



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BEIJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC POLICY & UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE'S SCHOOL OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC POLICY STUDENT EXCHANGE **08/25/2009 UD STUDENTS**

1. **Who are the partner institutions for the exchange?** – The partners are: University of Delaware's (UD) School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy (SUAPP) and Beijing Normal University's (BNU) School of Social Development and Public Policy (SSDPP)
2. **Who is eligible to apply?** – Second year students from UD's School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy
3. **Is knowledge of Chinese required?** – Chinese language is not required – there will be Public Admin/Public Policy classes offered in English. However, if you are selected to go on the trip it is highly recommended that you make every effort to pick up some of the language before you leave for China.
4. **Can I take Chinese classes as part of the program at BNU?** – BNU confirmed that Chinese language classes are available at BNU, both formal and through a tutor. However given the fact that this is a graduate level exchange program the preference is that the student interested in learning the language hires a tutor while in China.
5. **What classes will be offered in English and how many?** – The expectation is that there will be about 3-4 classes offered at SSDPP in English in the spring. No final determination has been made on the topic of the classes. It is expected that this will be decided upon in November/December 2009.
6. **Will the students have research/teaching assistantships?** – BNU confirmed that UD students on this program will have an assistantship – the exact nature of the assistantship will be determined later in 2009 - depending on the active projects at BNU and the interest of the selected student/s. Current projects as of August 2009 that are being conducted at SSDPP are: Child poverty and child development; Social assistance for the poor; Migrant workers; Risk management; NGO and social enterprises; Pro-poor policies; Data analysis
7. **What is the application deadline?** – There are 2 application deadlines – SUAPP application deadline – September 30th – to determine who will be nominated to participate in the exchange. You must submit an application by September 30th to be considered for the exchange. For information on the exchange visit: <http://www.udel.edu/bnu>. The second application (November 15th, 2009) is the formal application to BNU, where the nominated student has to apply, submit documentation and pay application fee to BNU to seek admission.

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8. **What is involved in the internal SUAPP application?** – a) write an essay (on motivation/academic rationale, intercultural sensitivity and ability to cope with unexpected events – see questions at <http://www.udel.edu/bnu>) b) complete a demographic application form, c) prepare a resume, d) send all by email to tibi@udel.edu by no later than 5 PM EST on September 30th, 2009.
 9. **How many students will participate in the exchange?** – BNU confirmed that they are offering 2 spots for students to attend BNU for 1 semester each. We will likely nominate 1-2 students through the internal SUAPP application.
 10. **What status will the UD student have at UD while attending BNU?** – UD students will be registered on a leave of absence at UD.
 11. **Will I miss a semester at UD while I am at BNU?** – this really depends – there is a possibility that you could take 1-2 independent study courses here at UD during the semester prior to going to BNU, and then complete these classes once you get back from BNU. Or you could request to have your courses taken at BNU transferred towards your degree at UD. All these options must be coordinated between you, your advisor and your graduate program director.
 12. **Will I be covered by health insurance?** – BNU stipulates that students are required to carry and are responsible for paying for their own health insurance while at BNU. You are highly encouraged to arrange for your own health insurance before you leave for BNU – this is solely your responsibility. One of the options is HTH insurance. Please remember, since you will be off campus-on a leave of absence from UD you will not be covered by your UD health insurance. Please note that it is also your sole responsibility to make sure that you maintain health coverage in the US if you require one.
 13. **Will all my costs be covered?** – BNU agreed to cover the tuition for the semester; also you will be paid a stipend for your work as a research/teaching assistant. However, you are solely responsible for all of your costs including accommodation, food, health insurance, transportation, books etc.
 14. **Where will I be living?** – You will be living on BNU's main campus, very likely in a dormitory with other international students.
 15. **Will I need a Visa and a Passport?** – Students who were nominated by UD and accepted by BNU will be issued an admission letter and a form that they will use to apply for a student/non-immigrant visa to enter China. It is the student's responsibility to arrange for a passport, apply and pay for the visa. Also, students are required to maintain valid status while in China.
 16. **Do local Chinese laws apply to me while I am in China?** – Definitely. Upon entering China all laws of the People's Republic of China will apply to you. It is your sole responsibility to acquaint yourself with appropriate code of conduct.

<http://www.udel.edu/bnu>

