



PROGRAM PROPOSAL FOR BEIJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY

Three-Week American Philosophy and American Culture Program

Abstract

The Philosophy department at Tufts University will offer to the students of Beijing Normal University a program entitled “American Philosophy and American Culture.” This three-week program will allow students to explore major themes in American religious, political, and philosophical culture.

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PROPOSAL

The Tufts University's International Programs and Partnerships department is extremely pleased to offer the following proposal for a three-week summer program, residential activities, staffing support, and services for a residential program for the students of Beijing Normal University to be held from Saturday, July 20, through Saturday, August 10, 2019, at Tufts University. Working with the Confucius Institute, the International Programs and Partnerships department will partner with the Philosophy department to offer the following services:

AIRPORT PICKUP AND PROGRAM ENROLLMENT DOCUMENTS

- Airport pickup for all students the weekend of Saturday, July 20, and Sunday, July 21.
- Airport drop off for all students on Friday, August 9, and Saturday, August 10. It is highly recommended that all students depart on Saturday due to the final celebration on Friday, August 9.
- Welcome packet with information about the university, the local area, campus and support services, "T" maps, and activities schedules for all participants.
- Nametags and identification cards.
- Traveler's insurance.
- DS-2019 documents for obtaining student visas.

HOUSING AND GUEST SERVICES

- ***Double air-conditioned sleeping rooms in the residence halls for all incoming students from Beijing Normal University.***
- 24-hour front hospitality desk for check-in, security, and resources for finding local food and fun establishments.
- Access to the Tisch Library and Eaton Computer Labs.
- Access to all athletic facilities, including the fitness center.
- ***Meals are not included.***

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAM STAFF

- Group activities in the evenings and the weekends.
 - ✓ Program orientation on Sunday, July 21, by residential staff to review residential policies, activities schedule, and emergency and safety procedures.
 - ✓ Scheduled activities will include both on- and off-campus activities and visits to:
 - Visit to Harvard Square and Tour of Harvard
 - Visit to MIT and visit to MIT museum
 - New England Aquarium
 - Fenway Park Tour
 - Boston Tea Party Ships
 - Taza Chocolate Factory Tour

- Boston Harbor Cruise
- Boston Harbor Islands
- ✓ Optional Weekend Activities
- ✓ Transportation to off-campus activities will be by school bus and/or public transportation (participants are to purchase their MBTA passes).
- Residential Counselors that will provide direct support to the participants and accompany participants on all excursions.
- One Program Coordinator to provide administrative support to students and residential staff.
- Welcome Party.
- Graduation Ceremony.

Program Fee

\$1,750 per person

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The Philosophy department at Tufts University will offer to the students of Beijing Normal University a program entitled “American Philosophy and American Culture.” This course is a philosophical examination of some influential writings, extending from the colonial period up to the present, which show the emergence in America of an increasingly secular and egalitarian view of the world built on public reason. With a particular focus on conceptions of justice, toleration, and liberty in American political life, the course begins with an exploration of founding American political documents before turning to more recent work by the American philosopher John Rawls. The course concludes with a range of responses to Rawls made in the spirit of the American philosophical tradition.

Objectives:

- To become acquainted with major themes in American religious, political, and philosophical culture through a close reading of primary texts and historical sources
- To attain familiarity with contemporary American philosophy and culture through lectures, multimedia presentations, and academic excursions
- To understand the intellectual history of American attention to the virtues of self-reliance, toleration, and pragmatism

Week 1

- John Locke: Fundamental Constitution of the Carolinas, and Letter Concerning Toleration
- Thomas Paine, The Age of Reason (Part One)
- Declaration of Independence
- Letters between John Adams and Thomas Jefferson
- Notes on the State of Virginia (excerpt)
- The Federalist Papers (excerpts)

Week 2

- Asa Gray, Natural Selection not Inconsistent with Natural Theology
- Chauncey Wright, “Darwinism” and “Natural Theology as a Positive Science”
- Charles Darwin, Letter to Asa Gray
- John Dewey, Humanist Manifesto
- John Rawls, A Theory of Justice (Excerpts) from Ch. 4 & Ch. 5, and Political Liberalism (Excerpts)

Week 3

- Robert Nozick, Anarchy, State, and Utopia (Excerpts)
- Michael Sandel, TBD (Excerpts)

Tufts will assign a Lead Teacher and a co-instructor and multiple guest lecturers to conduct all classes.

The Academic Program will include:

- Classes that will take place Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm on the campus of Tufts University.
- A Lead Teacher who will develop the course material and an appropriate number of instructors to teach each class.
- An online platform that will be accessible prior to the students’ arrival at Tufts University that will have important information related to the academic portion of the program.
- An academic orientation Monday, July 23, that will outline the academic requirements and expectations of the program.

Subtotal	\$1,615 per person (noncredit)
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The proposed total program fees:

Total Program Cost	\$3,365 per person (noncredit)
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Meals are not included in this estimate. A meal plan may be added for an additional cost. Please see 2018 prices listed here:

- 40 meals – an additional \$518 per student
- 80 Meals – an additional \$1,019 per student
- 120 meals – an additional \$1,175 per student

2019 prices should be forthcoming, and they will be sent to BNU once they are finalized.

Please let me know if there are any additional services or facilities that you would like the university to provide for this program.

We should plan to follow up very soon so that we may proceed with the next steps.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (617) 627-2493.

Thank you,

Kevin Paquette
 Program Director, International Education and Extended Programming