There is no mistaking Shanghai's skyline. From the soaring Oriental Pearl Tower to the sweeping Bund across the Huangpu River, Shanghai shimmers with possibility. We invite you to experience first-hand all that this exciting city has to offer.

Shanghai is an economic and cultural hub of more than 22 million people. You will learn and communicate in Mandarin and English, while studying the diversity and impact that international influences from all over the globe have on Chinese culture. Witness how globalization affects Shanghai and develop a greater understanding of how China's influence is increasingly affecting the world.

You have the opportunity to study on the campus of Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU), which is consistently ranked as one of the top five universities in China. SJTU is known for its academic rigor across more than 30 departments. You will take IES Abroad-taught courses in English on the Xihui campus in subjects such as International Business and Relations, Political Science, Urban Studies, and more. You can also enroll in one English-taught course at Fudan University, one of the best universities in China.

Shanghai will be your classroom. Discover the eclectic mix of Eastern and Western influences in the city’s architecture. Explore the Yuyuan Gardens in the Old City to get a sense of Shanghai’s past. Drink at one of the city’s many tea houses. Comparative course-related excursions to Hong Kong (fall) and Tokyo or Singapore (spring) put the city’s powerful global and historical influence into context.

We want you to feel at home in China, so we do everything we can to help you integrate into life in Shanghai. From relevant coursework to unique course-related excursions—including visits to businesses, NGOs, and research institutions—we help you explore Shanghai in its local, regional, and global contexts. As China’s financial powerhouse, Shanghai provides an environment for learning not only about China, but also about Asia and the world at large. You can also add international work experience to your résumé while earning credit by participating in an internship placement.
Student Life

Part of making you feel at home in Shanghai is doing our best to help you feel safe and cared for. Whether it’s the orientation program that prepares you for what’s ahead, your housing that is well-located and comfortable, or a field trip that takes you to places that enrich your cultural and academic learning—we’re all about our student services.

Orientation

The program begins with a specially designed, five-day orientation introducing you to the IES Abroad staff, your fellow students, health and safety procedures, the current social and political conditions in China, the expectations of you as a student in a Chinese institution, and the city of Shanghai.

CORE™, IES Abroad’s Comprehensive Orientation and Re-entry Experience, includes detailed information on academics, housing, transportation, cultural adjustment, health and safety, and other important topics.

Classroom sessions are combined with several ventures into the city, such as a scavenger hunt, designed to help you feel at home in your new environment. Practical Chinese lessons are combined with activities designed to help you learn your way around campus and how to use key facilities. Additional cross-cultural and re-entry information and support is provided throughout the semester.

You also take a field trip to either Zhouzhuang (“Water Town”) or Tongli as part of your orientation, which is included in your program fee.

Housing & Meals

Student Apartments – Live in an apartment with other IES Abroad students at the modern New Harbor Service Apartments (where the IES Abroad Shanghai Center is located). It is five subway stops from the main campus of Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

A standard, fully furnished apartment has two or three bedrooms with one or two bathrooms and a kitchen. You may share a double bedroom with another IES Abroad student or have a single room.

This option does not include a meal plan, but you can cook for yourself, eat in a campus cafeteria, or at nearby restaurants.

Homestays – Homestays offer the ideal environment for learning about China and improving your Chinese. While living in a local home may require an initial adjustment period, our Chinese homestay families are eager to get to know you and share their ideas, language, and culture.

You have a private bedroom and are provided two meals a day by your host family (breakfast and dinner) seven days a week while the program is in session. Homestay opportunities are very limited, and have an additional cost.

As a student, studying abroad made me more independent and confident in myself. As an American, it made me very appreciative of the opportunities I have had and my lifestyle at home, but it also opened my eyes to other great cultures.

SARAH H. | UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN - ANN ARBOR
Excursions

Even though your adventure starts in Shanghai, our field trips and excursions take you beyond the city to discover the culture and traditions of your host country. The cost of this extended trip is included in the program fee.

Orientation trips to Zhouzhuang or Tongli are included in the program fee, with the exception of personal expenses.

You also have classes Monday through Thursday, which allow for weekends to make plans to travel independently to other cities in China.

COURSE-RELATED EXCURSIONS

1. HONG KONG
   5-7 DAYS | FALL
   Visit local sites such as the Hong Kong Museum of History, the famed Night Market, and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and Legislative Council. Trek around Lamma Island, famous for its seafood and enormous Buddha, and learn about U.S. business in Southeast Asia and religion in Hong Kong from local business leaders and professors.

2. TOKYO OR SINGAPORE
   5-7 DAYS | SPRING
   Visit one of these Asian destinations, with their bustling streets and impressive high rises. While in picturesque Japan, your Tokyo trip will include visits to businesses, a factory tour, a visit to the Imperial Palace, and lectures on Japanese business and Japanese international relations.

   In the city-state of Singapore, your visits will be to a local school, historic sites, and government agencies. You will interact with Singapore Management University students and attend a short lecture series covering topics such as business leadership and global economy. You will also have some free time to explore.

POSSIBLE ORIENTATION TRIPS

ZHOUZHUANG
Marvel at the sights of this ancient town flowing with lakes and rivers. Nine hundred years of history can be seen by admiring houses built during the Ming and Qing dynasties, complete with courtyards.

TONGLI
Explore the town often referred to as “Chinese Venice,” where 15 small, crisscrossing river lanes are spanned by nearly 50 bridges. These bridges are regarded as sacred architecture by the local people.

OPTIONAL FIELD TRIP

TIBET
8-10 DAYS
An optional trip to Tibet is offered to all Shanghai students before the fall semester. No academic credit is awarded for this trip.

For the optional Tibet trip, you travel to Lhasa, learn about Tibetan Buddhism, hike high mountain passes, and visit the Jokhang Temple and various monasteries, including the Sera Monastery to observe a debate ritual. Lodging is provided either in local hostels or camping. Most meals and all local transportation are provided as part of the additional cost.

Learn more at www.IESabroad.org/shanghai.

Note: The destination of this optional pre-semester trip is subject to change or cancellation at any time. You are fully responsible for all costs associated with this optional trip.

IES Abroad field trip destinations, activities, and lengths of stay may vary according to term and availability. See www.IESabroad.org/shanghai for details.