ASIAN STUDIES 236. Inside China: Society, Business, and Culture in Beijing and Shanghai
May 05-May 28, 2013 (Fly to Beijing on May 8th).

• Gain in-depth understanding of contemporary China’s social, cultural, political, and economic environment through seminars, debates, visits and interviews.
• Take high-speed rail from Beijing to Shanghai.
• Visit historical sites, institutions, and private homes.
• No prior knowledge of Chinese required

Open to all majors, 3 credits from Asian Studies

FOR MORE INFORMATION: xianmin.liu@vanderbilt.edu
Program Highlights

Insider China: Society, Business, and Culture in Beijing and Shanghai (May 5- May 28, 2013)

- The Asian Studies Program of the College of Arts and Sciences is offering a Maymester in China, open to all undergraduates.
- Earn 3 Vanderbilt credits (AS 236) to fulfill AXLE requirement while experiencing one of the most dynamic economies in the world.
- Attend seminars (conducted in English) given by Chinese and American scholars/experts on diverse topics ranging from Chinese economics, globalization, and traditional Chinese medicine to environmental challenges faced by the modern world.
- Debate and discuss social, political, and economic issues with Chinese college students.
- Learn survival Chinese in real-world situations, bargain at local flea markets, experience acupuncture and moxibustion, and practice martial arts with top martial arts masters.
- Visit China’s “Silicon Valley,” local businesses, manufacturers, a hospital, schools, private people’s homes; and interview businessmen, professionals, migrant workers, middle school students, and senior citizens.
- Meet Vanderbilt alumni who will provide their personal insights on working and doing business in China.
- Travel by high-speed rail from Beijing to Shanghai.
- Field trips and sightseeing tours to the Great Wall, Tian’anmen Square, Temple of Heaven, 798 Art Village (China’s equivalent of Greenwich Village) in Beijing; and the World Financial Center (the tallest building in China), the Bund in Shanghai, and Chenghuang Temple in Shanghai.
Students’ Comments

“What a phenomenal trip! It has been a great pleasure traveling to China these last few weeks. I have experienced the rigors of the fastest-growing economy in the world, have witnessed globalization’s effects on a developing nation, have become more in tune with the human element of China (which is all too often lost in textbooks), and have become more enlightened about a culture that thinks in ways fundamentally different from my own. I am extremely fortunate to have had this opportunity in a world where China is of ever-increasing importance, and I really do look forward to going back one day.”
Students’ Comments

“ I enjoyed my time here thoroughly, and made many friends (and maybe enemies with the vendors) along the way. I practiced my Chinese with natives. I learned many useful facts and tips about working in China as a profession. I went to places in China way off the beaten path which gave me an idea of how the majority of China really was. This was one of the most memorable experiences of my life.”
Students’ Comments

“My favorite experiences in China (the mountain village, the Great Wall, perusing history museums, the lectures and open discussions with students, touring the heart of Beijing on limited Chinese, and speaking with the gentleman at the American Chamber of Commerce about real Chinese business and government) are all derived from a desire to experience what I came to believe as real China, one of the most intricate, exciting, and novel places an American can visit.”