CHINA: FRONTIERS IN BIOTECHNOLOGY

Maymester Study Abroad Program:
May 10 – 25, 2016

SPONSORED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

THE PROGRAM

Frontiers in Biotechnology is a Maymester course offered by the Biology Department focused on (a) bioconversion and synthetic biology and (b) the culture of China. Bioconversion refers to bio-based processes that convert materials such as agricultural waste into biofuels, pharmaceuticals and other chemicals. Synthetic biology is an approach to engineering cells to make “cell factories.” Together, bioconversion and synthetic biology are part of a green approach to building an ecologically sustainable society. A feature of the course is collaborative learning with undergraduates from the School of Life Science and engineering, Southwest Jiaotong University (SWJTU), an internationally recognized university in Chengdu, China focused on engineering and technology. Georgia State students and SWJTU students will work and learn together as study partners throughout the Frontiers in Biotechnology course.

Chengdu is a dynamic city in Sichuan Province in southwestern China. It captures the feel of modern China but also maintains a connection to ancient China, with beautiful temples, teahouses and historic sites. The city is in a valley in close proximity to diverse ecological sites, including the Chengdu research Base of Giant Panda Breeding. Our course will be an enriching mix of science, cultural exchange and tourism.

ACCOMMODATIONS

We will stay in the international student dormitory on SWJTU’s new campus. The dormitory has suites that each have a living room, kitchen and two or three Internet-equipped single bedrooms. We will dine in the student cafeteria, local restaurants and have the option of cooking. SWJTU’s new campus is close to Chengdu’s subway, which provides access to the city center. Our SWJTU study partners also live nearby on the new campus.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations during their study abroad experience should discuss these needs with the Program Director and the Office of Disability Services at the time of application.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Program Director:
Eric Gilbert, Ph.D.
Biology Department,
Georgia State University
Atlanta, GA 30302-4010

phone: 404-413-5317
e-mail: esgilbert@gsu.edu

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 2, 2016
ELIGIBILITY
This program is open to all students who have completed Principles of Biology 2 (BIOL 2108) or equivalent and have a GPA ≥ 3.0, or consent of instructor. Program size is limited and participation is contingent upon acceptance by the program director.

CREDITS AND COURSES
Participants who successfully complete BIOL 4930/6930 will receive 3.0 semester hours of course credit at Georgia State. Undergraduate students should register for BIOL 4930 and graduate students should register for BIOL 6930. Students from other institutions should follow their institution’s regulations concerning transfer credits.

APPLICATION INFORMATION
Students interested in applying should find this program’s listing at mystudyabroad.gsu.edu and begin an online application. Transient Students: please see the Transients Student section under the Explore & Apply tab. International Students at Georgia State who hold F-1 visas must contact the Office of International Student and Scholar Services at 404-413-2070 to discuss the possible implications of study abroad for their immigration status.

COST
Program cost may vary at any time according to currency fluctuations and changing travel arrangements. The program cost is tentatively set at $1,600, PLUS regular Georgia State University tuition and fees. Non-resident/out-of-state students will pay in-state tuition plus a $250 fee in addition to the program cost.

FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIPS
Georgia State University students are eligible to apply for the IEF Study Abroad Scholarship/Georgia State University Foundation Scholarship and may be eligible to apply for the Global Experience Scholarship. Visit mystudyabroad.gsu.edu and select the Scholarships & Financial Aid tab or call the Study Abroad Programs office at (404) 413-2529 for more information.

Because program size is limited, early application is strongly advised. Individual interviews may be scheduled with students upon receipt of application.

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Program Cost Includes
• Student dormitory accommodations
• Ground transportation, excursions and entrance fees
• Dining in the cafeteria
• Guest lectures
• Administrative fees for the program
• Health/Evacuation/Repatriation insurance

Program Cost Does NOT Include
• Georgia State tuition and fees
• Airfare
• Passport
• Visa
• Personal expenses and excess baggage charges

PAYMENT SCHEDULE
$100 deposit with application
February 9, 2015 – $750 payment
February 26, 2015 – $750 remaining balance
All payments are non-refundable upon receipt

Program Deposit Payments: Participants will pay program deposits by logging into PAWS. Please contact your Program Director to confirm that a Program Deposit Account has been established for this purpose before you attempt to make a payment in PAWS.

Program Payments and Remaining Program Balance: Other than the initial program deposit, all program payments—along with the remaining program balance—will be billed directly to your student account. Please refer to the Academic/Registration calendar for the tuition and fees deadline.