

Asian Cultural History Program



Summer 2013
June 30-August 5

- Itinerary
Pages 2-5

- Academics
Page 6

- Cost
Page 7

- Travel and Health
Page 8

Asian Cultural History Program

The Asian Cultural History Program is an interdisciplinary Study Abroad experience where students and professors travel to 10 cities in 4 Asian countries to examine art, history & culture. It's an ideal learning environment because it integrates reading, writing and research with direct involvement to give a richer understanding of the subject than book learning alone could possibly provide.

The emphasis is on culture

You will experience culture first—hand, in key centers of learning and art. Guided field experiences combined with reflection will help you to understand world cultures in a more meaningful and memorable way

- **You get college credit**
The Cultural History Programs carry six semester hours of EMU credit. Non-EMU students may transfer credit to their home institution.
- **Our staff is top quality**
Our faculty consists of widely traveled, experienced professors of history and art with top degrees from leading universities. During the past 40 years, our teams have conducted more than 150 successful Cultural History Programs around the world.
- **We're Experienced**
During the last 40 years, our staff has conducted more than 140 successful programs to Western and Eastern Europe, the Mediterranean, Russia, Israel, Egypt and Asia.

ITINERARY

♦ Hong Kong, China ♦ Hanoi, Vietnam ♦ Halong Bay, Vietnam ♦ Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam ♦ Phnom Penh, Cambodia ♦ Siem Reap, Cambodia ♦ Bangkok, Thailand ♦ Shanghai, China ♦ Xian, China ♦ Beijing, China ♦

Asian Cultural History Tour
June 30-August 5, SUMMER 2013

Flight to Hong Kong

Hong Kong / Days 1-3

In Hong Kong we will meet the continuing students of the "Around the World in 80 Days" Cultural History Program which will be with us until the end of our program in Beijing.

Hong Kong is an impressive example of Western economic development in the Third World. Ever since the British forced the Chinese to grant them control over the Island and part of the mainland around Kowloon in the 19th century, Hong Kong has been under Western influence. The Colony was returned to China in 1997 by an agreement reached in 1984.

We will attempt to discover how Hong Kong has been able to make such incredible steps in modernization and try to assess the changes being made. We will ride the Star Ferry across the beautiful harbor from Kowloon to Hong Kong Island and then take the Peak Tram to the top of the Peak for a view of the harbor and city. Naturally, we will visit the Hong Kong Museum of History and the Museum of Art.

Flight to Hanoi, Vietnam

Hanoi / Days 4-7

Hanoi, the capital of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, is a beautiful city of boulevards, parks and lakes. Our major concentration will be the Hanoi of Ho Chi Minh and the Vietnam War. We plan to visit the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum with its glass sarcophagus, the Ho Chi Minh Museum, the Army Museum with models of the battle of Dien Bien Phu and the taking of Saigon, and the "Hanoi Hilton," the prison where American POWs were held during the war. We will also visit some earlier historical and artistic sites such as the 11th-century One Pillar Pagoda and the Temple of Literature, the site of Vietnam's first university. In one evening we will enjoy a performance of Hanoi's famous water puppets. After our stay in Hanoi and Ha Long Bay, we will travel by an overnight train to Hue.



Excursion to Halong Bay / Day 8

From Hanoi we will make an excursion to Halong Bay where we will take a boat tour overnight to see the fabulous scenery of the bay. We will then fly to Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City).

Flight to Saigon

Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City) / Days 9-12

Saigon was the capital of South Vietnam from 1956-1975. After the North Vietnamese took the city in 1975, its name was changed to honor the communist-nationalist founder of North Vietnam. Our sightseeing tour begins with a visit to the Reunification Palace which was the former residence of the President of South Vietnam until end of 1975. Close to the palace are some striking French colonial structures including the Notre Dame Cathedral and the old Saigon Post Office. We also visit the War Remnant Museum to see how some of the Vietnamese view the U.S. participation in the war.

Excursion to Cao Dai Temple and Cu Chi Tunnels

We will make an excursion out of town to the ornate Cao Dai Temple. This religion, a curious combination of Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism, was founded in 1923 and today has over 2 million members. We will attend the noon service when the followers fill the hall wearing very colorful robes. Afterwards we continue to the famous Cu Chi Tunnels, an incredible underground network constructed by Vietnamese fighters during the long struggle for independence. The tunnels contained hospitals, accommodations, and schools; and were used as a military base for the Vietcong in the war.

