



The UNIVERSITY of VERMONT

Global Village
RESIDENTIAL LEARNING COMMUNITY

Chinese House

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OVERVIEW

The Chinese House has been a Living and Learning Center program since the fall semester of 1998. It provides a living and learning place for students who are interested in Chinese culture, especially those who are also interested in studying Chinese language. It is also a place where students can come together after class to have extracurricular activities that help to enrich their experiences with Chinese culture or to reinforce their Chinese language learning, with the assistance of language faculty members of the Chinese Language Program at UVM and visiting instructors or scholars from China.

RATIONALES

China has a five-thousand-year recorded history, and this recorded history offers a wealth of knowledge in almost any field, such as philosophy, medicine, arts, architecture, law, government, mathematics, agriculture, astronomy, military, cuisine, and martial arts. All of these await our students to explore and utilize both in their study life now and in their future careers. The Chinese House can organize Chinese cultural activities for students to learn and experience Chinese culture.

Chinese language is the language spoken by one fifth of the people on the earth. To help students learn this language in order to communicate with Chinese people, formal classroom instruction is far from enough. Opportunities to interact with native Chinese speakers and other students learning Chinese are necessary. The Chinese House will try to create and provide such opportunities.

Last but not the least, China is the largest developing country and has had the fastest economic development in the past 20 years. It has become one of the largest

markets for the United States. More and more students realize that having a good knowledge of Chinese culture and being able to speak Chinese will lead them to good career opportunities. The Chinese House will help students to get ready for these opportunities.

OBJECTIVES

I. To promote UVM students' understanding of Chinese culture.

ACTION STEPS

- A. Organize in each semester some of the following activities under the guidance of the UVM Chinese faculty and with the assistance of visiting instructors from China and Chinese House residents:
- 1) Invite teachers and students who have just come back from China to talk about their experiences in China and show their photos and slides taken of China
 - 2) Invite Chinese visiting scholars or native Chinese students to introduce China
 - 3) Celebrate Chinese holidays, such as the spring festival (Chinese New Year) and the moon festival
 - 4) Have Chinese potluck parties and demonstrate how to cook Chinese dishes and food
 - 5) Introduce Chinese games such as Chinese chess and card games
 - 6) Organize excursions to China Town in Montreal or Boston
 - 7) Show newly released Chinese movies
 - 8) Show DVD's or video tapes on Chinese culture
- B. Incorporate some of the activities listed above into the course *Glimpses of Chinese Culture (AIS 005 in the fall semester and AIS 006 in the spring semester)*. The residents of Chinese House and other students may register to take the course. The students taking this course will meet once a week in Living & Learning Center to learn about the following topics or go on a study trip during the spring break:

(In Fall Semester)
Chinese Holidays
Chinese Operas
Chinese Folk Songs
Chinese Acupuncture
Chinese Qigong
Chinese Martial Arts
Chinese Architecture
Chinese Tea

(In Spring Semester)
Chinese Music Instruments
Chinese Painting
Chinese Sports
Studying and Living in China
Chinese Calligraphy
Chinese Women
Chinese Minority Nationalities
Chinese Chess
Chinese Cuisine

II. To enhance and reinforce students' Chinese language learning experiences after class.

ACTION STEPS

- A. Hold Chinese Tea Hour every week, during which visiting instructors from China meet and chat with students in Chinese and English on topics related to Chinese language and culture
- B. Watch Chinese movies on DVD at the Chinese House
- C. Subscribe to a Chinese learning magazine: *Xue Hanyu (Learning Chinese)* and a Chinese magazine in English: *China Today* (see ATTACHMENT 3 for subscription information)
- D. Participate in the Chinese talent shows organized by the Chinese Language Program for students learning Chinese language

III. To prepare students for their possible future study and career related to China.

ACTION STEPS

- A. Be aware of the studying and living conditions in study abroad programs in China by communicating through e-mail with the UVM students already in China.
- B. Get to know the China related job market through the Internet and other media so as to be prepared for a China-related career

COMMUNITY SERVICE

All the activities, when appropriate and possible, are open to public. Any resident in or near Burlington area or in Vermont is welcome to participate in these events. Chinese

House residents are also ready to reach out to the community whenever their help is needed

Fall Semester

- Aug.: Open House Party* (the first Friday)
Chinese Tea Hour (Friday afternoon)
- Sept.: Chinese Tea Hour (every Friday afternoon)
Chinese Kung Fu Session (every Thursday evening)*
A lecture on topics related to Chinese culture*
An excursion to China Town in Montreal*
A board game (Fei Long) to learn Chinese culture*
- Oct.: Chinese Tea Hour (every Friday afternoon)
Chinese Kung Fu Session (every Thursday evening)*
A lecture on topics related to Chinese culture*
Celebration of the mid-autumn festival*
A Show of photos and slides taken in China*
Study abroad in China meeting
A board game (Fei Long) to learn Chinese culture*
- Nov.: Chinese Tea Hour (every Friday afternoon)
Chinese Kung Fu Session (every Thursday evening)*
A lecture on topics related to Chinese culture*
A board game (Fei Long) to learn Chinese culture*
- Dec.: Semester-End Chinese Dinner

