

# Nanjing University

fall / spring / academic year



asian studies / chinese studies / independent study / internship / mandarin chinese language



## program snapshot

- Intensive language training, small class size, and peer tutor program; Chinese roommates or homestay with a local Chinese family; internships
- Culture courses at intermediate and advanced levels, taught in Chinese; social research projects conducted in Chinese; opportunity for advanced language students to enroll directly in courses at Nanjing University
- One-week module to Southwest China (fall) and Northwest China (spring); visits to memorial museums, temples, and various neighborhoods in Nanjing

## what you'll learn

The goal of the Intensive Chinese Language and Culture program is to increase students' language proficiency and cross-cultural competency through close interaction with community life in Nanjing. This is achieved through an integrated curriculum of intensive Chinese language training, small classes, a unique area studies course taught in Chinese and English, and an oral interview research project with direct guidance from individual language instructors.

## thoughts from abroad

As both an ancient capital and a modern city, Nanjing offers you the unique opportunity to simultaneously experience China's modern development and slow pace of change. The manageable size of the city and its friendly residents contribute to a smooth adjustment for newcomers. The numerous half-day outings and the many day trips to nearby cities, such as Yangzhou, Zhenjiang, and Yixing—or weekend travel alternatives to the Yellow Mountains, Suzhou, Hangzhou, and Shanghai—will satisfy your thirst and curiosity to see more of China.

Nanjing is a place where you can avoid the bustle of rapid modern development. With the cultural mix from both north and south China, you will enjoy the welcoming atmosphere and real Chinese lifestyle in this city. I sincerely invite you to come and see for yourself why Nanjing is considered an ideal place to not only enhance your language skills and gain real opportunities for cultural understanding, but also to perhaps inspire you to have a career related to China!

— Shuxia Tang, Resident Director

### About the Resident Director

Shuxia Tang is a Ph.D. candidate in the area of Applied Linguistics in the Department of Chinese Language and Literature at Nanjing University and an Associate Professor of Chinese at the Institute for International Students at the University. Since 1992, she has taught Chinese to American and European students at Nanjing University, except for a brief period—from 1997 through 1999—when she was a Visiting Lecturer in the Sinology Department at the Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium. In addition to her international experience in Belgium, Tang also brings a unique perspective to her leadership role, having spent her youth in Urumqi, Xinjiang Province, which is located on the Silk Road trade route.

### About Other CIEE Staff

Shen Ping Ping has a B.A. in English from Nanjing University. She joined CIEE full-time in 2006, having been a part-time assistant from 2004 to 2005. With her solid understanding of both Chinese and American cultures, she helps pave the way for a smooth transition from student life in the U.S. to student life in Nanjing.

## about nanjing

Nanjing, the center of the Yangtze Economic Delta, is a two-hour train ride from Shanghai. Nanjing prides itself on maintaining a traditional Chinese city atmosphere, while also welcoming urban development in designated parts. It has tree-lined streets and historic sites from the Three Kingdoms Period, such as the Confucius Temple, the city wall, Dr. Sun Yat-Sen's Mausoleum, and the Nanjing Massacre Museum. Nanjing provides an ideal study environment for students who wish to immerse themselves in Chinese culture.

## academics

### Academic Program

Established in 1982, the CIEE Study Center at Nanjing University focuses on helping students develop Mandarin Chinese communication skills and provides many opportunities for exploring contemporary Chinese society and culture. The program offers an integrated curriculum that links the language classes, the area studies course on contemporary China, a one-week Southwest China module (Northwest China module during the spring semester), and field trips in and around Nanjing. Three-day weekends, a one week mid-semester independent travel break and, for academic year students, a two-month winter break, all provide valuable opportunities for exploring China, reinforcing classroom learning and providing natural settings in which to speak Chinese on a regular basis.

Students with superior writing and speaking skills may be able to enroll in special language coursework at Nanjing University's Institute for International Students, including courses in history, international relations, economics, and literature. Students with near native proficiency in Mandarin should be aware that their language ability may exceed even the most advanced courses offered by the Institute for International Students. If so, they may enroll directly in other courses in political science, Chinese literature, history, social science, or other liberal arts departments at Nanjing University.

### Academic Culture

Students attend morning language classes from Monday through Thursday. The language classes are small, consisting of six to 10 students, so students are encouraged to participate actively. On a weekly basis, students meet with instructors individually for pronunciation correction.

