# THE BEIJING CENTER FOR CHINESE STUDIES

By John Sember, TBC Marketing Communications Manager

Founded in 1998, The Beijing Center (TBC) is the Jesuit center of higher education in Mainland China continuing the tradition of Jesuits such as Matteo Ricci in fostering mutual understanding between China and other cultures through cultural exchange, education and research. Starting as a collaborative program amongst 26 AJCU schools, TBC offers semester, year-long and summer education abroad programs, provides comprehensive support for customized short-term programming, and houses a renowned research library with over 25 thousand volumes.



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# PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS

# STUDY ABROAD IN CHINA FOR A SEMESTER, YEAR, OR SUMMER

Matteo Ricci, S.J. ( $\pi$ J玛索) came to Beijing in 1601. Like TBC students today, he and his companions studied the Chinese language and culture and used that knowledge to engage in the academic life of the day. Ricci found a particularly close friendship with Xu Guangqi (rrrcerel), a Chinese scholar-bureaucrat, who taught him the Chinese way of life. In turn, Ricci shared his knowledge of the West.

We seek to follow in these footsteps as we provide students with the supportive environment to start their own adventures in China. With dedicated classrooms capable of teaching nearly 130 students, our classes are taught in English by leading scholars and practitioners that expose students to both Chinese and Western styles of teaching and perspectives. Our curricula are designed to educate students about where China has been, where it is now, and most importantly - where China is heading. While all "humanistic" courses are taught in English, every study abroad student, no matter whether beginner or fluent, undertakes a study of Mandarin Chinese, taught by native speakers. In addition to language classes, TBC pairs students with a Chinese university student for language tutoring each week to help foster strides towards learning the language and culture.





# **BEIJING INTERNSHIPS**

TBC gives students a unique opportunity to do an internship in Beijing to develop professionally by working alongside both Chinese and international colleagues, within the Chinese context.

Our internship placements span across many sectors:

- Multinational corporations and media companies
- Start-up and tech companies
- Not-for-profit organizations, research institutes, embassies and chambers of commerce
- Healthcare-related organizations and hospitals
- Museums, art galleries, and cultural institutions

TBC's internship program encourages students to think about China in a deeper way both in and outside of the classroom. Students learn cultural humility, while also building intercultural and professional competencies.





In addition to semester internships, students can also choose to do a 9-week summer internship through the Global Leaders Summer Internship Program.

# EXPERIENTIAL AND SERVICE LEARNING Living the Culture

While academics and research are an essential element to understanding China, textbooks and lectures can only tell part of the story. TBC believes that in order to understand China, you must also experience China. One of the hallmarks of our programs is the opportunity for daily exchange with Chinese people. For our semester-long students, TBC pairs each student not only with a local Chinese student tutor, but also provides the option of living with a Chinese roommate. Our Chinese roommate program was one of the first of its kind in China, and popular amount our pupils with more than 50% of students requesting a Chinese roommate. BONUS: Watch Fall 2017 students give appreciation to their Chinese roommates ONLINE:

Chinese Roommate Appreciation! Fall 2017 S months ago | More The Beijing Center 1990 | Follow

# Bringing Knowledge to Life

TBC provides educational trips to major cultural and historical sites of interest in and around Beijing – from the emperor's Forbidden City to the legendary Great Wall of China to the hutong alleyways dating back to the Yuan Dynasty. Furthermore, TBC provides engaging excursions across China each semester term. In the fall term, students trace 2,050 miles along

the Silk Road, familiarizing themselves with the geography and history of the Qin through Qing Dynasties of China on this ancient international trade route. In the spring term, students experience Yunnan province in Southwest China, where they live, learn, and share in the rich and diverse cultures of China's ethnic minorities. Both excursion including rare opportunities to participate in homestays in various villages – not only seeing the country, but experiencing the culture. During these 2-week trips, students research a relevant topic of interest to them, and present their discoveries to the group.

### **Service Learning**

As a way of cultivating global citizens and living out TBC's Jesuit identity, we provide service-learning opportunities for semester students to get hands-on experience with dedicating time and energy to supporting and serving their new community in Beijing. TBC provides different placement options for volunteering, including nearby schools, hospitals and non-profits. Our volunteers meet together once a week to reflect, process, and making meaning out of their service experiences.





