

# Intensive Mandarin in China

## What's the best advice you can give future students to maximize their experience abroad?

"Enjoy all the differences in culture rather than hide from them! Taste the food, especially if it's something you will never have again in the US."

"Make friends that are citizens of that country, don't only hang around the people from your group, even if it's hard to communicate."

"Just go out and do things. Don't stay locked up in your dorm. You are in another country, go out and live life!"

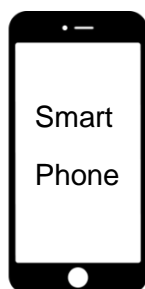
## What items did you not bring that you wish you had?

- Sunscreen
- More hats
- Small bag for weekend traveling
- Lightweight rain jacket
- More shorts

## What items did you pack and NOT need while abroad?

- Long pants (it's HOT)
- Towels, bedding
- Heels
- Hair dryer
- Soap
- Jacket

## Which devices would you recommend others take in the future?



## Most common ways to communicate with family and friends back home:

#1. Through WiFi-enabled smart phone apps

- Skype
- Whatsapp
- iMessage

#2. International calling/text plan with U.S. cell phone

*"I have always had an appreciation for China and its culture, but this trip really opened my eyes to what China is really like. This place is amazing and I would go back in a heartbeat."*

*"Since my study abroad to China I've learned to conserve our resources such as water, food, and especially A/C."*

## Approximately how much did you spend out of pocket during the program (in USD)?

	Max Value	Average Value
Communication (cell phone, Internet charges, etc.):	40.00	5.71
Food:	350.00	190.71
Going out/free time:	350.00	136.43
Lodging:	50.00	7.14
Personal travel/excursions:	100.00	15.71
Program related travel/excursions:	180.00	17.12
Souvenirs/gifts:	200.00	87.14

## What credit cards were most accepted?



## What advice do you have for students to budget and spend money wisely?

"Know what you have in your banking account before going to the ATM."

"Definitely budget when it comes to buying gifts, because you don't want to end up hungry just because of an overpriced gift."

"Eat local food as it is way cheaper and tastier than fast food."