The required CIEE area studies course and related field trips usually take place in the afternoon two or three times a week. The course is divided into two levels, tailored to the student's language ability. Each level comprises a combination of lectures, class discussions, group or individual work on research projects, fieldwork, presentations, reports, and a final paper.

### Nature of Classes

Participants take required language classes and the area studies course with other CIEE students only. Advanced language content courses are taken with other international students at the Institute for International Students, or with Chinese students in other departments.

### CIEE Community Language Commitment

Students take part in the CIEE Community Language Commitment by speaking Chinese during the week (except in emergencies). This fosters a learning community that contributes to both Chinese language proficiency and understanding of Chinese society.

### Grading System

For the area studies course, students are graded on short papers, travel journals, and a research project (including an oral presentation and a final paper), as well as participation and attendance. In language courses, grades are determined by participation, class performance, daily homework and quizzes, and mid-term and final exams.



## where you'll study

Founded in 1902, Nanjing University is one of the most prestigious universities in China and is best known for its liberal arts and social science disciplines. It has established academic cooperation with more than 200 universities and research institutes in approximately 70 countries. It is centrally located in downtown Nanjing on a beautiful campus, and has 40,000 undergraduate and graduate students. The local neighborhood features shops and restaurants from both Asia and the West. The city's two main commercial centers are within walking distance.

## living

### Housing and Meals

Housing is included in the program fee, and students may live in a Nanjing University dormitory or in a homestay.

Students live in Nanjing University's international student dormitory, Zeng Xianzi, in a double room with one Chinese roommate studying in the Chinese department. The Chinese roommates are also CIEE peer tutors. Each room contains a bathroom and small closets. The 12-story Zeng Xianzi building also houses classrooms and administrative and faculty offices. Additional facilities include a library, a basketball court, laundry facilities, small kitchen, and an outdoor fitness field. Private accommodations outside of CIEE housing may not be arranged. Meals are not included in the dormitory option and are the responsibility of the student.

Homestays are also available. Depending on availability, the travel distance to Zeng Xianzi and the language classrooms vary. Most homestays are located within 30 minutes from campus by bus or bike. Homestay families provide breakfast and dinner on weekdays and most weekends. Students should expect to buy their lunch every day, but may be asked to eat lunch with their host families on weekends. A homestay orientation is offered to students prior to moving in with host families.

Housing between the fall and spring semesters is included in the academic year fee. Instead of staying in their original accommodations, students may be moved into single-bed rooms or share a double-bed room with another student. Students remaining in China between semesters may choose to travel during this period to enhance their language fluency and cultural understanding.

## culture

### Cultural Activities and Field Trips

Six trips are integrated into the academic curriculum focusing on topics covered in the language and area studies courses. The city trips include visits to memorial museums, a home for the elderly, a cooking school, and a population management training institute, as well as various neighborhoods, temples, and historical sites around Nanjing. Each semester, Nanjing University sponsors a two-day trip to a nearby city, or to a rural area in Northern Jiangsu Province. Extracurricular classes in Chinese—calligraphy, Taiji, and Chinese painting—are held on weekday afternoons.

### Southwest China Module—Fall

For the fall semester, the program includes a one-week module in Chengdu, Lijiang, and Shangrila. In Chengdu, students visit giant pandas and appreciate Sichuanese teahouse culture. The trip to Lijiang looks at the Naxi

### Online Pre-Departure and On-Site Orientations

Students begin their study abroad experience in Nanjing before even leaving home—by participating in a CIEE Online Pre-Departure Orientation. Meeting with students online, the Resident Director shares information about the program and site, highlighting issues that alumni have said are important, and giving students time to ask any questions before leaving home. The online orientation allows students to connect with others in the group, reflect on what they want to get out of the program, and learn what others in the group would like to accomplish. The CIEE goal for the pre-departure orientation is simple: to help students understand more about the program and site, as well as their goals for the program, so that they arrive to the program well-informed and return home having made significant progress toward their goals.

A mandatory three-day orientation session, conducted at Nanjing University at the beginning of the program, introduces students to the city, the culture, and the academic program, as well as provides practical information about living in Nanjing. A language placement exam also takes place during the orientation period. A weekend field trip and other group activities are also scheduled to enhance group dynamics and introduce students to China through experiential learning. Ongoing support is provided on an individual and group basis throughout the program.