# The Beijing Center

北京中国学中心

# AT A GLANCE

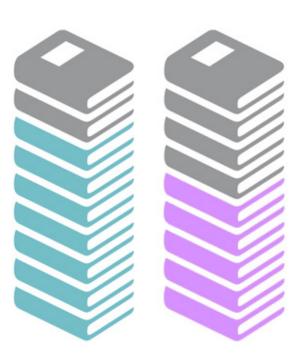
20+ Professors/Researchers

Semester & summer study/intern abroad programs

English-taught courses

Accreditation through Loyola University Chicago

Financial aid transfer agreements with many universities and scholarships



# **RESEARCH LIBRARY**

The Beijing Center is home to a **25,000 VOLUME** research library.

Students benefit from the use of books, case studies, and journal articles.



# STUDENT POPULATION

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The Beijing Center educates on average

**130 STUDENTS** 

per year, and has a network of over

**1,500 ALUMNI** 

# **RESEARCH CENTER AND LIBRARY**

# **Research Center**

While studying abroad is one of The Beijing Center's flagship programs, TBC is also a research center that welcomes international and Chinese scholars to research at The Beijing Center. Our Research Center promotes exploration on cultural exchanges between China and the West.

Our main activities included:

- Advising and supporting research by scholars and Chinese graduate students
- Sponsors Matteo Ricci Faculty Fellowship for non-tenured faculty on tenured track
- Hosting, supporting, and taking part in conferences
- Providing lectures and holding seminars for Chinese students
- Digitalizing historical documents and records
- Publishing source documents
- Serving as liaison between Western academic institutions and Chinese universities

# The Anton Library

Starting in 1998 with only 200 books, The Anton Library at TBC now houses a collection of nearly 25,000 volumes in open stacks, including a display room for rare books and maps. The main collection of books about China written in English is the largest private such collection in Beijing and one of the largest in China.

Nearly 1,000 volumes are added annually, selected among books published in North America, Europe and China. The main subject headings are Art & Architecture, Biographies, Business & Economics, Culture & Society, Ethnology, Film & Theater, History, Language, Literature, Media & Journalism, Philosophy & Religion, Photography, Political sciences, Traditional Chinese Medicine, Travel, Women's Studies, and Martial Arts.

The library also hosts a special history collection open to scholars on the history of Christianity in China in the late Ming and Qing dynasties. This collection concentrates on primary sources and includes books in Chinese, French, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, Latin, and other European languages. Tailored Short-term Programs

The ChinaContact division of TBC was created in 2002 in order to facilitate short-term, credit or non-credit, tailor-made Chinese study programs for a wide audience, fulfilling a variety of academic and professional needs. Each trip is customized by our experienced guides to follow the theme relevant to any curriculum or concentration, assisting with logistics, lectures and relevant site visits around China. ChinaContact serves TBC partners through transparent cost structure, attentive program assistance and unmatched academic excellence.

In 2017, ChinaContact brought 15 different programs with nearly 250 students and faculty to China. In January 2018 ChinaContact hosted 9 students for a J-Term Business Finance Course, Modern Security Analysis, in partnership and accredited by Le Moyne College. In 2018, we forecast 20 programs with 300 students and faculty coming to China.



### CASE STUDY: LOYOLA UNIVERSITY MARYLAND Emerging Leaders MBA

11 students + 2 faculty Nationality: U.S.A Trip Theme: Business Dates and duration of visit: April 17, 2015 – May 9, 2015 -13 days

### CASE STUDY: ANTWERP UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate business course with students from various majors

30 students + 2 faculty Nationality: Belgian Trip Theme: Business Dates and duration of visit: July 4, 2015 – July 19, 2015 -16 days

CASE STUDY: LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO Graduate students of Social Work

11 students + 1 faculty Nationality: U.S.A. Trig Theme: Social Work Dates and duration of visit: May 14, 2015 – May 23, 2015 – 9 date:

Fr. Jim Caime, S.J., is the Executive Director of The Beijing Center. Jim began his work at TBC in August 2010 and became the Executive Director in July 2014. Jim has worked in U.S. higher education for nearly twenty years and worked at Loyola University New Orleans from 2002 – 2010 prior to joining the TBC staff. He holds multiple Masters degrees, including an MBA from Georgetown University. Jim himself was an exchange student in high school and studied abroad during his undergraduate years. Jim entered the Society of Jesus for the New Orleans Province in August, 1993 and was ordained a priest in 2002. He is currently a member of the UCS province.

To find out more about how The Beijing Center can help you and your students discover, engage and interact with China visit

# **THEBEIJINGCENTER.ORG**