

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 departure  March 5  April 12  6 - 7:30 PM  May 15  1:00-5:00PM  5:30-7:00PM  Optional Group Dinner | On campus  On campus:  Poe Hall 120  Friday Institute (Room BB&T)  Chengdu 7 Sichuan Restaurant  748 E Chatham St  Ste E  Cary, NC 27511  \*For group bonding/family-style dinner (pay-on-your-own) | Initial Discussion  Syllabus discussion and Course Introduction  Discuss goals for the study abroad trip; Draft Lesson plans; Anchored discussion on Osnos books | Bring Osnos book to April meeting  Osnos 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 Brianna  Chapters 17-20: Thomas and Curtis  Chapters 21-24: Jasmine, Alyssa, Darya |
| May 18, Saturday | Depart from Raleigh  Flight 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 am  Lili Wang  Depart from Raleigh  Flight Number: AA1302  Departure Time: 7:20am   * Arrive at Dallas   Departure Time: 10:40am  Elizabeth Uzzell  Depart from Raleigh  Flight Number: UA 558  Departure time: 8:00am  Flight Number:UA86  Departure Time: 10:45am | |  |
| May 19, Sunday | Arrive in Shanghai  Flight Number: UA86  Arrival time (PVG): 13:40 (1:40 pm)  -All except Lili  Lili Wang  Flight Number: AA127  Arrival (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 hotel  Check in to the hotel & rest  Meet in the hotel lobby  Welcome dinner at Yuxin Sichuan Restaurant (Included)  Chinese acrobats | Blogpost due: Hiller |
| May 20, Monday | Shanghai  Shanghai 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 lobby  Visit Oriental Pearl Tower & Shanghai Museum  Ride back to Hotel  Lunch at Huizen Yuan Restaurant (Included)  Free time to walk around The Bund & Nanjing Road  Meet in hotel lobby  Dinner at Shunxing Restaurant (Included)  Take Huangpu River Cruise  *Cross-Cultural Reflections Debrief #1* | Blogpost:  Thomas |
| May 21, Tuesday | Shanghai to Suzhou  Breakfast: 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 lobby  Visit French Concession:  Xin Tian Di  Jade Buddha Temple  M50 Creative Zone  Lunch at Yuezhenxuan Restaurant (Included)  Pick up additional NC State people from airport: 1:40 pm  Drive to Suzhou  Dinner with Suzhou Representatives at SNA school VIP Room (Included): 5:30 pm | Blogpost:  Jack |
| May 22, Wednesday | Suzhou  Suzhou 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 am  Tour SNA 9:00 am - 9:45 am  Observe 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 | Suzhou  Suzhou 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: Briana  Bring lesson plan and materials to meet with partner teacher |
| May 24, Friday | Suzhou  Suzhou 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: Curtis  Lesson and teaching due |
| May 25, Saturday | Suzhou to Beijing  Beijing Taihua Longqi Hotel  19 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 Station  9:15am  Take 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 hotel  Check in to Beijing Hotel  5:30 – 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 | Beijing  Beijing Hotel  (Double occupancy)  Breakfast: Beijing hotel (Included)  Lunch: (Not included #2)  Dinner: (Not included #3) | Breakfast at the hotel  7:00 am  Meet in hotel lobby & drive to Great Wall  8:00 am  MuTianYu Tour Great Wall  8:00 am – 12:30 pm  Lunch (pay on your own) at Creek Fishing Garden 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm  Back to hotel  2:30 – 5:30 pm  Dinner (pay on your own) Roast Duck or AnHui Cuisine  5:30 – 7:00 pm  Back to hotel | Blogpost: Benjamin |
| May 27, Monday | Beijing  Beijing Hotel  (Double occupancy)  Breakfast: Beijing hotel (Included)  Lunch: BRS Cafeteria (Included)  Dinner: BRS Cafeteria (Included) | Breakfast at the hotel  7:00 – 8:00 am  BRS provides transportation from hotel to BRS & excursions  Tour BRS Campus & Classroom Observations  9:00 am – 12:00 pm  Lunch (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: Darya  Bring lesson plan and materials |
| May 28, Tuesday | Beijing  Beijing Hotel  (Double occupancy)  Breakfast: Beijing hotel  (Included)  Lunch: BRS Cafeteria (Included)  Dinner: BRS-NC State Alums Celebration Dinner (Included) | Breakfast at the hotel  7:00 – 9:00 am  BRS provides transportation from Hotel to BRS & excursions.  Teach in BRS-NC State Alumni classrooms  Lunch (Included)  Teach in BRS-NC State Alumni classrooms  BRS-NC State Alumni Network Meeting (After school)  Dinner with NC State Students and BRS-NC State Alumni (included) | Blogpost: Alyssa  Bring lesson plan and materials |
| May 29, Wednesday | Beijing  Beijing Hotel:  (Double occupancy)  Breakfast: Beijing hotel (Included)  Lunch: (Not included #3)  Dinner: (Not included #4) | Breakfast at the hotel  7:00 am  Tour Forbidden City  8:00 am – 12:30 pm  Lunch (Pay on your own) at JuQi Roast Duck Restaurant  12:30 – 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 Cuisine  Show – The Legend of Kungfu (at Hong Theater)  7:30 – 9:30 pm | Blogpost: Elizabeth |
| May 30, Thursday | Beijing  Beijing Hotel:  (Double occupancy)  Breakfast: Beijing hotel (Included)  Lunch: (Not included #4)  Dinner: (Not included #5) | Breakfast at the hotel  7:00 am  Visit 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 Raleigh  Depart from PEK  Flight Number: UA88  Departure time: 3:35 pm  Flight Number: UA2332  Departure time: 8:25 pm  Arrival time (RDU): 10:00 pm  Breakfast: Beijing Hotel (Included)  Lunch: Airport (Not included #5)  Dinner: Airplane | Breakfast at the hotel 7:00 – 9:00 am  Check out of Beijing Hotel  BRS provides transportation to the airport  Arrive in Raleigh | Blogpost: None  **PAPER DUE by 11:59 PM on June 5, 2019 via email to Dr. Spires.** |