

# Study in China!



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# Welcome to China! 中国欢迎你!

## Culture

The first thing you should know about Chinese culture is that it is full of contradictions in comparison with the Netherlands. There are cultural and linguistic variations within 56 minority groups spread all over China with their own unique cuisines, arts and customs. With its 1.4 billion people, you literally never walk alone in the subway, on the

streets and in restaurants. Luckily, there are also beautiful peaceful moments to be enjoyed in the many parks and temples. The most influential philosophy is Confucianism, which mostly describes how to be an ethical person. Chinese Mandarin is the most widely spoken language, with 1.35 billion speakers worldwide. Will you be the next one?



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## Geography and climate

China is the world's most populous country and the fourth largest country in the world covering a land area of 9.6 million square kilometres. China has a varied climate and is located in the Eastern Asian monsoon flow. In winter, you can be freezing your socks off, also due to the government-provided central heating system which is usually switched off until November. Chinese summers are hot and dry, especially in the Northern part of the country. Don't be surprised when you see Chinese ladies carrying umbrellas against the sun and make sure you don't get poked by one!

## Economy

The economic reforms of 1979 have replaced Chinese state socialism with a more capitalist system, turning China into one of the world's largest economies. China is the ninth largest Dutch export destination. The Netherlands ranks as China's second most important (investment) trade partner in the European Union. More than 500 Dutch companies, including Shell, Unilever and Philips, have successfully set up 950 establishments in China. This creates lots of working opportunities for the Dutch so now is the time to grab them!





# Studying in China

## High quality programmes conducted in English

Can you already speak some Chinese? No worries, you don't need to master the Chinese language in order to follow a bachelor's or master's programme in China. Find the [top 10 of Chinese universities offering English programmes](#), ranked by the Chinese ministry of Education. Peking University and Tsinghua University are also in the top 10 of Times Higher Education Asia University Rankings.

Academic institutions in China offer high quality education and modern facilities, especially in the big metropolises such as Beijing and Shanghai. In Beijing you can choose from a wide range of master's

programmes such as International Relations, Management, Business, International Development and Law.

Master's programmes in China generally take one to three years to complete. However, there are also options for part-time study and durations can vary depending on the university and type of degree programme. The duration of obtaining a Chinese PhD is five years. English language bachelor's programmes are not yet in great demand, but a few Chinese universities do offer quality bachelor's programmes. The best known ones are offered by the [University of International Business and Economics \(UIBE\)](#) in Beijing.



# Practical stuff:

## Admission procedure

As a foreign student you can directly submit your application at a Chinese university or through the [China Scholarship Council](#). You will need to collect and fill in a bunch of required documents to complete the admission procedure and apply for a visa. For the most up-to-date information, visit the website of the university you will be applying to and contact the International Office.



## Money matters

Who says you have to pay all study in China expenses yourself? There are several scholarships for Dutch students who want to study in China:

- 1 [Holland Scholarship](#)
- 2 [Sino Dutch Scholarship](#)
- 3 [VSBfonds Beurs](#)
- 4 [Dr. Hendrik Muller's Vaderlandsch Fonds](#)
- 5 [Erasmus Mundus Programme](#)

## Visa

Depending on the duration of your stay in China for study or an internship, you can apply for a student visa (X-visa) when you are enrolled into a Chinese university, a working visa (M-visa) for an internship or a tourist visa (L-visa).







# Student life

## Campus Life

It is very common in China to stay at the university's campus instead of sharing a student house. You can also find an apartment off-campus through a local agency, but be sure to bring along someone with sufficient Chinese skills to help you negotiate a fair price. The Chinese university campus is in general huge including all kind of facilities such as race tracks, swimming pools, cinemas and KTV (karaoke) bars. Large canteens offer cheap but tasty Chinese food (meals cost about €1–2). Last but not least, student organisations are a big part of campus life in China. Join the international organisations and mingle with internationals and the Chinese!