Bus to Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Phnom Penh / Days 13-14

Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia, was the center of atrocities during Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge. Today it is a modern city with renovated French colonial buildings and trying to forget its past. We will visit the National Museum with its wonderful collection of Angkor sculpture; the Royal Palace, the site of the Silver Pagoda with five tons of silver covering the floor; and the Tuol Sleng Museum, a school that was turned into a security prison by Pol Pot's security forces.

Time permitting we will make an excursion out of town to see the Killing Fields or Choeung Ek. Then we will travel by bus to Siem Reap.

Siem Reap / Days 15-16

Siem Reap, formerly a sleepy village, is now a base for exploring the world famous temple complex of the ancient city of Angkor. Angkor was the capital of the powerful Khmer Empire from 802 AD to 1350 AD. With the fall of the Khmers, the temples were slowly recaptured by the lush forest and remained hidden until 1861 when they were re-discovered by a French naturalist.

Our guide will take us through Angkor Thom, which is famous for its series of colossal human faces carved in stone, the Bayon Temple, the Royal Enclosure, Phimeanakas (celestial temple), the Elephant Terrace, and the Terrace of Leper King. Then we will visit Angkor Wat, the largest as well as most complete temple complex. We stroll around this massive monument with its many galleries with columns, libraries, pavilions, courtyards and ponds full of water reflecting the towering temple. We will also explore the jungle covered temple of Ta Prohm as well as some of the surrounding temples.



Time permitting we will take a short cruise on Tonle Sap Lake, Cambodia's biggest natural lake. Along the way we will stop to visit a floating village and catch a glimpse of fishermen at work.

Flight to Bangkok, Thailand

Bangkok / Days 17-19

Our stay in Bangkok will begin with a visit to the Grand Palace complex, which includes the magnificent Palace and Temple of the Emerald Buddha (Wat Phra Kaew). From there we will walk to Wat Pho, the oldest and largest Wat in Bangkok with its large reclining Buddha representing the passing of the Buddha into nirvana. We will also examine Thai art at the National Museum, visit the Royal Barges, and take a boat ride on the Chao Phraya River.



Night Flight to Shanghai, China / Day 20

Shanghai / Days 21-23

From the Opium Wars of the 1840's to the 1930's, Shanghai went from a provincial fishing and weaving community of 50,000 people to a western metropolis of over a million people with skyscrapers owned by western bank and trading houses, western cinemas and more cars than any other city in Asia. It became the largest manufacturing city in Asia based on the slave labor of Chinese boys and girls. Foreign business interests dominated the city and were guarded by the armies of their home countries. Along with the colonialists came gambling and dance halls, opium dens, and brothels.

When the communists took over in 1949 they got rid of the slums, child labor, and opium dens, but the economy also declined. Then with the economic reforms of Deng Xiaoping and his successors, Shanghai has had a resurgence.

We will tour the remnants of the International Settlement including the British, French, American and Japanese concessions and the Huangpu River embankment, called the "Bund." The Bund is lined with the western buildings constructed in the 1930's in a mixture of colonial, neo-classical, and even Egyptian architectural styles. Here we will see where the foreigners and Chinese met and still congregate to talk and see street performers and hawkers.

Of course, we will also visit the Shanghai Museum with its collection of bronzes, ceramics and paintings; the site of the 1st National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party attended by Mao Zedong; Sun Yatsen's residence; and the wonderful Jade Buddha Temple with two Buddhas from Burma.

We will cap off one day with an evening performance of the famous Chinese acrobats.



Night Train to Xian / Day 24

Xian / Days 25-28

Known as Chang An in earlier times, Xian has been inhabited since Neolithic times and was one of the early capitals of China. Here we will visit the Ban Po Neolithic Museum, which is built on the site of a village from the period 6080-5600 BCE. The Museum contains interesting implements, weapons, and models of the village. In the city of Xian we will also visit the archaeological exhibit at the Xian Province Museum, the Great Mosque of Xian, and a number of sites from the Tang and Ming Dynasties such as the Drum and Bell Towers, the City Walls and the Big Goose Pagoda.

