
Study Abroad Program Information Package

Fall 2017 Semester

Important Dates:

- February 21, 2017
BU Law application deadline
- Mid-March 2017
Selections made
- Late March 2017
Tsinghua online application deadline for fall 2017 semester
- Late April 2017
Application supporting documents due
Deadline to apply for housing
- Mid-July 2017
Fall 2017 participants should secure their visa to study in China
- Late August 2017
Orientation
- August 28, 2017
First day of classes
- December 22, 2017
Last day of commitments/exams

To receive 12 academic credits from BU Law, participating students must take a minimum of 12 credit hours (not including language course credits) pursued through a fall semester of courses taken through Tsinghua's LL.M. in Chinese Law Program. This is the typical semester course load of a Tsinghua LL.M. student.

None of the grades for the Tsinghua semester will count toward your BU Law GPA or towards academic honors and awards (such as the scholarly awards, graduation prizes or degree rankings, such as *cum laude*, *magna cum laude* and *summa cum laude*).

Students who seek to return to Tsinghua to complete the Tsinghua LL.M. after they obtain the BU Law J.D. may do so at the discretion of Tsinghua in accordance with its usual admissions and degree requirements.

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We are pleased you are interested in Boston University School of Law's overseas exchange program with Tsinghua University Faculty of Law in Beijing, China. This package gives a general description of the program as well as details about some of its more important aspects. Carefully review this information before deciding whether to apply.

I. Some Preliminary – and Important – Points

At the outset, we would like to stress several aspects of the program which may be relevant to your decision to apply.

- A. Timing: This is a one-semester program that will be offered in fall 2017.
- B. Credits: The program is designed to grant participating students 12 semester credits toward their J.D. degree.
- C. Academic Focus: The program focuses on Chinese law. Students are enrolled in classes in Tsinghua's LL.M. in Chinese Law program.
- D. Eligible Students: The program is open to second- and third-year students who have spent at least one full-year at BU Law. First-year students cannot participate.
- E. Language: All courses in the LL.M. in Chinese Law program at Tsinghua are taught in English.
- F. Number of Participants: Four students at most can participate. We may select fewer than four, but under no circumstances can we select more.

II. Why Study Law at Tsinghua?

- A. China, Tsinghua University, and its Law School

China's extraordinary economic growth over the past two decades – and its emergence as a great power with the potential to challenge America's preeminence, economically and militarily, in Asia and elsewhere – is without question one of the principal trends in the new global order.¹ China is expected to be the world's second largest economy by 2020, boasting for the foreseeable future the most rapid growth rate in either the developed or developing world. The country's explosive growth "could be the dominant event of this century," says Stapleton Roy, former U.S. ambassador to China. "Never before has a country risen as fast as China is [now] doing."²

The implications of China's rise are profound. As Oded Shenkar states in *The Chinese Century*, "We are about to wake up to a new business environment, with new ground rules for business competition, fresh terms of employment, and novel consumption patterns – one that will redraw the battle lines on the political, economic, and social fronts, and one that will place new challenges at the doorstep of nations, firms, and individuals."³

Since entering the WTO in 2001, China has eased restrictions against foreign firms setting up multiple offices in China. Global as well as "local" U.S. firms are expanding their China presence to capitalize on China's loosening trade restrictions and protect their U.S. clients' intellectual

¹ See Oded Shenkar, *The Chinese Century* (Wharton School Publishing, 2005).

² "The Rise of a New Power: A Communist Juggernaut Emerges to Challenge the West" (*U.S. News and World Report*, June 20, 2005).

³ *The Chinese Century*, p. 2.

property interests.⁴ As Steven Davis, Chairman of LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene and MacRae, announced upon opening his firm's new Shanghai office, "If we continue to be a global law firm, we must have a very sizable practice in China. The future is here."⁵ Firms will be increasingly looking for J.D. talent that can help them achieve their business goals on the mainland.⁶

Tsinghua University was founded in 1911. It first served as a preparatory school for students selected by China's government to study in the United States. After the founding of the PRC and the nationwide educational restructuring of 1952, Tsinghua became a multidisciplinary polytechnic institution focusing on engineering. To this day, the university is still mostly known for its preeminence in that field. Today, it comprises fourteen schools offering 37 bachelor's degree programs, 107 master's degree programs and 64 Ph.D. programs in science, liberal arts, management and law. The University has over 7,235 faculty and staff, with over 1,142 full professors and 1,079 associate professors, including 37 members of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and 32 members of the Chinese Academy of Engineering. The student body includes approximately 13,100 undergraduates, 7,515 master's degree candidates and 5,316 doctoral candidates. The university's self-described educational philosophy is to "train students with integrity."

