Study and Travel in 5 Cities in China

- Beijing
- Chengdu
- Shanghai
- Hangzhou
- Xi’an (Optional Excursion)

Duquesne University School of Law was one of the first American law schools to establish a summer program in Beijing. Now you have the opportunity to travel to multiple cities and complete coursework taught by Duquesne professors on site at partner universities in Beijing, Chengdu, and Hangzhou.

Join us for an intensive three-week program that provides unique insight into the ancient yet changing legal landscape in the world’s most populous nation. Curriculum topics include comparisons of family and criminal law in coursework approved for American Bar Association credit.

3-Week Program Offering 5 ABA-Approved Credits

Chinese Language, Culture, Legal History, and Law 1 Credit

The first module provides an overview of Chinese language, culture, legal history, and law. Associate Dean Frank Y. Liu will begin to teach the course at Duquesne prior to students’ departure to China. It will provide introduction to Chinese characters and pronunciation, Chinese culture, the traditional Chinese legal system, and the reality of Chinese current political and legal systems.

The Innocence Revolution: A Comparative Examination of Criminal Justice Reforms in the U.S. and China with a Focus on our Responses to Post-Conviction Exonerations of Factually Innocent Individuals 2 Credits

The second module will examine the contours of “conviction integrity” under both the US and Chinese criminal justice systems and how and these virtues/values play out (or not) in terms of our separate and shared responses to the convictions of factually innocent individuals (post conviction exonerations). Taught by Professor John T. Rago, this course will examine common errors leading to wrongful convictions and lessons learned in specific cases from both criminal justice systems. We will examine reform efforts in place or underway as a result of the learning moment produced by wrongful convictions. Guest lectures will be delivered by Chinese faculty who will provide their own experiences and perspectives on wrongful convictions and reform efforts in China.

Issues in Family Law in Comparative Context 2 Credits

The third module covers constitutional and criminal features of U.S. family law, including what constitutes unlawful family violence, and the parameters of lawful state regulation of reproduction and pregnancy. Professor Rona Kaufman will teach the course. Guest lectures with Chinese faculty will provide comparative perspective on how family law functions in China.

Summer Study of Law in China is open to Duquesne University School of Law students exclusively.