

FEB 06 2009

DHV

## International Program/ Exchange Evaluation Report

Name:

Location : IUP Beijing, Beijing, PRC

Term: Summer 2008

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email:

### 1. Arrival Overseas/ On-sight orientation:

a. Foreign dormitories are livable, clean but very small. An apartment would be much more comfortable, but it is a bit of a hassle.

b. There is no need to arrive more than 1 day early for IUP Beijing, the first week is just orientation, testing, and a couple of student mixers. The Orientation is conducted in Mandarin, and includes an introduction to IUP, and a tour of Qinghua University's campus. Testing that week is fairly intense, equivalent to taking levels 5-8 of the HSK intermediate.

### 2. Academics:

-classroom structure: for three of the classes, there is one teacher per class, and you are paired with 2 students equivalent to your level, very professional, each section is fifty minutes. The fourth class is a one on one private tutoring session, also 50 minutes.

-Instruction, teachers are better than any at the UW, probably some of the best in the World. They can be a little too nice, tell them at the beginning of the term that you are comfortable with them constantly interrupting you to correct tones and pronunciation, if you do this you will be as fluent as a native speaker within one semester. Otherwise they will mainly focus on grammar, and while intense, results will not be as quick.

- Teacher/Student relations, Teachers are highly educated sometimes graduate, but normally doctorate holders and students. They are very intelligent and because of the small class sizes they become very close to their students. You will inevitably interact with them socially, and the line between student/teacher and private life does become blurred. Mainly because of discussions, that take place in order to make sure of fluency.

-Grading/exams: Strict grading policies, if you work hard you will get a 3.8-4.0. If you get in to IUP, you are already the best the nation has to offer, and the Program is the best in China, improvement and good grades are guaranteed.

-administration: not applicable

-: All facilities are modern and clean

b. see above

c. not applicable

d. Because of the high level of fluency expected at IUP, credits may not transfer as you want. For example, you may and will have taken through third year Chinese at the UW before attending this program. The first four courses will probably transfer over as third year Chinese, since that's what IUP calls it, though this bar is higher than any American university.

### 3. Housing:

a. apartments, homstays and dorms are normally available.

b. I chose dorms, because it was the only option available to me because of the Olympics.

c. An apartment at all cost.

4. Program Exchange Sight: University on the grounds of an Imperial Garden from the Qing Dynasty. Cooperate headquarters such as Microsoft and google litteraly just outside the south gate.

5. Health and Safety: It is the most polluted city in the world, emergency systems, hospitals and police force not yet up to western standards. Water is not drikable, even the homeless drink bottled water. After your second month your lungs will get sick, don't worry your just adjusting to the pollution. Me docter said that a day in Beijing is equivalent to smoking a pack of cigarettes to your lungs.

6 Cultural Aspects: Beijing is the center of Chinese popular and traditional culture. It is grat to become a part of.

7. Financial: Credit Card and Travelers Checks are best.

8: Berkeley's study abroad administration is both polite and helpful. Karen Chang, the secretary even went especially out of here way to file passport paperwork at the Chinese Consolate for me.

9: Student Type: 40% of the people attending are notable professionals, or Professors. Of the students that attended summer quarter 70% were graduate students. And everyone except me and one other student from the UW was from Ivy League Schools, or notable institutions like Berkeley.

10. Good but highly busy