Globalisation and business study tour

» Shanghai

Celebrating 12 years of collaboration and success.
The China study tour is a collaboration between the Shanghai Institute of Foreign Trade (SIFT), Fudan University and RMIT’s College of Business.

Objectives
You will be introduced to a range of issues related to the topic of business globalisation within a Chinese context. Advances in transportation, technology and communication have dramatically increased the level of global interaction in China. As a result many issues pertaining to technology, culture, politics, economics, ethics, human resource management and the environment are analysed from a broader global perspective in the beginning and then a narrower regional and Chinese perspective later in the course.

You will have the opportunity to work in multi- and cross-disciplinary teams, and benefit from exposure to the ideas, knowledge and skills of peers from other disciplines, programs and year-levels.

Academic content
The China study tour program gives you the opportunity to undertake a 24 credit point course (two general electives) as part of your degree, with a focus on business globalisation and the future of business in China. You enrol in either ISYS2382 or ISYS2383 Business Globalisation—A Study Tour (China).

Before departure there are a number of intensive weekend workshops exploring cross-cultural issues associated with engaging in business across the globe.

Assessment tasks will vary for undergraduate and postgraduate students and may include a major research paper, a case study/business plan and a reflective journal. No assessment is due while in China.

Itinerary
Information about joining the study tour group in China will be provided at pre-departure briefings.

During the two-week intensive study period in Shanghai, you will be involved in:
» Lectures by SIFT and Fudan University professors
» Site visits and briefings by organisations such as General Motors—Shanghai, Shanghai Stock Exchange, Austrade, BAO Steel, Shanghai Waigaoqiao Free Trade Zone
» Historical and cultural tours of Shanghai

Optional three-day visit to Beijing to see the Great Wall of China, the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square and the Olympic Village of the 2008 summer Olympics.

There will also be time to explore the local area including the Jade Buddha Temple, The Bund, Pearl Tower, Pudong Financial District, exotic Chinese restaurants and the Shanghai markets.

www.rmit.edu.au
Classes
Classes in China start Saturday 23 November and conclude on Saturday 7 December 2013. In addition, an optional pre-tour to Hong Kong is available from Tuesday 19 November to Friday 22 November.

The Hong Kong pre-tour comprises a City tour, as well as visits to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and to Australian – Hong Kong companies who operate in Hong Kong and surrounds. The Hong Kong tour will only proceed with a minimum of 20 students.

Additional travel
There will also be an opportunity to undertake additional sightseeing. Prior to and upon completion of studies, you will be free to travel around the world. Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia or Cambodia are all on your doorstep—why not visit?

Cost
The cost of the Shanghai study tour is approximately AU$3500 and includes airfares, taxes, insurance, accommodation and visa fees. Expenses including meals are the responsibility of the student. Further information about costs will be available at information sessions. Students will pay the standard tuition fees associated with studying the equivalent of two RMIT general elective courses. In addition, there is an authorised materials fee associated with the tour.

If you are formally accepted into the tour, withdrawal after 30 September 2013 will result in $350 not being refundable.

Eligibility
The tour is open to undergraduate and postgraduate students studying an RMIT University program.

How to apply
An application form is available from the RMIT Business study tour website.

www.rmit.edu.au/bus/studytours

Closing date
Your application form must be completed and returned by Monday 3 June 2013 (first round) or Friday 30 August 2013 (second round). Early application is advised.

TESTIMONIAL
‘The highlight of the Master of Commerce was without doubt the China study tour. The program, based in Shanghai, was professionally run and insightful. Everything was planned well, from small details like taxi directions to the hotel and to transfers the field trips. The accommodation was surprisingly inexpensive with all the facilities one would need for a program like this. The location was convenient with shopping and amenities close by.

‘The tour allowed us to witness the dynamic economy of China first hand whilst learning the business culture and etiquette needed to succeed in the region. The field trips were both insightful and informative giving us a firsthand look into real businesses in China.

‘The lectures at both Universities we attended were professionally delivered and the topics were relevant to the modern day business environment. The ability to form new friendships with fellow students is an added benefit of the study tour format.

The course workload was not onerous and allowed me to reflect on what I had learnt. The graduation ceremonies were a great end to what I consider a fantastic program run by professionals who care about their students.

‘The practical experience and professional organisation of the China tour has benefited me in my professional career and I would highly recommend it to any student looking for an engaging, hands on program that will benefit you when doing business in China.’

John Startari
MBA Executive/Master of Commerce