China 2019: Chinese Culture and Child Development
June 6 – 23, 2019 *

The goal of this summer study abroad trip is to present students with an educational opportunity that combines a cross-cultural immersion covering three areas of China – Beijing, Henan Province, and Shanghai – with an intensive service experience in the rural village of Qingyundian Township, located in the Daxing District of Beijing, China. Planned activities will provide students firsthand knowledge of living conditions, cultural norms, and needs of people in a small disadvantaged village, and its contrast to the large, urban environments of Beijing and Shanghai, as well as university student life in a small city (Xinzheng) and rural life in the Henan Province. The trip will offer students the opportunity to experience Chinese culture and customs, exploring sites from ancient and imperial China to the rapidly-changing, 21st century China.

- **Earn service credit hours**
- **Open to students from any major**

Tentative price range: $6,200 - Includes 7 credit hours tuition plus airfare, Chinese entrance visa (valid 10 years), lodging, 3 meals per day in China, ground transportation and all excursions.

Courses Included:

- PSYC480/ASIA480: Child Development Issues in China and the U.S. (3) *(Dr. J. Hammond)*
- ANTH/ASIA 337: Contemporary Chinese Culture & Society (3) *(Dr. Murl Dirksen)*
- GNST 251: Cross-Cultural Experience (1) *(Vanessa Hammond)*

The psychology course will acquaint the student with the issues and challenges related to child development in the U.S. and China, especially in resource-poor environments, in regard to the care of orphaned children with special medical needs or disabilities, and in the educational system. The anthropology course will focus on changes in contemporary Chinese culture and society, including history and memories of revolutions, market forces and work, family and marriage, family planning and child rearing, public and private life, migration and ethnicity, religions and rituals, gender and sexuality, as well as environmental politics and globalization. The trip will also provide students with direct exposure to Chinese food and art.

Students will begin in Beijing where they will stay for one week. The study, volunteer work, and living accommodations will occur at New Day Foster Home (www.newdaycreations.com/foster) in Qingyundian. Students will serve alongside local Chinese staff and under the supervision of the foreign staff of New Day, as they run a foster home for orphans with special needs and provide a variety of educational services to the local community. Students and faculty will live in a traditional Chinese-style courtyard home within the safety of the New Day compound. Students will eat most meals (all traditional Chinese food) in the dining room, which they will share with other volunteers who are living at New Day.

On the first weekend, students will participate in guided tours of some of the major historical and cultural sites in and around Beijing: Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, Temple of Heaven, Chinese acrobat show and traditional roast duck dinner. They will experience bargaining at the Hongchow Craft and Pearl Market, and they will attend the Beijing International Fellowship, a government-sanctioned Christian church service for foreigners.

A key feature of this trip is the service-learning focus, and all participants will receive at least 10 service hours credit from the Leonard Center. Lee students will volunteer for 4 days (6-7 hours/day) at the New Day Foster Home for orphans with physical disabilities and their

community outreaches at a local middle school and community preschool. These volunteer placements will supply the intensive experiential learning components of the psychology course. In the FH, students will play with children and help nannies with daily needs and developmental activities, as well as assisting in the Foster Home preschool. In the community preschool and middle school, students will serve as teaching assistants and English conversation partners and will assist with enrichment activities for a homeschool community group.

After one week, students will travel by high-speed train to Zhengzhou in the Henan Province and on to Xinzheng to Sias University, the host school for the remainder of the trip. For two days, students will take day trips to Kaifeng, including a bicycle ride through rural farms and villages, lunch at a local farmer's house, and a visit to the Shaolin Temple. Students will also visit an orphanage in Xinmi City that will provide a different perspective from the Foster Home on orphan care in the country. Lee students will take classes for three days from qualified Chinese professors at Sias University, covering topics from Chinese language, religion and philosophy, to the economy, music, art, and kung fu. Each Lee University student will be paired with a Sias University student for conversation and cultural exchange.

The last two days will be spent in Shanghai where students can compare Old China in Beijing and New China in Shanghai. They will have an opportunity to view the Shanghai skyline on a night cruise, shop at the Pearl Factory and visit the landmark oriental Pearl Tower.

Through all of these experiences and activities, students will observe the impact of rapid economic and social change on children, families and communities in China, and they will discuss topics such as the consequences of the "one-child" policy, the rise of a largely migrant work force, and the pressures on young college students as they pursue their education and economic opportunities.

Pre-Trip Schedule:

Group meeting/meal in December
Class sessions or meetings once per month in February, March, and April
Class sessions June 3 – 5, prior to departure.

Trip Leaders:

Dr. Jerome Hammond	jhammond@leeuniversity.edu	HAB201	423-614-8310
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** Dates tentative and subject to change by one day within this timeframe based on flight schedules.*