### Internet

Each of the student dormitory rooms has DSL capability. Some, but not all, homestay families have Internet DSL. WiFi is available in and near the CIEE Study Center. Internet access is also available in Internet cafés near the CIEE Study Center. Students are encouraged to bring wireless-enabled laptops.

minority and the living pictograph. And in Shangrila, students see beautiful scenery and learn about local Tibetan culture.

### Northwest China Module—Spring

In the spring semester, students visit the northwest cities of Dunhuang, Turpan, Urumchi, and Kashi, where they receive an understanding of local minority culture, while exploring and experiencing the wonders along the ancient Silk Road.

### Cultural Reimbursement Program

To encourage students to enrich their study abroad experience in Nanjing, CIEE reimburses students for their participation in such cultural activities as attending Chinese film screenings, theater performances, and traditional music concerts, and visiting museums and historic places of interest.

## immersion

### Peer Language Tutors

Program participants are paired with Nanjing University students for weekly one-on-one Chinese language tutorials. These tutorials provide students extra conversation practice in Mandarin. Peer language tutors also help with homework assignments and social research projects, and give CIEE students an opportunity to see firsthand the lifestyle of their Chinese peers.

### Target Language Meals

To encourage students to utilize their Chinese in an informal setting, CIEE plans bimonthly group meals for them to engage with their language teachers, Chinese peer tutors, and roommates. Students attending the optional meals are required to speak only Chinese.

### Community Involvement

Participants are introduced to local NGOs, where they are involved in volunteer activities. Students might work with an environmental protection group, an anti-AIDS organization, or teach English in an elementary school for immigrant laborers' children. These activities give students the opportunity to become more involved in local life and to understand contemporary China in depth, with a broader perspective.

## eligibility

- Overall GPA 2.75
- 2–6\* semesters of college-level Mandarin Chinese or equivalent
- Students with near-native proficiency in Mandarin should contact CIEE prior to submitting their application
- 1 college-level Chinese area studies course recommended

\*Note: Students with more than six semesters of Chinese, or Third Year Chinese, may also be appropriate for this program. These students will likely take all of their coursework outlined in the Nanjing University Institute Courses for International Students course listing. However, depending on their language background, superior language students with near native fluency may not be appropriate for this program. Contact CIEE for more information.

## duration

**Fall**  
16 weeks: late August–mid-December

**Spring**  
16 weeks: early February–early June

**Academic Year**  
44 weeks: late August–early June



## costs

### CIEE Fees

Fall 2009: \$10,750  
Spring 2010: available 8/15/09  
Academic Year 2009–10: \$19,350

The CIEE fees for 2009–10 include an optional on-site airport meet and greet, tuition, full-time program leadership and support, housing, orientation, cultural activities, local excursions, field trips, a one-week module to either Southwest China (fall semester) or Northwest China (spring semester), a comprehensive student handbook, pre-departure advising, visa fees, and a CIEE iNext travel card, which provides insurance and other travel benefits.

### Estimated Additional Costs (Fall 2009)

Transportation (round-trip based on U.S. West Coast departure)	\$ 2,000
Personal Expenses	\$ 2,000
Meals (dormitory option)*	\$ 1,000
Books and Supplies	\$ 100
Local Transportation	\$ 200
<b>Total Estimated Additional Costs</b>	<b>\$ 5,300</b>

\*Students placed in homestays receive breakfast and dinner during the week and most weekends. They should budget an additional \$400 for lunches.

Check our website for current fees.

## coursework

### Program Requirements

A full course load is three courses per semester. All students are required to take Readings in Chinese, Spoken Chinese, and the CIEE area studies course on Contemporary China. The language courses are offered at intermediate, advanced intermediate, and advanced levels. During the spring semester, academic year students are required to continue with each of the language courses.

Superior-level language students who test above the advanced level take all content language coursework at Nanjing University's Institute for International Students or courses at Nanjing University for Chinese students, and the CIEE area studies course.

Academic year students at the advanced level in their second semester may replace the core course with a directed independent study, or directly enroll in one or more courses at Nanjing University in the Institute for International Students.

### Credit

Total recommended credit for the semester is 15 semester/22.5 quarter hours and 30 semester/45 quarter hours for the academic year.

The area studies course contact hours are 45 and recommended credit is 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours per course. Contact hours for each required language course are 120 and recommended credit is 6 semester/9 quarter hours per course. Contact hours and credits for Institute courses are noted in the course listing.

