



Tips on Studying Abroad at Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China

Want to know what it's like to study abroad? Want to know what your peers think? Your fellow Georgia Tech students who have previously gone on this exchange program gave their opinions so that future participants have the inside scoop on their host institution and host country.

Classes

- The overall grades for each course in each semester are made up of three parts, namely classroom performance (10%), mid-term exam (20%), and final exam (70%).
- There are a lot of foreigners that attend the school so it can be hard to get a chance to practice your Chinese on a regular basis.
- The classes are longer than the ones at Georgia Tech so be prepared for a three hour long class.



Cultural Differences

- A few things to note are that:
- They don't use silverware, they just use chopsticks.
- You need to bring your own toilet paper wherever you go.
- If you don't speak Chinese it is very hard to tell what you are ordering to eat in the cafeteria and at restaurants.
- You pay for showers with a shower card that must be purchased.
- You can buy your basic groceries for about \$14.
- Only the rooms where you sleep are heated

Transportation & Travel

- When traveling in China don't put off buying decent train tickets until the day you leave. I put off buying tickets, and of course the sleeper trains were all sold out for that night, so we were stuck with tickets for third class. This pretty much means twelve hours in a regular train seats with no A/C.



Lifestyle

- I have learned so much that I needed to learn. I love the variety of people here, and I've learned many things about life that I wouldn't have learned back at Tech.



Participant Profiles

Please see information of contributing students below. If a blog or website is listed, feel free to take a look! Also, if an e-mail address is listed, you may contact that student if you have any questions about their study abroad experience.

Rachel Burton, GEML, Spring 2008
Travel blog can be found at:
<http://realtravel.com/china-trips-i6547124.html>.



* These comments do not reflect the views of GT's Office of International Education. They are based on students' individual opinions and are, therefore, not necessarily representative of all student experi-