



The World Leading Schools Association

Presents

Semester Abroad Programme

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2017

Studying in China is a once in a lifetime opportunity, you will learn abroad as well as immerse into the country's culture and history. China has become one of the most popular destinations for international students. WLSA offers associate school students the opportunity to study in China for three months.

**Travel! Learn!
Explore! Dream!**

Programme and Curriculum

What will you study in China?

The Semester Abroad programme aims to provide intercultural understanding, mutual respect and social responsibility through full cultural immersion. By delving into unfamiliar territory, you will gain the skills needed to thrive in an increasingly multicultural and interconnected world. Throughout the Semester Abroad programme, students have the opportunity to travel independently across China, stay with host families, perform community service and, if available, pursue an internship. Participants are actively involved in school life, be it as a student, mentor, tutor or club leader. By the end of the Programme, student participants will be prepared to embark on their higher education journey with international experience.

The Courses at WLSA Fudan Academy

- ❖ Advanced English
- ❖ English Academic Writing
- ❖ Creative Writing
- ❖ Microeconomics
- ❖ US History/World History
- ❖ Spanish & Latin & German
- ❖ Colloquy
 - a. To be able to critically analyse poems, short stories, film, art, music and plays
 - b. To be able to ask relevant and thought-provoking questions
 - c. To be able to express opinions in an intelligent way
- ❖ Natural & Physical Sciences
- ❖ Precalculus
- ❖ Chinese Language & Literature
- ❖ College Counselling
- ❖ Skills Development Programme

About WLSA-Fudan Academy

The WLSA Fudan Academy was founded under the cooperation between Fudan University and the World Leading Schools Association (WLSA) in September 2012. The school was established to meet the demands for international



curriculum in order to prepare students to study abroad and become effective future global citizens. The school's Board of Governors include representatives from the following world leading schools: **Eton College**, **Harvard-Westlake School**, **Montgomery Bell Academy**, and **Winchester College**. The WLSA Fudan Academy has proven to be one of the leading international programmes in Shanghai as the first graduating class of 2015 had over 80% enrolment into the **top 50 US universities**.

WLSA-Fudan Academy facts

- ❖ Extra-curricular activities are offered year-round
- ❖ 180 students come from thirteen provinces in China
- ❖ 50% of students board at the Academy
- ❖ 36:1 Student/ Counselor ratio
- ❖ 4:1 Student/ Teacher ratio
- ❖ WLSA offers scholarships (in total up to US\$3 million since 2015) to able students in need of financial aid, including support for higher education



- ❖ One class of 40 alumni, 100% enrolled to American, Australian and Canadian universities

Four reasons to study in China:

1. Advance your employment opportunities

China is one of the fastest-developing countries in the world, and is a great place to develop your career. The Semester Abroad with WLSA incorporates an internship experience, with exposure in an international workplace. The

knowledge and skills gained from living, studying and working in China will supply you with experiences for your applications to higher education institutions and eventual job search.

97% of study abroad students found employment within 12 months of graduation, when only 40% of college graduates found employment in the same period.

2. Broaden your knowledge

Studying in China broadens your knowledge of history and culture. Explore the oldest existing civilization on earth and learn about a culture that is different from your own. Exposure to a new culture helps diversify your values and beliefs, allowing you to master effective life skills when working in an international environment.

3. Explore the region

Shanghai is a great location to widen your horizon and travel to exotic places throughout Asia. Studying in China gives you the best opportunity to get as much travelling done as you can before you embark on your professional career.

4. Challenge yourself

Take yourself out of your comfort zone, it's a challenge that requires a great deal of courage. Living abroad teaches you to be self-reliant and the strength to conquer daily struggles of dealing with culture shock and language barriers.

Facts about Shanghai

- ❖ Located in the east of China
- ❖ Used to be a fishing settlement called Hudu; the name of a fish trap. Shanghai means 'on top of the sea'
- ❖ Has an area of about 6,340 square kilometres
- ❖ A population of about 25 million
- ❖ The largest city in China and the eighth largest worldwide
- ❖ Is the busiest container port worldwide
- ❖ Has a pleasant northern subtropical maritime monsoon climate



Shanghai's weather

Weather averages for Shanghai												
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Ma y	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Average high °C (°F)	8 (46)	8 (46)	13 (55)	19 (66)	25 (77)	28 (82)	32 (90)	32 (90)	28 (82)	23 (73)	17 (63)	17 (63)
Average low °C (°F)	1 (34)	1 (34)	4 (39)	10 (50)	15 (59)	19 (66)	23 (73)	23 (73)	19 (66)	14 (57)	7 (45)	2 (36)

Shanghai is China's richest city and a trendsetter in fashion, design and the arts. Shanghai is a fantastic city for dining and shopping.