### Languages of Instruction

Mandarin Chinese, English

### Faculty

All Chinese language courses are taught by faculty from the Institute for International Students at Nanjing University who specialize in teaching Chinese to foreign students. The area studies course is taught by Nanjing University faculty and coordinated by faculty members from the Institute for International Students.

## courses

### Required CIEE Language Courses

*The language courses seek to improve students' listening, speaking, reading, and writing abilities by emphasizing the communication and interaction between teachers and students and by providing students adequate opportunities to express themselves in Chinese. The aim of the language courses is to enable students to communicate in a fluent and culturally appropriate manner, as well as prepare them for future study and work in Chinese-related settings. With the help of peer language tutors, students receive individualized attention geared to their specific language learning needs.*

#### CHIN 2001 CNAN—Readings in Chinese, Intermediate

#### CHIN 2002 CNAN—Readings in Chinese, Advanced Intermediate

#### CHIN 3001 CNAN—Readings in Chinese, Advanced

Students are presented with authentic articles derived from Chinese books and periodicals that have been edited to meet the needs of intermediate to advanced students of Chinese language. Weekly readings focus on contemporary topics related to Chinese society and culture, which are concurrently examined in the Contemporary Chinese Studies course. Students are expected to produce written answers to questions, personal and formal letters, and short essays expressing understanding of the topics.

#### CHIN 2003 CNAN—Spoken Chinese, Intermediate

#### CHIN 2004 CNAN—Spoken Chinese, Advanced Intermediate

#### CHIN 3002 CNAN—Spoken Chinese, Advanced

Students are given exercises and activities designed to help them summarize, explain, evaluate, and discuss the weekly topic. Video and audio clips containing dialogues and excerpts from news broadcasts, films, and television programs related to the weekly topic are presented, along with exercises and activities to test and develop the students' oral comprehension. Students learn to present short speeches, participate in structured debates, and engage in conversation about important issues in contemporary Chinese society and culture.

### Required CIEE Area Studies Course

#### EAST 3001 CNAN (fall)

#### EAST 3002 CNAN (spring)

#### Contemporary Chinese Studies I and II

Taught primarily in Chinese, this interdisciplinary course examines the socioeconomic, political, and cultural aspects of contemporary Chinese society. The course centers around a series of lectures given by experts in their respective fields, including history, economics, sociology, and education. Topics and lecturers vary each semester. In addition to a series of course-related field trips, students are required to complete a group or individual research project, create a presentation based upon the research, and deliver their presentation in Chinese. Supported by language faculty, this course is tailored to student language proficiency at two levels—the advanced course exploits lectures and readings in Chinese, while the intermediate course relies more on documentary films and pictures.

Students are also encouraged to explore Chinese perspectives on a variety of subjects. Toward this end, they are required to complete a research project on a topic of their choice, which involves local interviews and participation in field trips. Students can choose their oral interview project from a suggested list after consulting their peers, the course coordinator, and their individual instructor. The list includes such topics as Chinese education, environment and health, gender roles and family relations, globalization and traditional Chinese values, political participation, the role of the Chinese media, the role of religion in peoples' lives, and other relevant issues about modern Chinese society. While students may also propose their own research topics, they must get final approval from the academic coordinator for the course. The individual tutorial component of this course complements the coursework by focusing on each individual student's language needs, reviewing content presented during the course lecture, and structuring components of the final research project and presentation.

#### Southwest China Module in Fall

For the fall semester, the program includes a one-week module in Chengdu, Lijiang, and Shangri-la, in order to give students a firsthand perspective on society and culture in Southwest China. During this week, students attend lectures on such topics as urban history, biodiversity, and ethnic minority studies. A teahouse visit exposes students to tea culture and a tea ceremony performance. In addition, students pay visits to local minority people and learn about their lives.

#### Northwest China Module in Spring

The spring semester includes a one-week module to cities in Northwest China, including Dunhuang, Turpan, Urumchi, and Kashi. Students not only receive an understanding of local minority culture, but they are also given the opportunity to explore and experience the



wonders along the ancient Silk Road. During this week, students visit Mogao Grottoes. This is the most famous site in Dunhuang and contains numerous wall paintings of Buddha art and others that reflect ancient people's lives. They also learn about international exchange in Urumchi, the historical intersection of economy and culture between western and eastern countries. All four cities enjoy a diversity in ethnic culture. Aside from the Han people, inhabitants are from different ethnic groups that include Uighurs, Kazakhs, Hweis, and Mongols.