Tsinghua Law School was established in 1929 and has since undergone many transformations to mirror the political, social, and cultural changes that have occurred in China during the 20th century. In 1995, the School was reformed in response to the call to establish and enhance the rule of law in China. It currently enrolls more than 1,300 students in both its undergraduate (LL.B.) and graduate law programs (LL.M. and Professional Juris Master). It employs 54 full-time faculty members, many of whom have studied or taught abroad.

The Law School, including the law library, is housed in a single building (the Ming Li building). It has a moot court with state-of-the-art equipment. The Tsinghua University Law Library is part of the university library system. One of the first professional law libraries in China, it houses a collection of 40,000 Chinese law books and 20,000 foreign law books. There is seating available for 300 users and a dedicated computer lab to access electronic publications and on-line resources.

For more information on Tsinghua University School of Law, please visit their (English) website: <http://www.tsinghua.edu.cn/publish/lawen/index.html>.

B. Tsinghua's LL.M. in Chinese Law Program

Tsinghua's LL.M. in Chinese Law Program—an English language program focusing exclusively on Chinese law and China's legal system—is the first of its kind in mainland China. BU Law students participate in a single (fall) semester of this program, studying Chinese law alongside visiting students from around the world. Please visit <http://www.tsinghua.edu.cn/publish/lawen/7057/index.html> for a detailed overview of the program.

⁴ See "Serving China, Serving Ourselves: Expertise is Becoming a Big U.S. Export," *JS Online, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, May 10, 2004 (noting that international firms, based in Wisconsin, "are rushing to the Chinese mainland to help safeguard trademarks, patents and technology."); see also "Local Law Firms Expand Presence to Serve Fast-Growing Mainland Market," *Puget Sound Business Journal*, August 27, 2004 (noting the expansion of Seattle and San Francisco law firms to Shanghai, Beijing and Hong Kong.)

⁵ "U.S. Law Firm Expanding Presence in China," *China Daily*, January 15, 2006. See also "Wilmer Hale at Front of Local Law Presence in China," *Boston Business Journal*, December 10, 2004.

⁶ A bit of background on legal practice in the PRC: foreign law firms doing business in China cannot employ Chinese lawyers to provide legal services, but must affiliate with local firms for counsel on Chinese law. Likewise, U.S. firms cannot represent clients in a Chinese courtroom; they act as liaisons between local Chinese firms and U.S. business clients; they track changes in Chinese law; they serve as business consultants and cultural ambassadors to US companies, helping facilitate relationships with local partners and government agencies. They also represent Chinese companies in U.S. business activities.

Teaching in the program is by members of Tsinghua's full-time faculty as well as by adjuncts and practitioners. Please visit <http://www.tsinghua.edu.cn/publish/lawen/7062/index.html> for the biographies of the Tsinghua law faculty who teach in the LL.M. in Chinese Law Program. Many of them have studied outside of China and have developed an international perspective. Because of the program's small size and the foreign experience of many of Tsinghua's faculty, BU Law students can expect a more interactive classroom dynamic than they might otherwise receive at a traditional Chinese law school. They should not, however, expect to receive a Socratic experience.

C. The City of Beijing

China's capital city, Beijing serves as the political, economic, social and cultural center of the world's most populous country. As one study abroad provider describes, "Beijing, the monumental capital of modern China, is a magnet for international business and investment. While its new high-rises and financial institutions testify to its booming economy, remnants of Old Beijing remain. Streets lined with dumpling and noodle stands, beautiful parks bedecked with pagodas, and 19th century homes with graceful four-walled courtyards still charm visitors from around the world."⁷

While modernization is taking over with scores of new construction projects, government officials and city planners are attempting to strike a balance between preserving the old and bringing in the new. Relics of the past certainly remain, including Beijing's ancient center, the Forbidden City. In addition to the Forbidden City, Beijing is home to several other major tourist attractions in China, including Tiananmen Square, the Great Wall, the Lama Temple and the Summer Palace. The 2008 Summer Olympic catapulted Beijing to an even more prominent place on the world stage.

BU Law students won't be far from the action. Tsinghua University is located in the northwest section of Beijing, roughly 20 minutes from the downtown section of the city. One of its entrances is near the historic Old Summer Palace, and the University's location used to be home to several royal gardens of the Qing Dynasty. Tsinghua administrators will help ensure that BU Law students benefit from everything Beijing has to offer by thoroughly orienting them to the city. As part of the program, they will also arrange for outside lectures, moot court competitions, seminars and visits to legal institutions.

