Ricci Seminar Beijing Syllabus UNIV 302

Accreditation through Loyola University Chicago

Please Note: This is a sample syllabus, subject to change. Students will receive the updated syllabus and textbook list prior to the start of each semester.

Course Number: UNIV 302

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Course Description

This seminar is for the Ricci scholars to conduct the Beijing portion of their Italy/China research. This seminar is the second part of a year-long project to learn cross-cultural skills and conduct research in a foreign country. In Beijing, the focus will be on learning to interact in China, developing sources, and writing up the results. Each student will be assigned a mentor for help in the specific fields being researched. In addition, each student will receive a class schedule with readings, presentations, and other details. Each student will present research proposals at the start of the term, which will be refined through assignments during the term, such as an annotated bibliography, an action plan, and an oral presentation. A final paper of at least 15 double-spaced pages culminates the semester.

Course Outcomes

Knowledge: Students will learn to adapt to research in China and how to overcome the numerous unexpected obstacles that they will face. They will reinforce their writing ability by following their projects through the stages of prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing. Ultimately they will learn to produce original research and situate it in a scholarly context.

Skills: Students will be introduced to basic and advanced perspectives and techniques in Chinese studies. By the end of the course they will have obtained in-depth knowledge of a
particular aspect of Chinese culture and be prepared to think comparatively about their subject.

**Academic Honesty Statement**

Please see the following link, and read the text carefully:

http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicintegrity.shtml

**Assessment**

Initial research proposal: no grade

Mid-semester research plan/outline, including annotated bibliography: 35%

Oral presentation: 20%

Class participation: 10%

Final paper: 35%

**Readings**

**Required Text:**

Prior to arrival the students will have read *The Gate of Heavenly Peace* by Jonathan Spence, which provides a lively and compact overview of Chinese history in the 20th century. During the first three sessions we will discuss this book.

**Class Schedule**

**Week 1:**

Discuss individual projects, research methods, preparatory work that has been done and that needs to be done.

Discuss Spence

**Week 2:**

Spence

Refine proposals and research plans.

**Week 3:**

Action plans are due. This is a one-page, single-spaced description of people and sources that will be consulted during the next two months.

Discuss Spence

Guest lecture by Andrew Batson of Dragonomics on accessing Chinese statistics, data.
Week 4:
Guest lecture, Charles Hutzler, Wall Street Journal, on researching skills in China

Week 5:
Open Class

Week 6:
Possible visit to Forbidden City to see where Matteo Ricci worked. This will be a behind-the-scenes visit with a discussion of his life, relevance.

Week 7:
Mid-term. This will consist of a revised proposal with annotated bibliography, as well as a two-page (single-spaced) narrative of your progress and problems, as well as thoughts on how your project is shifting.
Deadline for oral Presentations

Week 8:
SPRING BREAK

Week 9:
Visit to Matteo Ricci's grave to sweep his tomb. (This class coincides with the Chinese Tomb-Sweeping Festival.)

Week 10:
Oral Presentation to fellow Riccites, TBC staff, mentors, and selected guests.

Week 11:
Discuss outcome of oral presentations, final tweaks.

Week 12:
Cutoff for looking at rough drafts. Discussion of any final problems.

Week 13:
Final papers due.