Things to do in Shanghai

There is so much to see and places to venture in Shanghai, from ancient temples to modern skyscrapers. In Shanghai, you will explore its distinctive cuisines and profound Chinese culture.

The must-visit places in Shanghai:

- ❖ The Bund
- ❖ Disneyland
- ❖ Oriental Pearl TV Tower
- ❖ Shanghai World Financial Center
- ❖ The Shanghai Tower
- ❖ The Former French Concession
- ❖ Shanghai Museum
- ❖ Xintiandi
- ❖ Yu Garden/ Town's God Temple
- ❖ Happy Valley
- ❖ Sky Ring Ferris Wheel
- ❖ The Bund Cruise
- ❖ The Shanghai Aquarium
- ❖ M50 Art Gallery



Full WLSA support

Visa arrangements

WLSA provides students with general information and guidance about the visa application process including an invitation letter.

Costs

WLSA will arrange and pay for the following student costs in relation to the Semester Abroad:

- ❖ Visa invitation letter
- ❖ Accommodation
- ❖ Tuition Fee and Programme

WLSA will assist in arranging and providing a stipend to cover the following student costs in relation to the Semester Abroad:

- ❖ Food
- ❖ Local Transportation (within Shanghai)

Visiting students will arrange and be responsible for their own:

- ❖ Flights
- ❖ Visa
- ❖ Spending money
- ❖ Vaccinations and travel/medical insurance
- ❖ Travelling (independently from the programme)

Did you know?

98% of students stated that study abroad helped them better understand their own cultural values and biases, and 82% said that it helped them develop a more sophisticated way of looking at the world (Of WLSA Students)

Student requirements

For this programme, WLSA is looking for students who are 17 to 19 years and are currently enrolled or have recently graduated within the last year from an Associate School. Additionally, all of the following criteria must be met in order to be accepted.

WLSA Semester Abroad Selection Criteria

21st Century Academic Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Critical Thinking and Problem Solving• Proficient Writing Skills• Learning and Innovative Skills
Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Track Record of Taking Initiative and Following Through• Conversational Skills• Curiosity and Courage
Entrepreneurial Spirit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mindset of Continuous Improvement• Innovative• Willingness to fail and desire to succeed
Interest in China	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social and Cross Cultural Skills• Language Acquisition Skills• Interest in China's Culture
Commitment to Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Willingness to perform community service• Willingness to empower others

Student testimonials

"Living in Shanghai for the past 5 months has immensely contributed to our personal growth in that we have learnt to be independent, adventurous, patient and optimistic when dealing with foreign situations."

"Taking a semester in China has been one of the best decisions of our lives. We have thoroughly enjoyed experiencing a different culture and new environment."

"We are eternally grateful to WLSA-Fudan for bringing us to China and making this one of the best years of our lives."



Kushmandi (Mauritius) & Omolemo (South Africa)

"This gap year in Shanghai, has honestly been one of the most eye opening experiences of my life up to date. This semester abroad programme has not just opened my eyes to the diverse and complex culture of the Chinese. But has also taught me the realities of Independence and has shaped my view point of the worlds growing environment."

I will forever be grateful to WLSA-Fudan for giving me this opportunity and would advise anyone looking for an eye opening, self exploring experience to immediately apply for the program."



Won Sun (South Africa) and Salma (Morocco)

"Being in China has helped me to grow in so many ways. The unfamiliar environment, new culture and distinct difference in societal interaction have been an eye-opening experience. I am glad that a portion of my gap year was spent in such an incredible way. I am thankful to the WLSA-Fudan gap year program for helping me to gain all these wonderful memories and life lessons that I now have."



Charles (United Kingdom)

The best thing one can do to him or herself, is to get lost. I believe there is no better way to discover oneself then to visit a new country ruled by strong culture and language. The WLSA Semester Abroad Programme offered me the chance study in China for a semester. I was given the opportunity to learn Chinese, develop my critical thinking and communication skills. During my stay at the WLSA Fudan Academy, I had the chance to pursue my dream of being a filmmaker as I produced two promotional videos for WLSA. Without a doubt, WLSA's Semester Abroad programme is one of the most exciting chapters in my life.



Brian Sherif (Egypt)

Application and Selection

The application process includes the following components:

- ❖ The applicant must submit the [application form](#), and email a one page motivation letter which the applicant expresses his/her interest in China, his/her willingness to immerse into a new culture and a paragraph about why he/she strives for experiencing high school life in Shanghai and two teacher recommendation letters to **programmes@wlsafoundation.org**
- ❖ Following receipt of the application, a faculty member at the applicant's school will be invited to conduct an initial interview with the applicant
- ❖ Finalists will be invited for an interview via Skype with the Selection Committee at WLSA Fudan Academy

Applications are due by 22 **May, 2017**.