Breakfast: Huanxiu Resort (Included)Lunch: SNA Cafeteria (Included)Dinner: (Included) | Breakfast at the hotel (opens at 7:00 am)Meet in hotel lobby & drive to SNA: 8:15 am Teach lesson at SNA: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Lunch SNA Cafeteria (Included) 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm PBI Global Showcase 1:00 - 3:00 pm Free Time at SNA 3:30 - 5:00 pm Dinner SNA Cafeteria VIP Room (Included) 5:00 pm Golf at Huanxiu Resort Hotel  | Blogpost: CurtisLesson and teaching due |
| May 25, Saturday | Suzhou to BeijingBeijing Taihua Longqi Hotel19 Huilongguan Huangping Rd., T-Longee Square Building 1, Changping, Beijing(Double occupancy)Breakfast: Huanxiu Resort (Included)Lunch: On Train (Not included #1)Dinner: Restaurant near BRS (Included) | Breakfast at the hotel (opens at 7:00 am)Meet in hotel lobby & check out of Huanxiu Resort: 8:45am SNA provides transportation to Suzhou North Train Station9:15amTake train from Suzhou North to Beijing South(G122: 11:06-16:43)BRS (Yuki) picks up group (16:43) at train station and provides transportation to Beijing hotelCheck in to Beijing Hotel5:30 – 6:00 pm Dinner with BRS representative 6:00 – 7:30 pm *Cross-Cultural Reflections Debrief #3*8:00 pm – 9:00 pm  | Blogpost: Jenna |
| May 26, Sunday | BeijingBeijing Hotel (Double occupancy)Breakfast: Beijing hotel (Included)Lunch: (Not included #2)Dinner: (Not included #3) | Breakfast at the hotel7:00 amMeet in hotel lobby & drive to Great Wall8:00 amMuTianYu Tour Great Wall 8:00 am – 12:30 pm Lunch (pay on your own) at Creek Fishing Garden 12:30 pm – 2:30 pmBack to hotel 2:30 – 5:30 pm Dinner (pay on your own) Roast Duck or AnHui Cuisine5:30 – 7:00 pm Back to hotel  | Blogpost: Benjamin |
| May 27, Monday | BeijingBeijing Hotel(Double occupancy)Breakfast: Beijing hotel (Included)Lunch: BRS Cafeteria (Included)Dinner: BRS Cafeteria (Included) | Breakfast at the hotel7:00 – 8:00 amBRS provides transportation from hotel to BRS & excursionsTour BRS Campus & Classroom Observations9:00 am – 12:00 pmLunch (Included)BRS Classroom Observations (including satellite classrooms)1:30 – 5:15 pm Dr. Spires presents to BRS Faculty and Staff. BRS-NC State Alumni co-present.Dinner (included)*Cross-Cultural Reflections Debrief #4* | Blogpost: DaryaBring lesson plan and materials |
| May 28, Tuesday | BeijingBeijing Hotel(Double occupancy)Breakfast: Beijing hotel(Included)Lunch: BRS Cafeteria (Included)Dinner: BRS-NC State Alums Celebration Dinner (Included) | Breakfast at the hotel7:00 – 9:00 amBRS provides transportation from Hotel to BRS & excursions.Teach in BRS-NC State Alumni classroomsLunch (Included)Teach in BRS-NC State Alumni classroomsBRS-NC State Alumni Network Meeting (After school)Dinner with NC State Students and BRS-NC State Alumni (included) | Blogpost: AlyssaBring lesson plan and materials  |
| May 29, Wednesday | BeijingBeijing Hotel:(Double occupancy)Breakfast: Beijing hotel (Included)Lunch: (Not included #3)Dinner: (Not included #4) | Breakfast at the hotel7:00 amTour Forbidden City8:00 am – 12:30 pm Lunch (Pay on your own) at JuQi Roast Duck Restaurant12:30 – 2:00 pm Visit Tiananmen Square & National Museum of China 2:00 – 5:00 pm Dinner (Pay on your own) at Beijing Cuisine or Hunan Family Signature CuisineShow – The Legend of Kungfu (at Hong Theater) 7:30 – 9:30 pm  | Blogpost: Elizabeth |
| May 30, Thursday | BeijingBeijing Hotel:(Double occupancy)Breakfast: Beijing hotel (Included)Lunch: (Not included #4)Dinner: (Not included #5) | Breakfast at the hotel7:00 amVisit Beijing MoonShot Academy (at HaiDian District) 8:30 am – 12:00 pm Lunch (Pay on your own)12:00 – 1:30 pm Shop at Pearl Market 2:00 – 5:00 pm Dinner (Pay on your own) at Pearl Market Basement Food Court*Cross-Cultural Reflections Debrief #5* | Blogpost: Jasmine |
| May 31, Friday | Depart Beijing & Arrive in RaleighDepart from PEKFlight Number: UA88Departure time: 3:35 pmFlight Number: UA2332Departure time: 8:25 pmArrival time (RDU): 10:00 pm Breakfast: Beijing Hotel (Included)Lunch: Airport (Not included #5)Dinner: Airplane | Breakfast at the hotel 7:00 – 9:00 amCheck out of Beijing HotelBRS provides transportation to the airportArrive in Raleigh | Blogpost: None**PAPER DUE by 11:59 PM on June 5, 2019 via email to Dr. Spires.** |