

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

"Have fun and be willing to go out of your comfort zone. Get to know the people who are on your trip and become friends with them early on, even if you go on the trip with people you already know."

"Try everything: the food, the music, the clothing."

"Do not waste a single minute in your hotel- get out and walk around if there is nothing else to do. You get to see the cities that way and get to navigate like the locals do. There is SO much to see and no time should be wasted! And keep a journal everyday"

"Get out of your comfort zone and broaden your horizons. Use this experience to make new friends and grow as a student."

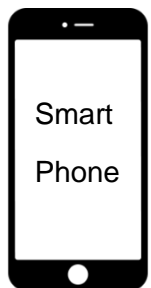
What items did you not bring that you wish you had?

- More clothes
- Umbrella
- Dirty clothes bag
- Refillable water bottle
- Adapter

What items did you pack and NOT need while abroad?

- Laptop
- Bug spray
- Bathing suit
- Boots

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 phones apps

- Skype
- Whatsapp
- iMessage

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

WCOB China

"I decided to study abroad to get outside of my comfort zone, experience a new culture, and learn about how business is carried out in that culture to make myself more marketable when applying for jobs after graduation. This program was everything I thought it would be and more!"

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

	Max Value	Average Value
Communication (cell phone, Internet charges, etc.):	150.00	24.21
Food:	1,000.00	344.00
Going out/free time:	500.00	180.26
Personal travel/excursions:	500.00	114.47
Program related travel/excursions:	1,500.00	93.42
Required books/supplies:	50.00	11.94
Souvenirs/gifts:	1,000.00	169.74

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

"Take out money once a week, not as needed. The fact that China is more cash-based is actually helpful because you can more easily track your spending."

"Take the subway when you can and not cabs."

"My best advice would be to budget your money wisely and not spend a lot when you first get on your trip. Also, be sure to calculate the currency difference and not rely on the fact that it is cheaper in China than in the U.S. because it will catch up to you."

"Pull out money at the beginning of the trip and appropriate it accordingly. This way you can avoid international ATM and debit card fees."

What do you wish you had known more about before you left?

"I wish I had known how to speak more Chinese or had taken at least one Chinese class."

"I wish I would have done more research on the places we were at, so that exploration could have been better."

"I don't think there's anything I really could have "known more" - I think many of the things that surprised me or challenged me, I couldn't have known until I got there and experienced them."

Did this program deepen your interest in your academic field of study?

"This program deepened my interest in wanting to learn more about my major within China and international business in general. Now, I am interested in learning more about marketing and the supply chain as it relates to other cultures/ countries and not just our own."

"This program gave me the insight I needed as a beginner business student."

"I always saw myself working for a US firm in the US that does business with China, but after studying abroad there I can see myself living and working in China for many years."

"The experiential knowledge I gained will not only allow me to understand the broad spectrum of international business better, but to understand business in China specifically more."

"I am much more interested in the effects of a changing economy on people and the class structure."

How might students best get to know the people and culture of your host country?

"Not be scared to experience things that are not normal tourist attractions."

"The best way to interact with the people of China is to go where they go, whether that is a restaurant or a park. They are excited to talk to you and to teach you about China and learn about your background."

"Eating at local restaurants is a good way to get to know people. Taxi drivers are also an awesome way to get a feel for your host country."

"Be outgoing- go out at night and interact as much as you can all the time. The Chinese loved us and wanted to hear our stories, so it is not hard to find people to teach you about their lifestyles!"

How did you pay for things on a daily basis?

1. Cash (withdrawn from local ATM/bank from US bank account)
2. Cash (exchanged from US currency)
3. Barter
4. Credit Cards/Debit Cards

What credit cards were most accepted?