Excursion to Terra Cotta Warriors

Xian was particularly important during the Qin Dynasty. We will take a bus tour to the Tomb of Qin Shi Huang, the first Qin Emperor, and his amazing burial vault with its 7,000 life-size terra-cotta warriors, armed and in battle order. Nearby we will see the Huaqing Hot Springs, a favorite spot of the emperors and site of the "Xian Incident" where Chiang Kai-shek was kidnapped by one of his own generals in the struggle with the Communists in 1936.

We will also take a tour of the Western Tombs in the countryside. Our evenings will include a Chinese traditional dance program and free time to socialize with Chinese students.



Night Train to Beijing / Day 29

Beijing / Days 30-35

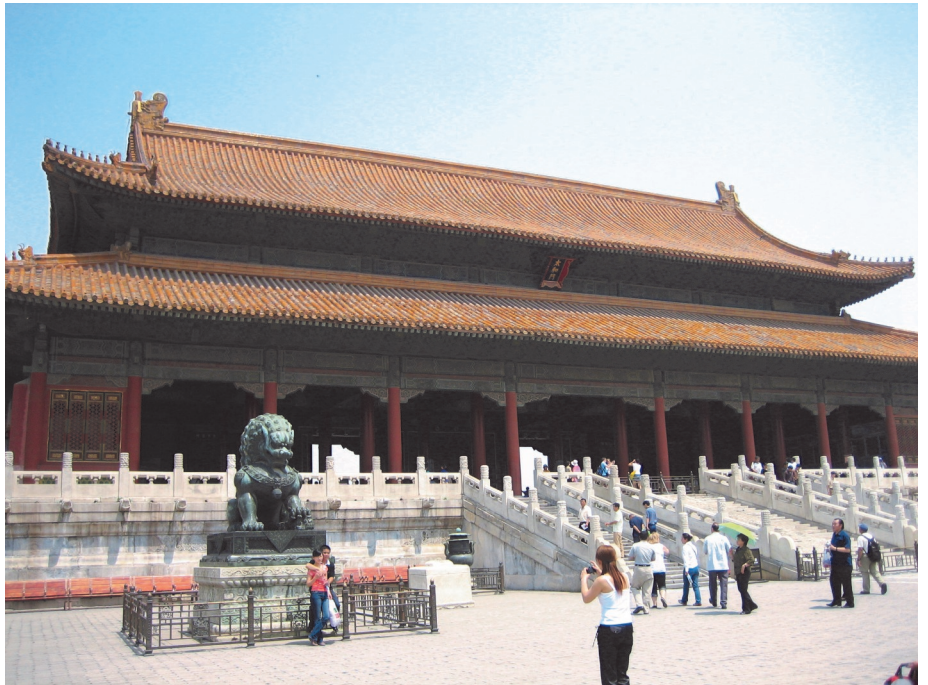
Although Beijing was not a major player in early Chinese history, from the 13th century to the present it has been the capital under the Yuan, Ming, and Qing dynasties as well as the Communist regime.

It was the Mongols who first made it their capital when they conquered China in the 13th century and established the Yuan Dynasty. When the Ming Dynasty took power in the 1300's its first capital was Nanjing, but the Emperor Yong Le moved the capital to Beijing in the early 1400's and started the construction of the Forbidden City. Later when the Manchus conquered China, they kept Beijing as capital and enlarged the Forbidden City. In 1949 the Communists chose Beijing as their capital and set up headquarters right next to the Forbidden City.

One of our first stops in Beijing will be Tiananmen Square, site of the 1989 student demonstrations and subsequent bloodbath. Around the square we will visit the Museum of the Chinese Revolution, the Museum of Chinese History, and Chairman Mao Zedong Memorial Hall containing the preserved body of Chairman Mao, the first leader of Communist China.

Then we will pass through the Tiananmen (Gate of Heavenly Peace) into the Forbidden City, where twenty-four emperors of the Ming and Qing Dynasties ruled from their palaces for hundreds of years. Here there are six major palaces including the Palace of Ci Xi, the last Empress Dowager who dominated China in the early 20th century.

