Chinese House

JOHN YIN, Faculty Director
YING HU, Faculty Director
KEVIN NEVILLE, Student Director
JASON RANCIATO, Student Director

OVERVIEW

The Chinese House has been a Living and Learning Center program since the fall semester of 1998. In the past 16 years, it has provided a living and learning place for students who are learning Chinese language and are interested in Chinese culture. It is also a place where American and Chinese students can come together after class to have extracurricular activities that help to enrich their experiences with Chinese and American cultures and to reinforce their Chinese and English language skills, with the assistance of language faculty members of the Chinese Language Program at UVM and visiting instructors or scholars from China.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Learning Objective #1

To promote UVM students’ understanding of Chinese culture.

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) Celebrate Chinese holidays, such as the spring festival (Chinese New Year) and the moon festival
3) Have Chinese potluck parties and demonstrate how to cook Chinese dishes and food
4) Introduce Chinese games such as Chinese chess and card games
5) Show Chinese movies that help to understand Chinese culture
Learning Objective #2

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 The World of Chinese (see ATTACHMENT 3 for subscription information)
D. Participate in the Chinese language talent show organized by the Chinese Language Program for students learning Chinese language

Learning Objective #3

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

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 025: The Global Village Seminar**

GRS 025: 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 025 for one credit during the fall semester or spring semester. (Returning Global Village students who have not yet satisfactorily completed the class must enroll in GRS 025 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 025 during the fall semester or spring semester.

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/?Page=passport/passport.html&SM=passport/sub-menu.html