Multilingual and Multicultural Studies - International Education
Study Abroad Program,
Shanghai, China, June 29 - July 16, 2010
Intercultural Perspectives on Teaching and Learning

Dr. Frank Tang

Syllabus

Program Overview

Shanghai is the largest and the most developed Metropolitan City in China. In it, traditional Chinese culture meets Western culture in all aspects of life including education. Shanghai not only leads China in its economic development but takes the initiative in educational reform as well.

Offered by the Department of Teaching and Learning, this three-week study abroad program provides educators with an opportunity to examine (1) the culture, people, education, and society of modern China; (2) intercultural perspectives in China, and (3) teaching and learning, particularly the teaching of English as a foreign language, in Chinese schools of all levels. The focus for the NYU Shanghai summer 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, and educational reform. 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 Shanghai include classes and seminars taught by NYU faculty members and lectures by faculty members from local higher education institutions such as Shanghai Normal University. Students also have the opportunity to do field trips in Shanghai and other cities such as Xi’an and Suzhou. 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, interact with teachers, college students, foreigners working in Shanghai, as well as conduct individual field research and case studies.

This year we will have an added feature to our regular program: Visit to 2010 World Expo Shanghai (http://en.expo2010.cn/). The World Expo is regulated by the International Exhibition Bureau (IEB) and organized by different nations. The theme of the World Expo Shanghai is
“Better City, Better Life.” Two hundred nations are expected to participate and many will build their own exhibition halls. In addition to the exhibitions, public theme forums and cultural art performances will be featured. All students will receive a three-day pass to visit the World Expo in groups and on their own.

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)
E29.2035 Internship in Language Teaching (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)

NYU Faculty

Frank Tang, Ph.D., Department of Teaching and Learning, Steinhardt School of Education (Director, 2010 MMS Study Abroad Program in Shanghai)

Guest Lecturers (Partial listing)

Professor Daxi Gu, Shanghai Normal University
Professor Cidong Huang, Sanda University
Dr. Li Shen, Fudan University
Dr. Mingzheng Shi, Director, NYU in Shanghai Center
Professor Jim Xiao, Shanghai Normal University
Dr. Huanian Ye, Shanghai Normal University
Ying Zhang, Master Teacher, Kunjiang High School
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
7. Culture shock and reverse culture shock
8. Better city, better world: Intercultural perspectives through the World Expo Shanghai

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: Readings, literature review, research proposal, research project, and portfolio (50%).

Required readings:


Additional readings on China (To be sent via email).

Recommended readings:


**Tentative Schedules:**

**In New York:**

Orientation #1: March 2010 (dates to be announced)
Orientation #2: April 2010 (dates to be announced)
Orientation #3: May 2010 (dates to be announced)

**In Shanghai:**

Saturday (6/26) & Sunday (6/27)
Arrival at Shanghai Normal University (SHNU), Foreign Guest House (Wai Bing Lou) opens.
Guest House opens at 12:00 noon, Saturday (6/26)

Monday (6/28)
A.M. Welcome and orientation at Shanghai Normal University and international exchange; campus tour with SHNU students
P.M.  Exploring SHNU neighborhood
E.V.  Welcome reception; bus tour: The Bund (Wai Tan)

Tuesday (6/29)
A.M.  Doing research in China: Dr. Tang talks about research in China; research proposal finalized
P.M.  Field trip: Shanghai Urban Development Exhibition (group tour); Shanghai Old Town, Yu Garden, Shanghai Museum, Foreign Language Bookstore, Xin Tiandi, and other museums (self-directed)

Wednesday (6/30)
A.M.  Overview of Chinese culture: Past and Present: Dr. Huanian Ye of SHNU talks about the evolution of Chinese culture
P.M.  Field trip: Visit to Wall Street English Learning Center
E.V.  Acrobatic show

Thursday (7/1)
A.M.  High education reform and teacher education in China: Professor Daxi Gu of SHNU talks about teacher education and teacher certification in China; Dr. Cidong Huang talks about the growth of a private college in Shanghai
P.M.  Field trip: Visit to educational institutions (institution to be announced)

Friday (7/2) – Sunday (7/4)  Three-day trip to Xi’an

Monday (7/5)
A.M.  K-12 Education in China with a focus on English education and language testing:
    Professor Xiao of SHNU talks about language teaching and learning, and language assessment in China
P.M.  Visit to NYU in Shanghai Center: Dr. Mingzhen Shi talks about NYU students learning experience in Shanghai; meeting ECNU students

Tuesday (7/6)
A.M. & P.M.  Field trip: Visit to a suburban middle school in Jinshan County of Shanghai:
    You will have a chance to work with Chinese students and dialogue with teachers

Wednesday (7/7)
A.M.  Culture shock: An American working in Shanghai talks about his working experience in China
P.M.  Reverse culture shock: Two NYU graduates returning to Shanghai talk about their work and life experience back in China after studying in the U.S.

Thursday (7/8)
A.M.  The journey of an English teacher in China: From Xinjiang to Shanghai
P.M.  Field research
E.V.  A local show (to be announced)
July 11 – 13  Visit to 2010 Shanghai World Expo
Forum topics to be announced.

Monday (7/12)
A.M.  Research project updates: Individual meeting with Dr. Tang
P.M.  Field research

Tuesday (7/13)
One-day trip to Suzhou City: Exploring the Culture of South of the Yangtze River (optional)

Wednesday (7/14)
A.M. & P.M.  Field Research
E.V.  Farewell dinner/party

Thursday (7/15)
A.M. & P.M.  Student research seminar: Research presentation
E.V.  Dinner at Shanghai History Museum at Oriental Pearl TV Tower

Friday (7/16)
Free day: Final chance to explore Shanghai (self-directed)

Saturday & Sunday (7/17 & 18)
Departure (final check-out by 12 noon on Sunday 7/20)