In Beijing we will also see the beautiful Temple of Heaven and the Summer Palace of the Emperors with the famous marble boat built by Ci Xi with funds to build a navy. In the evenings we will attend a performance of selections from the Beijing Opera and other cultural events.



Excursion to the Great Wall and the Ming Tombs

The Great Wall was begun in the 5th century BCE and completed by Qin Shi Huang, founder of the Qin dynasty in 221 BCE. Being approximately 3750 miles long, it is surely one of the wonders of world. The Tombs of the Ming Dynasty Emperors date back to the 15th and 16th centuries.

Of course, we will provide time for last minute coursework and preparation for the return home.

Return Home / Day 36



Academics

The Asian Cultural History Program is first and foremost an academic program. Students are required to enroll in six hours of credit and to complete all course requirements. Because we follow an extensive travel itinerary, instructional delivery is different from the pattern of fixed class time and standard contact hours of campus courses. On each Cultural History Program, class sessions are usually scheduled around or during the program activities that take up most of the day: visits to museums, monuments and temples, historic sites, governmental institutions, etc. Thus, in a sense most of the waking hours of each day are contact hours because students are actively engaged in some aspect of their academic work. The faculty are careful to balance the program activities described in the itinerary with sufficient time for students to reflect on and discuss the significance of what they have seen and experienced. And because the faculty travel with the group and are always available, meaningful discussions often take place during routine activities such as meals, walking from one site to the next, waiting for trains, etc. Course assignments are also aimed at organizing students and experiences. The faculty allows sufficient time for the completion of most course requirements on the Program. Because of the full itinerary and the academic requirements, there is relatively little free time on this program.

Credit

Students must enroll in six semester hours of EMU credit on the Asian Cultural History Program. Students enroll in one three-credit course in history or political science and one three-credit course in art, and must complete all course requirements. The courses offered are designed to meet basic studies or general education requirements. Courses at the 300 and 400 level may meet major or minor requirements, or be taken as elective credit. EMU students must take Art 100 before taking Art 379.

Courses

FA 100 Art Appreciation (3)

The aim is to acquaint students with art philosophies, their elements, principles and values. For non-art majors and minors. Most major art museums in the cities on our itinerary will be visited and key works studied. For the art museums to be visited see the itinerary.

FA 379 Art and Architecture of Southeast Asia and China (3)

This course studies the development of Southeast Asian and Chinese art and architecture. Guided tours will be taken of most major museums in Hong Kong, Hanoi, Saigon, Angkor, Bangkok, Shanghai, Xian, and Beijing. Architectural structures such as temples, mosques, and palaces of artistic significance will also be visited and discussed on location. The EMU prerequisite for this course is FA 100. There is no pre-requisite for non-EMU students.

HIST 379 Special Topic: Aspects of Asian Civilization (3)

A study of selected topics in Asian civilization with a special emphasis on Southeast Asia and China. The course will deal with selected topics related to our visits to museums and sites in China. The topics will range from ancient history to the present emphasizing political and cultural development and interactions between Asia and the West.

PLSC 379 Special Topic: Third World Modernization Models (3)

A study of modernization efforts in the 19th and 20th centuries in Southeast and East Asia.

Credit for Non-EMU Students:

The courses offered are designed to meet basic studies or core curriculum requirements at most universities. Courses at the 300 and 400 level may meet major or minor requirements, or be taken as elective credit.

Students must complete all course requirements even if they do not intend to transfer the credits to their home institution. The decision to accept the credits earned on this program rests with the appropriate officials at the student's home institution. Students should consult with their advisor to learn their institution's policies and procedures regarding transfer credit.

Asian Cultural History Program Costs

Cost: \$4,595* (EMU students) | \$4,845* (Non-EMU students)

Includes:

- All rail, bus and air transportation between cities.
- Field trips and excursions by train, chartered bus or boat.
- All visas needed by the program.
- Tickets to all cultural events arranged by the program.
- Entrance tickets to museums and sites visited by the program.
- International Student Identity Card.
- Rooms based on multiple occupancy.
- Some meals.
- Couchettes when possible on overnight trains.
- Hotel service charges and local taxes.

