



Intercultural Studies

Area Study | Hangzhou/Shanghai



1.- 9. May, 2009

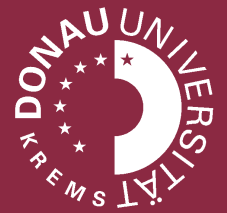
Information and Registration

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Intercultural Studies at Danube University Krems

We live in a time of global flows of people, goods, services, and ideas. The emerging academic field of Intercultural Studies reflects the growing demand for skills and expertise in navigating an increasingly interconnected world and offers a framework for orientating oneself in the midst of these ongoing processes of change.

Since 2003, the Intercultural Studies Program at Danube University Krems has been offering seminars abroad to provide a real-world setting within which to experience intercultural challenges and to apply intercultural knowledge and skills. This seminar, taught in China by Chinese experts, gives participants the opportunity of immersing themselves in a foreign culture within the structured environment of a guided experience.

Objectives

- > To become familiar with recent political, economic, social and cultural changes in and around Hangzhou and Shanghai
- > To gain an understanding of the region's diversity, in particular of the different worlds inhabited by rich and poor, urban and rural, as well as younger and elderly citizens
- > To interact with local professors and students, with entrepreneurs, and with expatriates
- > To experience and reflect on life and work issues in China

Co-ordinators

Prof. Dr. **Jun Hua Zhang**

Professor of political science, Zhejiang-University. Dr. Zhang was born in Shanghai, taught at the Freie Universität Berlin (Center for Chinese and East Asian Politics), at the University of British Columbia and at Moscow State University. He was a researcher at the Wissenschaftszentrum für Sozialforschung in Berlin, director of the Berliner Asien-Zentrum für Entwicklung und Transformation, and advisor to the German Government and to the EU. His publications are in the areas of political theory, e-government, Chinese foreign policy, and Chinese culture.



Hangzhou

Hangzhou (population 6.5 million), the capital of Zhejiang Province, is located about 180 km south of Shanghai. For centuries Hangzhou has been an important centre of learning, culture, political power and commerce. Like most of the coastal area south of Shanghai, Hangzhou currently boasts about its vibrant economic activities.

Hangzhou is famous for its breathtaking natural beauty. Its scenic heart is the West Lake with its picturesque islands and thousands of lotus flowers. The surrounding hills are often shrouded in mist; ancient pagodas and temples on the hillside seem to appear and disappear in the clouds. The Italian merchant Marco Polo praised Hangzhou as the “city of heaven.”

Shanghai

Shanghai, with a population of over 20 million people, is the largest city in China and one of the largest metropolitan areas in the world. Shanghai is mainland China's centre for commerce and finance and has been described as the showpiece of the world's fastest-growing economy.

Program content

- > Attending lectures on Chinese politics and economic policies at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou
- > Learning about Chinese traditions as resources for coping with security issues and other challenges in the context of globalisation
- > Catching glimpses of living and working conditions in Hangzhou and Shanghai
- > Finding out what Western managers need to learn—and can learn—from Chinese entrepreneurs

Methods

- > Preparatory reading
- > Presentations (with discussions) in English by Chinese professors
- > Guided city tours and excursions to companies, to sites of political, economic and cultural history, and to locations of contemporary and planned urban culture
- > Recreational activities with Chinese hosts (e.g. Tai Chi and aspects of Chinese medicine)



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Dates and Locations

1. May, 2009: arrival in Hangzhou
(or in Shanghai, followed by a transfer to Hangzhou)

2.-8. May, 2009: Lectures at Zhejiang University, Hangzhou,
and excursions in and around Hangzhou

9. May, 2009: Full-day program in Shanghai.

Accommodations and Travel

Accommodation at a comfortable 3- or 4-star university guest house with a special rate of less than 40 EURO per night will be offered to all program participants. Individual stays in area hotels or hostels are also possible. Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements, including arranging for the necessary visas and traveler's health insurance.

Participants

Maximum 15 people with good English language skills who have a serious interest in intercultural issues in general and in China in particular.

Program Fee

The program fee is 1.200 EURO. This includes all program materials, lecture and project fees, group transportation within China, and admission fees in Hangzhou and Shanghai. It does not include visa costs, flights, hotel costs or meals.



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Lifetime Learning.