

**SCUN-UWP STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM, WUHAN, CHINA COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**Cross-Cultural Understanding**

**Course Description:**

CH-UWP 1010 1 Credit Cross-Cultural Understanding

Students develop a journal of their cross-cultural observations, noting changes over the course of their study abroad experience at South Central University for Nationalities in Wuhan, China, and chronicling their interpersonal and intercultural development. Students will become more aware of their own native culture and language and juxtapose it with the general language and culture of China and its 55 minority cultures

**Instructor:**

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**Texts:**

Paige, R. Michael, et. al. *Maximizing Study Abroad*. (University of Minnesota Press?, 2002)

Excellent general resource for personally understanding and reflecting about the study abroad experience, and the principle text for the course.

Hu, Wenzhong and Cornelius L. Grove. *Encountering the Chinese: A Guide for Americans*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Yarmouth, Maine: Intercultural Press, 2002. Excellent resource for understanding the Chinese from an United States perspective.

**Supplemental Materials:**



[JAI                      HEE                      CHO'S                      DISSERTATION](http://faculty.fullerton.edu/jcho/dissertation.htm)  
(<http://faculty.fullerton.edu/jcho/dissertation.htm>)

A study of Contrastive Rhetoric between East Asian and North American Cultures as Demonstrated through Student Expository Essays from Korea and the United States. This is a doctoral dissertation which reviews Eastern and Western rhetoric. This is a carefully written doctoral dissertation at Bowling Green State University in Ohio; the author is now on the faculty at Fullerton in California, and directs a writing clinic for students who need help in writing English as a second language. You can get to more information by going to the author's home page from this link.

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Tang Gen Jung's starter reading list of Chinese Classics follows; available in translation in better bookstores in Wuhan, and part of the Study Abroad on-site library. Note Professor Tang's writing the characters below the name and Pat Jonas' dating the dynastic era of the novels on the side:

The Romance of Three Kingdoms 三国演义	Yuan Dyna: 1200
The Dream of the Red Chamber 红楼梦	Qing 1800
A Pilgrimage to the West 西游记	14-1500's Yuan
The Water Margin 水浒传	14-1500's Yuan

#### Related Field Experiences:

As the On-site Program Coordinator, either an assistant of I accompany students on any field trips; unsupervised travel outside the City of Wuhan is not permitted as part of the program, although before students join the program or after they leave the program, as long as they release UWP and SCUN in writing from any obligation, they can travel on their own, subject to the restrictions, laws and regulations of China, of course.

- We meet in Shanghai on arrival and tour many Shanghai points of interest, most importantly the Shanghai Museum, travel on to Zhoujiang, the Venice of China with visits to historical home sites and a boat ride on the canal, then on to the gardens of Suzhou by bus, to Nanjing of immense historical significance with the Tai Pei Rebellion, the formation of the Republic and earlier locations of importance in China's some 5000 years of history, and continuing on by bus to Wuhan of equal significance in China's long history and the home of South Central University for Nationalities.
- A major field experience is the mid-semester visit to Phoenix and the Miao and Tujia

Minority cultures. By staying in the old, preserved part of the city, and right on the river, even the casual time is intriguing, let alone the shopping in the quaint settings. Visits to the surrounding areas include the Southern Great Wall, Qiling Cave, a visit to an isolated Miao Village, and a visit to a site of a cooperative education program between SCUN and a local middle school. Students have an opportunity to talk with middle and high school students.

- Each semester SCUN takes other international students on an outing to one of the famous mountain areas that the poets describe as locations where heaven and earth come together. It is a chance to practice the common language of Chinese with Japanese, French, Korean and other international students also living in the international residence hall. SCUN invites the study abroad students to come along and UWP picks up the cost from its share of the program.
- A final major field experience is the visit first to Xi'an, home to the Terra-Cotta Warriors of the Ch'in Dynasty, but much more including the Tang Dynasty era performance and the water show on the lake. On from Xi'an to Beijing for the Forbidden City, Tian'anmen Square, Temple of Heaven, Ming Tombs, and the Great Wall along with other experiences including Beijing Duck, food street, and shopping.

**Weekly Lecture/Discussion Activities beyond scheduling travel and routine updates:**

1. Orientation at Shanghai arrival and travel together to Wuhan
2. Weekly dialogue and journaling, Chinese food and food cards, bus cards, cell phones
3. Thinking about thinking and Thinking about thinking in Chinese
4. Food vocabulary and Bloom's Taxonomy; reporting problems in Chinese
5. Golden Week options in Wuhan, vocabulary, Mid-term conferences
6. Depositing money in Golden Dragon account, clothing vocabulary
7. Vocabulary from History class
8. Maslow's *Heirarchy*, JoHari Window, Bem's psychological reactance, GLBT?
9. Interpersonal skills and religion vocabulary, general semantics
10. Confucius' Golden Mean and rule of men versus rule of law in China
11. Transactional Analysis, Machiavellianism, Shostrom's *Man the Manipulator*
12. Feedback, final group conference

**Grading:**

**Course is graded Pass-Fail with attendance, weekly contribution to journal, and class participation being the primary criteria.**

**D2L:**

This syllabus, the instructor's lecture notes, and supplemental links are located on D2L; we will use D2L for many course activities; and, for your regular study abroad classes you will be able to check your grade, and only your grade, by consulting D2L. This class is graded pass-fail, but weekly journal submissions to the drop box will be recorded as well in a timely manner.

Please be sure to check to see that your computer is compatible; when you first log on to D2L you will be able to perform a system check.