Travel to China to experience a country which is developing at an incredible pace, yet is still defined by its fascinating history and unique traditions. You will spend the first two weeks in Guangzhou, at our partner institute, Guangdong University of Foreign Studies. Here, you can explore the country’s third most populated city and gain a practical and academic insight into a rich and unique culture. The programme will consist of activities including networking with major corporations, engaging with local government officials, exploring some of the region’s impressive natural and manmade sights and getting to know local students.

**Sample Itinerary** (This is just a guide based on last year’s itinerary, activities are subject to change)

**Morning Mandarin:** Each weekday morning you will attend Chinese language classes, allowing you to learn about the workings of this fascinating language and practise the basics. Then take a relaxed lunch break before taking part in a range of diverse and exciting activities...

**Day 1: Discover Guangzhou!** Get your bearings in the bustling city of Guangzhou, visiting local attractions and shopping hotspots.

**Day 2: Welcome to GDUFS** Enjoy an opening banquet with the staff and students at Guangdong University of Foreign Students and take a tour of the campus.

**Day 3: Fac-tour-ty** Visit local businesses and learn about their growth and expansion in this rapidly developing country.

**Day 4: Chinese Calligraphy** Pick up a paint brush and try your hand at calligraphy, learning from some skilled students at GDUFS.

**Day 5: A Day in the Life** Find out what it would be like to be a student at GDUFS as you observe lectures and meet their students’ union.

**Day 6: Cruise the Pearl River** Enjoy some more time in the city centre and a relaxed cruise along the river.

**Day 7: Roam Free!** Use this day to explore a bit more of whatever has captured your imagination so far!

**Day 8: School Daze** Spend the afternoon observing and teaching in a local school.

**Day 9: Busyness** Get to engage with another business, broadening your knowledge of industry and enterprise in China.

**Day 10: Speak Up** Visit a regional government institution to learn about the local economy and then observe or engage in a debate with Chinese students on topical issues.

**Days 11 - 14: Long Weekender** This is a free weekend for you to organise yourself or sign up to our optional trip to a mountainous area of great natural beauty.
Option 1
Teaching English in Guangzhou
Spend your final week observing, assisting and teaching in a local primary school. This is a fantastic opportunity to gain experience of teaching English in a foreign country and witness first-hand the workings of the largest education system in the world. Spend your final 24 hours exploring the impressive modern metropolis of Hong Kong!

Option 2
Politics and Culture in Beijing
Travel to the capital to see some iconic historical sights such as the Great Wall of China and Tiananmen Square, and to learn more about the country's politics and culture. Benefit from the expertise of Dr. Astrid Nordin, who will share her knowledge about China and the effects of foreign influences, and invite you to share in some fascinating debates around contemporary Chinese culture.

Option 3
Rural China and Environmental Issues
Take a deeper look at some of the environmental challenges facing this powerful country and see for yourself the impact of development on rural areas as you travel to a less developed part of China. Then head down for Hong Kong for a whirlwind final 24 hours!

When will the trip take place? The trip will depart during the first weekend in September and return 3 weeks later, this means you will be back in the UK just before Fresher's Week.

Do I need a visa? Owners of a UK/EU passport will need a visa to enter China. It will be your responsibility to obtain the correct type of visa, but the overseas team will offer support during this process. Please note that there may be some visa restrictions for certain nationalities travelling to our destinations. Please come and talk to us if you think this may be an issue.

Can all students take part? Yes! We encourage all students to apply to participate in the trip. This includes all undergraduates and postgraduates including those in their final year.

How many students will be travelling with me? You will be in a large group of around 60 students for the first 14 days before the group roughly splits into 3 to take part in the different options. The large group size makes the trip a great opportunity to meet new people and make friends!

Cost
How much is the programme? The programme fee of £675 covers all accommodation, travel within China and most meals. Your insurance for the trip is also included in this price. You will need to pay for your flight, injections and any spending money you want to take.

How much is the flight? LUSU will book flights on your behalf. To make sure that everyone pays a fair price and to ensure everyone is on the same flight, we make a group booking. If researching for yourself, you may see that some flights are less expensive than the price we are asking you to pay; this is because when we make a group booking the airline charges individual participants the average price. This is expected to be around £740 for the Teaching option, £990 for the Rural option (including an internal flight) and £870 for the Beijing option (including internal train travel) If you would like to discuss your flight options with us then please get in touch.

Can I apply for financial assistance? We believe that students should not be excluded on the basis of cost alone; therefore financial support of up to £675 is available. If you are in need of financial assistance we will do everything we can to support you. Priority will be given to students in receipt of a means-tested bursary from the University, but we will consider applications from anyone with financial circumstances that would make it difficult to participate without assistance.

FAQS

Is this the trip for me?
Are you looking for a great way to enhance your CV whilst experiencing a totally new culture? Yes
Do you want to make friends whilst engaging in a wide range of activities from business to cultural visits? Yes
Are you looking for a valuable insight into life in China’s third biggest city? Yes
Can you keep an open mind? Yes
What are you waiting for? Sign up NOW!

If you would like more information please contact:
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In the delivery of the ‘LUSU Overseas Programme’, Lancaster University Students’ Union (LUSU) is acting as an agent for and on behalf of Lancaster University.