## Nanjing University Institute Courses—in Chinese

All courses are taught in Chinese and only available to advanced high language students.

### Ancient Chinese Prose/Zhongguo Gudai Sanwen

This course introduces the best written prose from different dynasties of ancient China and cultivates the students' ability to appreciate the beauty of the ancient Chinese language. Contact hours: 56. Recommended credit: 4 semester/6 quarter hours.

### Ancient History of China/Zhongguo Gudai Shi

This course relates to Chinese history from 21st Century B.C. to 1840 A.D., providing an overview of Chinese people in different times and the evolution of Chinese societies. Contact hours: 28. Recommended credit: 2 semester/3 quarter hours.

### Business Chinese/Maoji Hanyu

This course includes the necessary vocabulary and sentence patterns for specific business settings. Through practice in class, students learn proper business communication skills. Recommended credit: 2 semester/3 quarter hours.

### Chinese Grammar/Hanyu Yufa

This course systematically introduces Chinese grammar and explains specific grammar issues for foreign students in detail. Recommended credit: 4 semester/6 quarter hours.

### Chinese History

In addition to giving students a framework of Chinese history from the Xia Dynasty to 1949, this course analyzes important historical events. Recommended credit: 2 semester/3 quarter hours.

### Chinese-Japanese Translation/Han-Ri Fanyi

This course offers essential training on written and oral Chinese-Japanese translation skills, as well as compares different features of Chinese and Japanese language in structures and functions. Recommended credit: 2 semester/3 quarter hours.

### Classical Chinese/Gudai Hanyu

This course trains students to understand classical Chinese by reading excerpts from Chinese classics, such as *The Great Learning/Daxue* and *The Doctrine of the Mean/Zhongyong* with the help of the dictionary. Contact hours: 42. Recommended credit: 2 semester/3 quarter hours.

### Contemporary Chinese Economics/Dangdai Zhongguo Jingji

This course covers both the theoretical framework of Chinese economics, as well as the major issues of economics in today's China, such as government policies, the influences of international relations, and the environment and natural resources. Recommended credit: 2 semester/3 quarter hours.

### Critique Current Events in China/Zhongguo Shishi Pinglun

In addition to helping students view the reports on the most recent happenings in China, in-depth class discussions help students analyze the background of the events and present their own conclusions. Recommended credit: 2 semester/3 quarter hours.

### Evolution of the Chinese Characters/Shiyong Hanzi Xue

This course discusses the structure and formation of 300–400 Chinese characters and offers students a general idea of the relationship between pronunciation or meaning and the structure of Chinese characters. Contact hours: 28. Recommended credit: 2 semester/3 quarter hours.

### History of Chinese Film (Post-1980)/Zhongguo Dianying

This course introduces students to a comprehensive and systematic understanding of Chinese films and Chinese culture with its lectures, in-class detailed watching of representative films, analysis of critical lines, and question and answer sessions. Contact hours: 28. Recommended credit: 2 semester/3 quarter hours.

### History of Diplomatic Relations of China since 1949/Xin Zhongguo Duiwai Guanxi Shi

This course introduces and analyzes the major diplomatic events between China and the international community since the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949. Contact hours: 28. Recommended credit: 2 semester/3 quarter hours.

### History of Modern Chinese Literature/Zhongguo Xiandai Wenxue

This course offers readings representative of Chinese literature between 1917 and 1949. Through lectures and seminars, it enhances students' understanding of the history of modern Chinese literature and its current development. Contact hours: 42. Recommended credit: 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours.

### History of the Republic of China/Zhonghua Minguo Shi

This course covers the history of China between 1912 and 1949, when the Communist Party and the National Party (Kuomintang) fought against each other. Contact hours: 56. Recommended credit: 4 semester/6 quarter hours.

### Modern Chinese History/Zhongguo Jindai Shi

This course introduces the history of China between 1840 and 1911, including Chinese society, the Opening Up Policy and its achievements and lessons, the encounter between China and Western cultures, and the Chinese people's struggles during this period. Contact hours: 28. Recommended credit: 2 semester/3 quarter hours.

