China Study Abroad Summer Program
Hosting University: Renmin University of China, Beijing, China

For social work undergraduate and graduate students, and for upper division undergraduate and graduate students in other fields.

Dates: May 10 - June 1, 2011
1) Online study, in US, May 10 - May 17, 2011 (orientation and preparatory study)
2) In-country instruction, in China, May 18 - June 1, 2011

Course Hours: This course utilizes a combination of online study and two-week in-country instruction for a 3-hour credit course.

Course Description: The aims of the course are to introduce students to the social welfare system in China, including the growing field of social work practice, and to examine social welfare issues and challenges China is now facing in response to its rapid economic development, strict one-child policy, and other issues. Of particular interest is how China is transforming its social welfare system since the initiation of economic reform in 1987 and whether the current system effectively responds to the needs of its vulnerable populations. Students will explore comparative perspectives on social welfare policies and social work practice between China and the United States, drawing on the academic literature, research initiatives, and site visits to various organizations and agencies.

Course Format: This course will go online for pre-departure orientation and readings on May 10 with in-country sessions beginning May 18. Therefore, students should arrive in Beijing, China on Wednesday, May 18. The in-country instruction will be based in Renmin University of China, Beijing, China. Students will stay in nearby hotel with classes in the morning and field visits in the afternoon to national and local social welfare departments and social work agencies. China social work educators, researchers, and practitioners will join us for both didactic and field experiences.

Program Estimated Costs: The cost of this trip, not including airfare will be approximately $2,000. This includes tuition for three credits, in-country hotel accommodations, cultural visits (Great Wall, Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, Temple of Heaven, Beihai Park, Summer palace, and more), and at least one traditional dinner (Beijing Roast Duck).

Program Leader: Chien-Chung Huang, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Rutgers School of Social Work. Please email Dr. Huang at huangc@rci.rutgers.edu with questions.

Hosting University: Renmin University of China, Beijing, China
<english.ruc.edu.cn/en>

Hotel: Beijing Friendship Hotel or similar accommodation
<bjfriendshiphotel.com/english>

Additional Information: Rutgers Study Abroad <studyabroad.rutgers.edu>