More information on Beijing can be found at:
<http://www.lonelyplanet.com/china/beijing>
<http://www.ebeijing.gov.cn/>

III. The Tsinghua Study Abroad Program

A. What the Program is – and isn't

The exchange program with Tsinghua is designed to offer a serious study of international and comparative law in an international setting. This is definitely not the same thing as a college semester abroad. If you are looking for a semester abroad with a light course load and plenty of time to sightsee and eat dim sum, this is not the program for you. This is not to say that you will have no time to sightsee and familiarize yourself with Chinese culture. You will. But we do want to emphasize that this program is much more academically rigorous than many overseas programs at the undergraduate level.

⁷ From <http://www.iesabroad.org/study-abroad/beijing>.

B. Number of Students

As noted above, we will be selecting up to four BU Law students to attend Tsinghua in the fall 2017 semester.

C. Program Dates

Fall Orientation: Late August 2017
First Day of Classes: August 28, 2017
Fall Semester Dates: August 28, 2017- December 22, 2017

You will be expected to arrive in Beijing no later than August 27th for fall orientation; as such, participants may need to make special arrangements with their summer employers to reach Beijing in time for orientation.

D. Course Offerings and Selections

BU Law students will be integrated into Tsinghua's LL.M. in Chinese Law program – an English language program focusing exclusively on Chinese law and China's legal system – where they will study alongside visiting students from around the world. No prior exposure to Chinese law is required to commence studies in the program. Visiting students must attend the fall semester because that is when the compulsory, basic courses are offered. Therefore, the course offerings are limited to the following basic courses in Chinese law:

- Chinese Society and Chinese Law (3) *
- Chinese Constitutional and Administrative Law (2) *
- Chinese Civil Law (3) *
- Chinese Civil Procedure and the Conflict of Laws (3)*
- Chinese Contract Law (2)*
- Chinese Criminal and Criminal Procedural Law (3)
- Chinese Environmental Law (2)
- Chinese Course (2)

**The figures in the parenthesis indicate credit hours*

BU Law students are required to take 12 credit hours per semester, the typical semester course load of a Tsinghua LL.M. student. Per the ABA regulations for foreign study, the Chinese language course cannot count towards your 12 credit requirement.

E. Seven Semester LL.M. Degree Option

<http://www.tsinghua.edu.cn/publish/lawen/7059/index.html>

Tsinghua designed its LL.M. in Chinese Law Program to accommodate second- or third-year J.D. students interested in spending a single (fall) semester at Tsinghua. Participating BU Law students will have the option to return to Tsinghua within two years to complete a second (spring) semester, at the end of which they would be awarded the LL.M. in Chinese Law from Tsinghua. Thus, a BU Law student could obtain both a J.D. from BU Law and an LL.M. from Tsinghua in seven semesters. In order to be awarded the LL.M. in Chinese Law, returning BU Law students will need to earn an additional 12 credits (24 total) and complete a paper, as a degree thesis. The following courses have been offered in the past (the spring semester course offerings will likely remain the same, or similar, in coming years):

- Chinese Foreign Trade and Investment Law (3)
- Selected Issues of Chinese and Comparative Law (2)
- Chinese Corporate and Bankruptcy Law (3)
- Chinese Banking Law (2)
- Chinese Practice of International Law (2)
- Chinese Intellectual Property Law (2)
- Chinese Securities Law (2)
- Chinese Practice of WTO Law (2)
- Chinese Course (2)

F. Exams

Evaluation at Tsinghua is done through both written examination and papers. Written examinations are a combination of essay and multiple choice or short answer questions. Some are in-class examinations; others are take-home.

IV. How to Apply

If you decide to apply, you must do two things:

- 1) Complete an online application available at www.bu.edu/jd/studyabroad and submit the Application Package.
- 2) Complete an interview with Assistant Dean John Riccardi and Assistant Director Shannon Supitkowsky, scheduled through the Graduate and International Programs Office.

In screening applicants, we will look for such things as a strong academic record, a favorable faculty recommendation, serious interest in international and comparative law, and experience with different cultures and overseas travel.

The BU application deadline is February 21, 2017.

* For first-year students applying to participate in their second year, we will be unable to make a final decision until mid-summer, after we have received your second semester grades.

V. Tsinghua Study Abroad Student Application

Once you are accepted into the Tsinghua Study Abroad Program, you will need to submit additional materials to Tsinghua University School of Law; which will be provided by the Graduate & International Programs Office. Please be advised that the information on this application will be used to process the paperwork for your student visa; thus, in addition to filling out the application accurately, you will need to provide two passport sized photos with the completed application.