Does not include:

- Tuition for six undergraduate semester hours (all students pay in-state EMU tuition).
- Air transportation from the U.S. to Hong Kong and return from Beijing (approximately \$1,500).
- Most meals and all drinks
- Street car, bus, subway fares and taxis within cities to cultural events, museums, sites, etc.
- Baggage fees
- Passports, textbooks, laundry, independent travel and expenses of a purely personal nature.

About EMU Tuition and fees:

Emu students and non-EMU students pay in-state EMU tuition and fees for 6 credits for this program. The tuition calculator for 2012 is online: <http://www.emich.edu/sbs/calc.php>

Estimated costs above the program price:

Meals (based on \$12 per day average for two meals-some students may spend more or less)	\$ 420
Street Cars/Subways/Taxis (based on average for entire Asian tour)	\$ 60
Laundry (based on approximately \$10 per load, min. one load every week)	\$ 40
Textbooks (based on average for two classes)	\$ 75
Miscellaneous (bottled water, snacks, toiletries, internet, bank exchange fees, etc.)	\$ 200
Airfare to Asia and return home (approx.)	\$ 1500
Tuition and fees for six credit hours (approx.)	\$ 1990
Totals	\$ 4285

*This price does not include RT airfare or tuition and fees, but does include extensive travel within the program, all accommodation and cultural site visits. If there are significant changes in costs beyond the control of Academic Programs Abroad, we may require a surcharge (e.g. rises in the cost of fuel, sharp changes in currency exchange rates). We will, however, do our utmost to keep the price as advertised.

Where we stay

Accommodations provide participants with a variety of living experiences. Most accommodations are multiple occupancy in University foreign student dormitories, guesthouses, hostels and small hotels. These accommodations usually provide dormitory-style rooms with multiple beds, a common sink and shared restroom and shower facilities. Hotels are chosen for their central location.

Participants will be expected to abide by the rules and regulations established by the tour director at each of the locations. A disregard of these rules may lead to dismissal of the student from the tour.

Travel requirements

All participants must have a valid passport. If you have not yet applied for a passport, please do so immediately. Applications can be obtained at any county court house, passport agency or designated post office. The expiration date of your passport must be at least six months after the tour ends. For complete passport information, including printable application forms, visit the State Department website at <http://travel.state.gov/passport/index.html>. Applications can also be obtained at any county court house, passport agency or designated post office. Participants who are NON-U.S. citizens may be required to have additional visas, depending on citizenship and are responsible for securing the necessary visas. The Office of Academic Programs Abroad at Eastern Michigan University will inform non-U.S. citizens about which steps to take to receive visas for countries on the itinerary. The Asian Cultural History Tours cannot be responsible for delays, detainments or losses incurred by non-U.S. citizens due to visa problems arising from their citizenships. Because of special discounts available to students and young people, persons 26 and older may be charged an extra fee when they do not qualify for youth discounts. Note: Canadian citizens used to be considered equivalent to U.S. citizens by the customs officials of many countries. This is no longer true, and Canadian citizens might now have different requirements for certain visas. Participants will also have to get some visas. Later, we will give instructions on the process.

Group behavior and solidarity

Living as a group requires of each member a strong spirit of cooperation and a willingness to place the needs of the group above personal preferences. We expect all members of the group to travel together, stay in the accommodations provided by the program, and participate in program activities together. The unique and ongoing dialogue between students and faculty is born in response to program experiences and activities. We expect participants to be receptive to the experiences offered on the program and respectful of the people and cultures visited.

Health

You must consult with your doctor or a traveler's health clinic about the travel to Asia at least 4-6 weeks before the tour in order to allow time for shots to take effect. EMU students may visit the Snow Travel Health Clinic on campus at least 8 weeks prior to departure: <http://www.emich.edu/uhs/pages/travelclinic.php>

You will not be able to participate on the tour unless you fulfill the requirement.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), you should update some routine immunizations and consider a number of special vaccines. These vaccines and other health information on Asia are listed on their website at: <http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list.aspx>

Health Insurance

All students will receive CMI/Medex health insurance at no extra charge for the duration of the program. The reimbursement policy has no deductible, and affords coverage for illness or injury up to \$500,000. You may review the policy and its coverage online, and download claim forms: <http://www.emich.edu/abroad/health/index.php>