

OFF-CAMPUS STUDY - SPRING 2023

COLGATE IN CHINA



Director:
Brenton Sullivan,
Department of Religion

Tentative Program Dates:
Late January to May, 2023

Learn about the 2022-23 Colgate Study Groups and Talk With Faculty Directors at the Study Group Fair at the Hall of Presidents on Wednesday, October 6th, 2021, 4:00–5:00:
<https://www.colgate.edu/academics/off-campus-study/campus-opportunities/virtual-study-group-fair>

For more information about the program:
Please contact Prof. Sullivan at
bsullivan@colgate.edu

Information Sessions will be held on:
Thursday, October 7 at 12pm in 304 Lawrence Hall and
Wednesday, October 13 at 4:15pm in 304 Lawrence Hall

Colgate University's

China Study Group gives Colgate students, particularly those with majors or minors in Chinese or Asian Studies, the opportunity to improve proficiency in Chinese language while acquiring first-hand knowledge of cultural, social, religious, and political changes in modern China. Studying in Kunming, "the city of eternal spring", with extended excursions to Taiwan and Hong Kong, will give you a deep sense of the dynamism and diversity of Chinese culture, history, and society.

The study group is hosted in the beautiful and diverse city of Kunming by CET Academic Programs at Yunnan University's campus.

Courses taken on this study group satisfy the Core Global Engagements requirement.



Program Prerequisites:

Prerequisites include at least one year's coursework or equivalent in Modern Standard Chinese as well as Core China or another background course on China as approved by the director.

Course Descriptions:

Students will be enrolled in four courses: CHIN 481, CHIN 482, and two Chinese language courses. These courses can count toward a Chinese or Asian Studies major, while CHIN 481 and CHINA 482 may be able to count toward another major with pre-approval.

Courses:

CHIN 481 China in Transition: Prof. Sullivan

"Religion in China". This course focuses on the history and contemporary practices of religion in China with a focus on its various Buddhist traditions. Yunnan is uniquely located at the crossroads of Chinese, Tibetan, and Southeast Asian influences, and as a result one finds there all major traditions of Buddhism--Chinese Mahayana, Theravada, and Tibetan Vajrayana. In addition to readings and guest lectures, students will also take field trips to significant monasteries and other Buddhist monuments around the province. Students will also engage in volunteer or participant observation experiences at local religious sites (alternatively, students may complete this activity in CHIN 482). This course provides Global Engagement credit.

CHIN 482 Topics in Chinese Culture: Prof. Sullivan

"Race and Ethnicity in China." This course examines the diversity of different ethnic groups within China and scrutinizes the complex history of the construction of race and ethnicity in China. Yunnan is home to more officially recognized ethnic groups than any other province in China. As such, the course also integrates guest lectures and site visits to enhance our understanding of ethnic diversity. Students will also engage in volunteer or participant observation experiences at local museums of ethnology, ethnic restaurants, or other sites relevant to ethnic minorities (alternatively, students may complete this activity in CHIN 481).

Chinese Language. CET/Yunnan University Faculty

Based on their proficiency in Chinese, Colgate students enroll in 14 weeks of Chinese classes for 10 hours per week together with CET students, plus a weekly one-on-one session. Students will receive two credits for the Chinese language course.

Excursions:

The Study Group will fly to Taipei in early February to spend seven days touring culture sites around the island of Taiwan. In Taipei, our host will organize various lectures and site visits to bring to life the unique political, historical, and cultural aspects of Taiwan. The Taiwan itinerary also includes educational travel along the rugged East Coast from Taitung to Hualien, during which we will learn about the island's indigenous communities from local leaders and activists. We will end our trip in Tainan, the cultural heart of Taiwanese culture, where we will visit several important historic and religious sites.

Students will then fly to Kunming to prepare for the commencement of regular classes.

We will also spend two days in Hong Kong, meeting scholars and visiting cultural and historical institutions such as the Buddha-Dharma Centre of Hong Kong.

There will also be excursions within Yunnan Province to Dali and the renowned Linden Centre, to Lijiang, and to Gyeltang (Zhongdian on the Tibetan Plateau).

Departure is scheduled for May 12.

Planned Extracurricular Activities:

Students participate in the regular meetings of the Chinese Table with their classmates and language instructors, and take part in various activities, such as local travel and family visits, with their Chinese roommates.

Living Arrangements:

Each Colgate student will be paired with a Chinese roommate at the Yunnan University campus.

Passports and Visas:

You must confirm that your passport is valid through December 2023. With participation on this study group comes the responsibility of understanding and complying with the Chinese government's visa requirements. If you will not be traveling on a U.S. passport it is imperative that you contact an adviser in Off-Campus Study and International Student Services, to learn as much as you can about the visa requirements. For all students there are significant requirements to be met that take time, advance planning, and incur extra costs.

Calendar and Deadline:

The study group application will open on Wednesday, October 6, 2021, and will close on Wednesday, November 3, 2021. All applications are on the Colgate University Off-Campus Study website and are submitted online at offcampusstudy.colgate.edu. Only finalists in the selection process will be interviewed. Interviews will be arranged by e-mail in November/December, and admissions decisions will take place late December/early January.