**The Graduate and International Programs Office will assist you in completing this process once you have been accepted into the program*

VI. Student Evaluation and Grades

Your exams will be graded in the first instance by Tsinghua faculty in accordance with the Tsinghua grading system. Because grading standards between BU Law and Tsinghua differ, a direct translation to BU Law's letter grading system is extremely difficult. Therefore, participating BU Law students will, upon successfully completing a course, receive a designation of "credit" for the course on their transcripts. This

designation will include an asterisk or footnote indicating that the actual grade is available upon request, and that it will be accompanied by an explanation of Tsinghua's different grading system.

ACCEPTANCE OF ANY CREDIT OR GRADE FOR ANY COURSE TAKEN IN THE PROGRAM IS SUBJECT TO DETERMINATION BY BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW. We expect, however, that all credits earned at Tsinghua will count towards Boston University School of Law credits.

One final point about grading. None of the grades for the Tsinghua semester will count toward your BU Law GPA or towards School of Law honors and awards (such as the scholarly awards, graduation prizes or degree rankings, such as cum laude, magna cum laude and summa cum laude).

VII. Tsinghua's Program Director and Staff

The Program Director is WANG Chenguang, Professor of Law. His CV is available on the LL.M. in Chinese Law program website. His contact information is:

Professor WANG Chenguang
The L.L.M. Program in Chinese Law
Room 116, Law School (Mingli Building), Tsinghua University,
Haidian District, Beijing 100084
People's Republic of China
Tel: (8610) 62795941
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wcglaw@mail.tsinghua.edu.cn

Camellia Jie Ying Liu is the Program Assistant, with whom students arrange visas and housing. Her contact information is:

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Updated program information is regularly posted on the LL.M. program's website at:
<http://www.tsinghua.edu.cn/publish/lawen/7057/index.html>

VIII. Library Facilities

The Tsinghua University Law Library is part of the university library system, and is one of the first professional law libraries among existing law schools in China. At present, the Tsinghua Law Library has a collection of 40,000 Chinese law books and 20,000 foreign law books, as well as subscriptions to over 190 law journals. The Library is wired for internet service, has computers for student use and is air-conditioned. There are 300 seats available to the users, and the electronic reading room helps users obtain updated legal information via electronic publications and on-line databases.⁸

IX. Provisions for Students with Disabilities

⁸ Quoted from Tsinghua's website, <http://www.tsinghua.edu.cn/publish/lawen/3488/index.html>.

The Tsinghua facilities are not necessarily all accessible to students with disabilities. If you are interested in the program and will need some special assistance due to a disability, please speak with Assistant Dean for Graduate and International Programs, John Riccardi. He will then contact Tsinghua to obtain information about the availability of needed services.

X. Student Housing and Living Arrangements

Tsinghua will offer BU Law students housing in on-campus dormitories within easy access to classrooms, faculty offices, and other university facilities. The dorms are brand-new and quite nice; some offer private bathrooms and showers, and include maid service, a desk, a bed and a food preparation area. Laundry facilities are in the building. BU Law students will be living with Chinese students, thereby gaining the cultural advantages of such a living arrangement. The dormitory houses a cafeteria as well, where students can purchase inexpensive meals. The cost is inexpensive by Boston standards: students pay roughly \$270 (1800 RMB) a month to live on campus. While the rooms are nice, clean, and well-kept, the experience is much more similar to an undergraduate dormitory in the United States than apartments to which some BU Law students may be accustomed. Students who wish to seek other accommodation must do so on their own. More information is available at <http://intlstudent.cic.tsinghua.edu.cn/EN/campus/accommodation.html>

XI. Anticipated Tuition, Fees and Living Costs

BU Law students pay regular BU Law tuition, and any transportation costs and living expenses. Fees for the fall semester are roughly estimated as follows:

Housing:	\$2,000 (based on 5 month stay – 12,250 CNY or approximately \$400 per month).
Meals:	\$1,200 (Tsinghua estimates approximately 7250 yuan for your entire stay)
Books and Supplies:	\$215
Public Transportation:	\$130
Registration Fee:	\$30 (180 CNY)
Insurance Fee:	\$50 (300 CNY)
Visa Fee:	\$115 (700 CNY)
Miscellaneous:	\$200

Total estimated living expenses for a single semester at Tsinghua: \$3,940

The estimate above does not include the cost of flying to and from Beijing. Please note that if you plan to travel during your semester at Tsinghua, your living expenses will increase significantly.