### New China International Relations/Xinzhongguo Guoji Guanxi

This course introduces the development of international relations after the foundation of the People's Republic of China. It primarily introduces the development of Chinese foreign policy, the important events and decisions regarding the international relations of the New China, and the foreign policy of several state leaders. Contact hours: 56. Recommended credit: 4 semester/6 quarter hours.

### Online Journalism Readings in Chinese/Hanyu Wangluo Xinwen Yuedu

While providing students with the necessary vocabulary, sentence, and text patterns of reading journalism, this course also trains students on how to utilize the Internet to obtain information quickly. Recommended credit: 2 semester/3 quarter hours.

### Readings in Chinese—Advanced High/Gaoji Hanyu Yuedu

The course enables students to improve their reading ability with increased exposure to articles on heated topics and on Chinese history and culture through teachers' tutoring and in-class discussions. Contact hours: 56. Recommended credit: 4 semester/6 quarter hours.

### Spoken Chinese—Advanced High/Gaoji Hanyu Kouyu

This course assists students in improving their spoken Chinese by reviewing more than 40 articles from newspapers on topics such as women's rights, education in China, the family planning policy, and social customs. Contact hours: 56. Recommended credit: 4 semester/6 quarter hours.

### Tang Poetry Appreciation/Tangshi Xinshang

This course exposes students to important and famous poems in the Tang Dynasty and discusses these poems in terms of their contents, literary form, styles, and interpretation from Confucian, Buddhist, and artistic perspectives. Contact hours: 56. Recommended credit: 4 semester/6 quarter hours.

### Technical Writing and Applied Chinese in Foreign Trade and Economics/Shewai Jingmao Yingyongwen

This course is designed to enhance the ability of students to write business correspondence, contracts, terms of payment, and official receipts. Contact hours: 28. Recommended credit: 2 semester/3 quarter hours.

### Writing in Chinese/Hanyu Xiezu

This course enables students to write letters, analytical essays, speeches, book reports, and movie reviews at an advanced level. Contact hours: 28. Recommended credit: 2 semester/3 quarter hours.

## CIEE Courses for Academic Year Students

Academic year students must choose the Directed Independent Study or any of the available courses for superior language students through the Nanjing University Institute courses for International Students during their second semester, in place of the area studies course.

### INDE 3001 CNAN

#### Directed Independent Study

Academic year students may undertake an independent study during their second semester only. In the last two weeks of their first semester, students must submit a clear statement of purpose, which should include their research proposal, preparation, list of resources, a tentative outline of the final project, and a suggested schedule of progress. Students are linked with faculty and local experts that match their particular interests. Contact hours: 45. Recommended credit: 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours.



### a student's story

One of the things that I was most excited about with the CIEE Study Center program in Nanjing was living with Chinese roommates. But, it was also the thing that I feared most. The prospect of living with a Chinese person was terrifying. What if we didn't get along? What if we couldn't understand each other?

Then the day finally came. I was bustling about the room, rearranging the furniture, and cleaning frantically when my roommate knocked on the door. I was so nervous I forgot all of the Chinese I knew, and what I did say was just wrong. Great, I thought, good start to this relationship.

We went out to dinner together to break the ice, so to speak, and ever since, there has not been a cold moment in the relationship between my roommate and me. It started that very first night when she went through two of my essays word by word, and helped to correct them. Her English was not that great, and clearly my Chinese was lacking, so for the first month we carried our dictionaries around just so that we could communicate. She taught me how to play Majiang and other Chinese games. We ate all of our meals together and at night, we would stay up late talking and gossiping about anything and everything.

Because our relationship is so close, she invited me to spend Chinese New Year, the most important holiday in China, with her and her family. Talk about a once-in-a-lifetime experience! The minute I stepped off the train in her hometown, I became part of her family. I was the American aunt to the younger kids, and the little sister to the older cousins. Her aunts treated me like I was one of their own children. On New Year's, they even let me help pack the dumplings, one of the most important things on that day. Even though in a different country and celebrating a new holiday, I had never felt so comfortable and at home.

Living with a Chinese roommate has been the most rewarding experience I have had since I came to China. My roommate has not just been a teacher to me, but has become my best friend, my confidante, and like a sister to me. She is the reason that my Chinese is where it is today and has opened my eyes to aspects of Chinese culture that I would not have imagined. I am forever indebted to her and hope that one day in the future I can do the same for her.

— Brittany Smith, University of Colorado at Boulder