




China & Japan 2027

CARDINAL DESTINATION COURSE ABROAD

From Imperial Capitals to Global Innovation in Beijing and Tokyo Today: Food, Technology, and Pop Culture in China and Japan

 Jinai Sun & Julie Nagashima

 May 11-24, 2027

 China: Beijing and Tianjin & Japan: Tokyo and Kyoto

ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS

- Stand atop the Great Wall of China
- Explore the Forbidden City & Tiananmen Square
- Ride a rickshaw through Beijing's historic alleyways
- Explore Beijing's roast duck banquet to Japan's Tokyo street foods
- Experience the thrill of the world's high-speed bullet train
- Visit historic temples and shrines
- Experience Harajuku and Shibuya's pop culture scene
- Design your own instant ramen cup at Cup Noodles Museum

ACCOMMODATION DETAILS

- Various hotels

CARD*260*BL6

*This course can also be substituted for CHST*264 credit. See faculty leader for details.*

Course Description:

Step into two of Asia's most iconic capitals - Beijing and Tokyo where imperial legacies meet world-leading innovation. Once the power centers of great civilizations, these cities have transformed into influential global hubs shaping politics, culture, technology, and everyday life across East Asia and beyond. In this place-based course, students will explore how tradition, creativity, and modern city life collide - through street food and local neighborhoods, pop culture and media, and the rhythms of daily life that make each city unique. From historic landmarks to contemporary trends, students will gain a deeper understanding of how these cities shape and are shaped by the world around them.



Enrollment Steps:

To participate in a Cardinal Destination Course Abroad (CDCA), you must enroll in and successfully complete its prerequisite work.

- Contact your student success coach to understand how enrollment in the CDCA will affect your academic plan.
- Register ON MERLIN for the correlating 2-credit CARD*260 course on Merlin in the spring 2027 semester (designated course section listed on the flipside of this flyer). This course encompasses both the required prerequisite work and the travel component in May.

Enrollment Deadline: November 1, 2026

(or before, if course capacity is met)

Center for Global Education (CGE) Registration:

- **November 1, 2026:** 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 29, 2027:** Proof of a valid passport is due. *(Current passports must be valid through November 2027 for May term travel, six (6) months past your return travel date.)*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Course and Itinerary Questions

Jinai Sun | Professor of Chinese

✉ jsun@noctrl.edu

Julie Nagashima | Assistant Professor of Ethical Leadership

✉ jnagashima@noctrl.edu

General CDCA Questions

Kimberly Larsson | Executive Director, CGE

☎ 630-637-5289 ✉ kmlarsson@noctrl.edu

Rachel Birkley | Associate Director, Study Abroad, CGE

☎ 630-637-5899 ✉ rebirkley@noctrl.edu



**NORTH CENTRAL
COLLEGE 1861**
NAPERVILLE'S UNIVERSITY™

ESTIMATED COST & PAYMENTS

\$3,980-\$4,480 based on 12 enrolled students

PRICE BREAK DOWN INCLUDES:

- Airfare & host country transportation estimate: \$2,200
- Program fee estimate: \$1,780 - \$2,280

NOT INCLUDED:

- Meals on free days
- Optional entertainment and excursions
- Excess baggage charges
- Personal items (telephone charges, laundry fees room service, souvenirs, etc.)
- Departure taxes (except U.S.)
- Passport fees

Payment Deadlines:

- **December 11, 2026:**
\$500 non-refundable program fee deposit due to North Central College
- **January 29, 2027:**
\$500 non-refundable airfare deposit due to North Central College
- **April 2027:**
Remaining program fee balance (including airfare) will be billed to your NC Student Account

CDCA Tuition

- All CDCA experiences are worth 2-credits, which fall under the spring semester.
- All participating students will be registered in a 0-credit course in summer session for administrative purposes only. There is no summer tuition course fee.
- Contact the Office of Financial Aid during the fall semester to inquire about financial aid options for Cardinal Destination Courses Abroad.

LEARN MORE

