

**College of Education**  
**Short-Term Teaching and Learning Experience Abroad**  
**Shanghai, China; SPRING 2020**

Through an agreement between Winthrop's College of Education and the Shanghai Far East School (SFES) in Jiading District of Shanghai, China, undergraduate and MAT Internship II candidates have a unique opportunity to spend six weeks teaching abroad. The program is designed to promote global learning at our institutions, broaden international understanding and appreciation of the respective cultures, and encourage the exchange of educational ideas and teaching practices. Visiting SFES is a wonderful opportunity to have a study abroad experience living and teaching in China for an extended time period.

A description follows of how the program will work and the application and selection process including the application form and directions for the Statement of Interest. Many of the costs of the program while in China are covered; however, selected candidates are responsible for round trip international airfare (approximately \$1,500), pre-cost expenses (passport, immunizations, etc.) and extra spending money. [Note: A limited amount of scholarship funds may be available to off-set a portion of these costs based on student need.]

Prior to departure, selected candidates participate in a series of seminars that address Chinese culture, living and traveling abroad guidelines, and strategies for teaching English to Mandarin speakers. While in China, candidates complete a reflective journal, participate in seminars, and are observed in the classroom setting. These activities occur as part of enrollment in EDUC 420/620, which is a one credit hour course to support the experience.

If interested in this opportunity, complete the online application by **September 20, 2019**.

***Description of the Winthrop-COE China Exploration Experience***

Teacher candidates enrolled in the spring semester Internship II are selected to participate in a short term teaching and learning experience in Shanghai, China. The chosen candidates *must have completed all coursework* in their program of study except for Internship II, any associate program capstone course, and EDCO 410/695. Since all Internship II requirements are completed in a shortened period of time, Internship II for the selected interns will begin around December 1, 2019 and end approximately March 20, 2020. Every effort is made for the Internship II school placement site to remain the same as the Internship I site to allow a smoother transition for this modified Internship II schedule. The chosen candidates leave for China the third week in March and stay for approximately five to six weeks, returning late April/early May.

While in China, candidates are housed on the Shanghai Far East School (SFES) campus in an apartment facility where international teachers from other English-speaking countries reside. The living accommodations include a private bedroom and semi-private bathroom in a two or four-bedroom suite with laundry facilities and a full kitchen. Candidates receive a meal plan that allows them to dine with resident students and teachers on campus during the school week. In addition, SFES provides approximately 1,000 – 1,500 RMB (approximately \$150-200) to each candidate for meals and other expenses during the experience. The candidates are expected to pay for round-trip travel to Shanghai, China and have spending money for off-campus meals, shopping, or personal excursions. Candidates are required to have insurance, passport and visa (visa cost included in course fee), required immunizations, and are liable for any medical expenses incurred while in China.

Shanghai Far East School has an international focus and welcomes American and other international teacher interns to their school for up to six month periods. Winthrop's candidates may be at the school with teacher candidates from other countries or American universities. While at SFES, candidates are placed in a grade level appropriate to their Winthrop teacher preparation program. An English-speaking teacher at the school is assigned to serve as a Mentor Teacher for each candidate. Because SFES is an international school, many teachers at the school are proficient in English. Thus, they will help plan and support the activities listed below:

- Prior to arrival, Winthrop provides information to the school about the participating candidates, such as major and previous teaching experiences. The school may provide Winthrop with information about the class or classes to which the candidates are assigned.
- Candidates are supported by a Winthrop supervisor who communicates prior to the experience with the SFES administrators. While at the school, the SFES Mentor Teacher is available to the candidate at all times.
- Winthrop and SFES determine appropriate teaching responsibilities for the candidates, and candidates begin teaching soon after arrival. The candidates teach English and cover the English language content expected by the Far East School Program of Study. Candidates should be aware of the high stakes testing in China and thus the need to teach the required English content to mastery.

While at SFES, an English-speaking teacher at the school is available to the candidates to help support their acculturation and address any issues that may arise. In advance of the trip, the College of Education provides pre-departure seminars that address internship requirements, travel and safety advice, information on Chinese culture, strategies for teaching English to Mandarin speakers, and guidance on communications and excursions. Candidates must agree in writing to abide by guidelines for their conduct and safety. If, for some reason, a candidate is not fulfilling expectations, we reserve the right to terminate the experience and arrange for return travel at the student's expense.

### **Application and Selection Process**

1. Students enrolled in Internship I in fall 2019 who are interested in pursuing this opportunity submit a completed online application **by September 20, 2019**.
2. The Selection Committee contacts each applicant's faculty references and Internship I Mentor Teacher as well as reviews any other documents on record. After a careful review of the application documents, the Selection Committee narrows the pool of candidates and identifies program finalists.
3. In late September, the COE Associate Dean contacts each finalist by Winthrop email and invites them to participate in an interview with the Selection Committee.
4. Finalist applications are shared with the Principal of Shanghai Far East School for input into the final selection.
5. **Announcement of the 2020 China Experience Interns is expected by October 15.**