

North Central College
Cardinal Destination Course Abroad
(May Term)

CHINA

The Silk Road: China and the West

TENTATIVE DATES

May 8-20, 2023

Led by Prof. Yadong Ji

CARD*261*1

Course Description

This course prepares you with basic knowledge about China. We will explore the history of the Silk Road as an introduction to Chinese traditions, religions, cultures, and customs. The Silk Road will be both the area we travel to and the metaphor for our understanding of China. We will be particularly attentive to the ways Chinese care for themselves through specific cultural formations such as tea drinking, tai chi, yoga, religious observance, and musical and dance performances. We will participate in some daily rituals of Chinese life, including shopping in open markets, going to art shows, and taking meals together in public. Students will travel to Beijing, Xi'an, Luoyang and Shanghai and understand how globalization today compares to globalization over thousands of years along the oldest trade routes in the world. Students will apply intercultural communication theory and learn about the variety of influences on Chinese culture from outside "the Middle Kingdom" but also understand China today through observation, interaction, and essential readings in the history and contemporary life of the country.

Itinerary Highlights

- Learn the history of China's empires on a walk along the Great Wall
- Explore the former home of the Emperors in the Forbidden City
- Visit the Eighth World Wonder "Terra-Cotta Warriors" in Xian City
- Wander the Longmen Grottoes representing the high point of Chinese stone carving



**NORTH CENTRAL
COLLEGE 1861**

CARDINAL DESTINATION COURSE ABROAD (MAY TERM)

A Cardinal Destination Course Abroad (CDCA) is a short-term, faculty-led, group international travel course that takes place in May Term and has a linked prerequisite course in the preceding spring semester.

ENROLLMENT STEPS (To participate in a CDCA, you must enroll in and successfully complete its prerequisite course.)

1. Contact your academic advisor to understand how enrollment in the CDCA and linked prerequisite spring semester course will affect your academic plan.
2. Register ON MERLIN for the linked spring semester course, CARD*260*1 (2 credits).
3. Register ON MERLIN for the May Term course abroad (summer session), CARD*261*1 (1 credit).

Enrollment Deadline: **November 1, 2022** (or before, if course capacity is met).

CENTER FOR GLOBAL EDUCATION (CGE) REGISTRATION

- **November 1, 2022:** Students enrolled in a CDCA will begin the registration process, be charged a non-refundable \$40 registration fee, and prompted to pay the non-refundable \$500 program fee deposit, through the Center for Global Education.
- **January 15, 2023:** Proof of a valid passport is due. (Current passports must be valid through November 2023 for May term travel, six (6) months past your return travel date.)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Course and Itinerary Questions

- Professor Yadong Ji, Assistant Professor of Communication; yji@noctrl.edu, 630.637.5374

General CDCA Questions

- Kimberly Larsson, Executive Director, CGE
kmlarsson@noctrl.edu, 630.637.5289
- Rachel Birkley, Coordinator, Education Abroad, CGE
rebirkley@noctrl.edu, 630.637.5899

ESTIMATED COST & PAYMENTS

\$3590-\$4,090 based on 15 enrolled students

- Airfare & host country transportation estimate: \$2,490
- Program fee estimate: \$1,100-\$1,600
- **NOT INCLUDED:** Meals not listed on itinerary (most meals are included), optional entertainment and excursions, excess baggage charges, personal items (telephone charges, laundry fees, room service, souvenirs, etc.), departure taxes (except U.S.), passport fees

CDCA TUITION

- All May Term CDCAs are worth one (1) academic credit.
- The one (1) credit tuition fee for a May Term CDCA is offset by a financial aid credit for any student enrolled full-time at North Central College during the 2023 Spring Semester.
- Contact the Office of Financial Aid *in the fall semester* to inquire about financial aid options for May term courses abroad.

PROGRAM FEE

- **November 1-15, 2022:** \$500 non-refundable deposit due to North Central College
- **March 1, 2023:** Program fee balance billed to your student account

AIRFARE

- **December 1-15, 2022:** \$500 non-refundable airfare deposit billed to your student account
- **January-March 2023:** Balance of airfare billed to your student account

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

- Refund schedules for airfare depend on individual airlines; faculty leaders will inform all participants of the relevant deadlines and policies.
- If an enrolled student withdraws from the CDCA before **March 1, 2023**, then 50% of the remaining balance of the program fee will be billed to the student account if costs have been incurred by the College.
- If an enrolled student withdraws from the CDCA **after March 1, 2023**, then 100% of the program fee is forfeited.
- Withdrawing from a CDCA **does not** withdraw you from the linked spring semester course.
- If you withdraw from the linked spring semester course, you will be withdrawn from the CDCA and you will be responsible for any associated fees (airline or program fees) as outlined in the Cancellation and Refund Policy above.
- If you **fail** the linked spring semester course, you will be withdrawn from the CDCA and responsible for any associated fees (airline or program fees) as outlined in the Cancellation and Refund Policy above.
- **Successful completion of the spring semester linked course is REQUIRED** for participation in the May Term international travel section.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- All CDCA participants **must** be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. No exemptions will be permitted.
- North Central College provides all students enrolled in a CDCA a primary emergency medical insurance policy for the course dates abroad.
- Every student participant is required to abide by the College policies as outlined in the North Central College Student Handbook and by the expectations outlined in the course syllabus. If, in the judgement of a faculty/staff leader, a student has violated the course expectations or College policy as stated in the Student Handbook, the student may be sent home at his/her own expense. In such circumstances, a student's parents/guardians may also be notified and additional disciplinary action may be taken by the College upon the student's return to the United States.
- All CDCA enrolled students will be required to attend a pre-departure information session.