Spring Semester

- Jan.: Reunion party for students back from China
Chinese Tea Hour (every Friday afternoon)
Chinese Kung Fu Session (every Thursday evening)*
Study abroad in China meeting
A board game (Fei Long) to learn Chinese culture*
- Feb.: Chinese Tea Hour (every Friday afternoon)
Chinese Kung Fu Session (every Thursday evening)*
Celebration of the Chinese New Year*
Study abroad in China meeting
A board game (Fei Long) to learn Chinese culture*

March: Chinese Tea Hour (every Friday afternoon)
Chinese Kung Fu Session (every Thursday evening)*
A Chinese movie show*
A lecture on topics related to Chinese culture*
A taste of Chinese food: Potluck party*
A board game (Fei Long) to learn Chinese culture*

April: Chinese Tea Hour (every Friday afternoon)
Chinese Kung Fu Session (every Thursday evening)*
A lecture on topics related to Chinese culture*
Study abroad in China meeting
A board game (Fei Long) to learn Chinese culture*

May: Chinese Talent Show*
Semester-End Chinese dinner

* Activities with an asterisk are open to all residents of the Global Village and other Living/Learning Center programs; the rest are for the residents of the Chinese House and the students taking courses related to Chinese language and culture.



About the Global Village

This program is part of the Global Village Residential Learning Community (RLC). For UVM students interested in exploring other cultures, studying abroad, or pursuing lives and careers in an increasingly interconnected world, the Global Village may be just the place for you! Drawing on the resources of the Living/Learning Center and its dynamic network of student- and faculty-led programs, the community of learners that make up the Global Village will be engaged in coursework, lectures, concerts, exhibits, faculty and peer mentoring, social connections with international students, group meals, and trips that:

- Explore the many connections among language, art and culture at regional, national, and international scales.
- Share disciplinary expertise within an environment that values a holistic approach to “living and learning.”
- Encourage formal and informal contacts among students, faculty, and staff within the Global Village, the Living/Learning Center, the other Residential Learning Communities, and the university as a whole.
- Aim to be a complement to existing international and cross-cultural programs at UVM.
- “Think globally and act locally” by outreach to the international community at UVM and within the greater Burlington area.

More information about the Global Village RLC can be found at: <http://www.uvm.edu/globalvillage>

GRS 095/096: The Global Village Seminar

GRS 095/096: The Global Village Seminar is a largely self-paced, one-credit course designed to help you get the most out of your experience as a citizen of the Global Village Residential Learning Community. All new Global Village residents **must** enroll in GRS 095 for one credit during the fall semester or GRS 096 for the spring semester. (Returning Global Village students who have not yet satisfactorily completed the class must enroll in GRS 095 during the fall semester.) This course will be graded on a “Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory” basis. The course will be partly comprised of a series of “Common Hour” community gatherings held on Thursday afternoons. The primary purpose of the Common Hour meetings is to build a stronger sense of community among the members of the many Global Village houses and programs. As well, the Common Hour gatherings will help Global Village citizens build a common knowledge and skill set, including such topics as intercultural communication, globalization, etc. A variety of program offerings will take place during Common Hour meetings, such as special guest lectures, interactive dialogue and social gatherings. During weeks when the Common Hours are not held, you are expected to participate in one educational event or activity with a global cultural theme. We’ll provide you with a list of suggested events and activities, or you can identify other events/activities with a global cultural theme; you choose which ones you wish to attend.

We’ll provide you with a Global Village Passport; use it to keep track of your activities and explorations. In addition to documenting participation in Common Hours and the educational events/activities, you will need to do reflective writing in the form of five short journal entries on the cultural/educational events that you participated in, along with a lengthier essay looking back on your most meaningful experience of the semester within the Global Village.

Returning Global Village students are also invited (but not required) to enroll in GRS 095 during the fall semester. Enrollment in GRS 096 for one credit during the spring semester is optional and encouraged for all students.

If you anticipate a problem with fulfilling this course expectation (such as if you will already be enrolled in 18 credits), please contact Prof. Joseph Acquisto, Faculty Director of the Global Village, at Joseph.Acquisto@uvm.edu

For more details about this course, visit: <http://www.uvm.edu/~gvrlc/passport/GRS095096.pdf>