XII. Program Cancellation Information

We expect the program to go forward as planned and anticipate no obstacles to implementation. However, the ABA requires that we inform you about our contemplated course of action in case of cancellation or change and in case a State Department Advisory is issued for the program area.

A. General Policy

In the highly unlikely event that the entire program has to be canceled, students selected for the program will be informed immediately by telephone and by mail, email, or in person, and notices of cancellation will be posted on the BU Law website. In addition, individual meetings will be arranged with any student who wishes one. If in the even more unlikely event that the Program is

canceled after students have arrived in Hamburg, Assistant Dean John Riccardi will contact all participating students by telephone, if possible, or by email.

Should particular courses be canceled or rescheduled, students selected for the program will be informed by email, telephone, or in person.

B. State Department Advisories

The most current Consular Information Sheet on is available on the internet at <http://travel.state.gov/>. If an Advisory is issued before you are selected for the program, notice will be posted on the BU Law website and all applicants interviewed for the program will be personally informed via email and phone. If, based upon the information conveyed to you, you wish to cancel your enrollment in the program, you will have an opportunity to do so. If such an advisory is issued after students are selected or during the program term, all participating students will be notified immediately by phone and email and given an opportunity to withdraw.

C. Specific Program Cancellation Information

- This study abroad program may be subject to cancellation by the host school in the event that conditions in and around its location may endanger the health, safety or security of its participants or others.
- In addition, addition, Boston University reserves the right to issue an instruction that all University faculty, staff, or students evacuate or not travel to a given location when, in its sole judgment, conditions have changed to the extent that continued participation in an activity at that location endangers the health, safety or security of participants. Were this to occur, this program will be cancelled.
- BU Law will notify participants by email immediately of the program's cancellation and will post an appropriate announcement on the program's current student web page.
- If the program is cancelled prior to commencement of the term, all students will be refunded in full any fees paid to Boston University related to the program (excluding any advance room, board and travel costs associated with getting to the host country that have been paid). In addition, all students will be integrated into the regular semester at Boston University School of Law.
- If cancellation takes place while the program term is underway, students will be permitted to choose either a refund of fees billed by Boston University, in accordance with the University's refund schedule (this would exclude room, board, and any travel costs associated with getting to the host country prior to the date of cancellation), or completion of the semester's study at BU Law if such is feasible. WE CANNOT GUARANTEE THE OPTION OF COMPLETING THE SEMESTER AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW (AND THUS NOT LOSING A SEMESTER'S PROGRESS TOWARD THE J.D. DEGREE). This option is dependent on resources and the availability of course and independent study opportunities at BU Law. In the event that arrangements at the School of Law are not feasible, or the student elects a refund, the student will be refunded fees as above, in accordance with the University's refund schedule.
- If a faculty, staff member or student does not heed a University instruction to evacuate, that individual does so at his or her own risk, may forfeit insurance coverage, academic credit, tuition payments or expense reimbursement, and may be held responsible for additional expenses incurred by the University due to the individual's refusal to follow this policy.

XIII. Visa Information

International students studying in China must possess ordinary passports with either study visa (Category X) or visiting visa (Category F). International students entering China with other types of visas must promptly transfer into study visas.

Students holding F visa do not need to apply for the Residence Permit, but should apply for extension of visa before the expiration of visa validity.

Full instructions on visa procedures are available at:

<http://www.china-embassy.org/eng/visas/>

For additional information, please visit:

<http://intlstudent.cic.tsinghua.edu.cn/EN/visa/student-visa.html>

Students will work with the Tsinghua University Foreign Student Affairs Office on the visa application process. Students who require additional assistance will be referred to a reputable third party agency, which charges a modest fee of 100 CNY to assist with the process.

Please note that while the Graduate & International Programs Office at BU Law is happy to assist students accepted into this program with immigration matters, it is ultimately the responsibility of the student to work with the Foreign Student Affairs Office at Tsinghua in order to obtain the documents required for study in China.

XIV. Program Reports

Please note that all BU Law students selected to participate in a study abroad program will be required to submit to the Graduate and International Programs Office, before their departure, a one-page statement defining their academic goals for the semester. In addition, to receive credit for foreign study, all students will be asked to submit:

1. Completion of a one-page mid-semester written report or survey, assessing their experiences in light of their academic goals and objectives
2. Completion of an end of program survey assessing a student's academic progress and attainment of educational goals.
3. A two-page report at the end of their program, evaluating their experiences.

Students will not receive academic credit until they submit these reports.