China and the Miao
A GLOBAL STUDIES TOUR
May 20–June 4, 2007

Oakton Field Study
escorted by
Virginia Gibbons, M.A., Professor of English
Tingxiu Wang, Ph.D., Professor of Mathematics

Travel Dates
May 20 – June 4, 2007

March – April
Deadlines for applications, agreements, deposits, and airfare purchase. Scheduled orientation sessions will cover passport and visa requirements, what to bring: syllabi; and survival language. Meetings also will provide historical, geographical, religious, philosophical, social, economic, and political overviews of China.

May – June
Book Discussion: Wild Swans and The Hmong: An Introduction to Their History and Culture Travel to China. Final paper and discussion upon return to U.S.

COST
Approximately $2,900 (based on double occupancy; single supplement available upon request). Price includes roundtrip airfare between Chicago and Shanghai; ground transportation in China; lodging; and most meals. Price does not include course tuition or related fees.

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT
Participants must register and pay a $1,200 deposit (non-refundable) by March 12, 2007. A second payment of $1,200 is due April 14, with the balance due May 12.

CLASS SIZE
Enrollment is limited to 18 students (must be at least 18 years old). Participation is first-come, first-served.

TUITION
In-district tuition rate of $75 per credit hour* ($37.50 per credit hour for persons age 60 and above) will be charged for all students regardless of residency.

CANCELLATION POLICY
All cancelled reservations are subject to a minimum one-time processing fee of $95. For cancellations 60 to 15 days prior to departure, 50 percent of the tour package will be charged. For cancellations 14 days or fewer prior to departure, participant is responsible for 100 percent of the tour package cost. Cancellation policy applies only to tour cost.

RESPONSIBILITY
Oakton Community College and its agents act only in the capacity of agent in all matters pertaining to all methods of travel, and assume no liability for any injury, damage, loss or irregularity occasioned by vehicle defects or default of hotel or carrier or their personnel, or any additional expenses due to delays, changes in service, sickness, weather, strikes, quarantine, war or other causes. Right is reserved to change the schedule or cancel this program and make refunds accordingly. Rates are subject to change without notice.

* Tuition is subject to change by the Oakton Board of Trustees.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Attend either of two no-obligation information sessions. Attendance does not require enrollment.

Thursday, February 8
7 p.m., Room 1610
Des Plaines Campus, 1600 E. Golf Rd.

Tuesday, February 13
12 p.m., Room P103
Ray Hartstein Campus, 7701 N. Lincoln Ave., Skokie

For an application or more information, contact:
Virginia Gibbons
847.376.7035 or vgbbons@oakton.edu, or
Tingxiu Wang
847.635.1751 or tingxiu@oakton.edu.
Course Objectives

- To develop a basic understanding of the cultural history of China and the Miao.
- To recognize and provide critical evaluation of representative works of art (painting, sculpture, architecture, music, etc.)
- To understand these works of art within their historical, social, and economic contexts, and their relationship to art forms developed by other cultures.
- To develop respect for the cultural achievements of China and the Miao.

Student Responsibilities

- To participate in online readings, text readings, and discussions at four meetings prior to travel to China.
- To read, research, and take notes during lectures and site visits, and reflect on various learning experiences and activities.
- To contribute to class and small group discussions, developing both critical thinking skills and a greater appreciation for cultural diversity.

Instructors

Virginia Gibbons, professor of English, began working as a tutor at Oakton Community College in 1980. She earned her master’s degree in 1987, and joined the full-time faculty in 1990. She has coordinated Oakton’s ESL program since 1996.

Tingxiu Wang, professor of mathematics, has taught at Oakton Community College since 1991. He received his bachelor’s degree in mathematics at Shandong University in 1982, and his master’s and doctorate degrees from Southern Illinois University in 1988 and 1991, respectively. He taught at Nanjing University of Science and Technology (1982-1986), and received the Excellent Teaching Award in 1984.