## Testimonials:

**“You get this feeling at least once a day: ‘This is just so typically China, this couldn’t be anywhere else’. For example, I really love riding around on my scooter to see what’s happening in the area. Or to take the overnight train to some place and find yourself in a three-levelled bunk bed between Chinese people messing about with trays full of noodles.”**

Evy de Groot

master Chinese economy  
– Fudan university Shanghai

**“Living in China always gives me the feeling of being struck by a wave. Sometimes it’s quite agreeable, but at other times you really think you’ve had enough. It’s important not to allow yourself to be put off. Even when it’s difficult, try to see the fun of it all, and don’t take everything too seriously. In Chinese I would say: 自得其乐 (Enjoy yourself)”**

Jip Bouman

master programme International  
relations renmin university



## What’s a Dutchie without a bike?

A must-have to get around the campus and explore the Chinese city is a bike. You can easily buy a (second-hand) bike for €40. There might even be a bike (repair) shop on campus. Excellent subway networks will take you anywhere in the city for less than €1 and buses are even cheaper. Taxis are also quite affordable with an average taxi ride setting you back less than €4.



## What’s cooking?

With €1–2 meals readily available why would you cook your own meal? In fact, some dorms don’t even have a kitchen. If you do like cooking, ask around for the nearest wet market. They can be found on nearly every street, and sell all kinds of meat and vegetables. Cheap and fresh!

## Chinese student night life

You will find out the Chinese student nightlife doesn’t include buckets of alcohol and dancing till 5am. Instead share a big dinner on Friday night, go to a KTV bar or watch movies and drama series together in the dorm.

# Study programmes and internship possibilities

The best option to find a suitable English bachelor's or master's programme is through the website of CUCAS (China's University and College Admission System) founded by CEAIE (China Education Association for International Exchange). This association falls under the Chinese Ministry of Education (MOE). You can use CUCAS as a search engine for all kinds of study programmes in China, from summer schools to PhDs.

3 Chinese universities which offer high quality English programmes:

## 1 Beijing University master's programmes

Beijing University (PKU) is a major Chinese research university and the oldest national university, established in 1898. The educational pillars of PKU are the Studies in Humanity, Natural Sciences and Medical Sciences. All staff speak English very well. PKU is located in the heart of the student area called Wudaokou, ensuring an active student life!

## 2 Tsinghua University master's programmes

PKU's neighbour is the Tsinghua University, located in student area Wudaokou, which also enjoys a prestigious reputation. This university focuses on Engineering and Project Management. In October 2014 the total number of international students was 3,442, 28% of whom was following a master's programme while 8% did a PhD. If you are interested in a bachelor's programme, make sure you check the Chinese language criteria. Tsinghua University has a dedicated website for international students.

## 3 University of International Business and Economics

If you are you looking for a master's or PhD programme in Economics, International Trade or Business Management, UIBE is your best choice. UIBE is one of China's best economic schools, situated in the northeast of Beijing near the city centre. It offers quality English-taught programmes in Finance, Economics and Business Management. UIBE has a total enrolment of more than 3,000 international students from over 120 countries.



## Chinese language programmes

Do you have what it takes to study the world's most challenging language: Chinese Mandarin? With all its tones and mystical characters, you are in for a linguistic fun ride. Choose from a broad range of provided language programmes. All language schools usually offer a whole package covering housing, Chinese lessons and cultural activities.

Depending on your own needs, you can opt for intensive courses, part-time courses and even weekend courses. Language schools provide you with tailor-made language programmes. The setting will be more casual, which gives you the opportunity to schedule your own (group) classes. Universities provide more fixed language courses and you will be in a classroom together with 15–20 fellow students.

## Internship possibilities

If you are considering an internship in China, it's a brave first step out of your comfort zone. Contact us if you would like us to help you find a suitable internship.

## How to find an internship?

If you do not speak any Chinese, get in touch with an agency with experience on the Chinese and international job market. The agency will give you advice take part of your (bureaucratic) troubles away. Below, we have listed a few agencies to get you started.

## Recommended agencies

- Startup China
- CRCC Asia
- Get in 2 China

## Recommended websites offering internships

- BenCham Benelux chamber of commerce
- China 2025
- China job hunter

## Contact details

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## Why China?

- 1 China gets you out of your comfort zone
- 2 Student life in China is very affordable
- 3 China is as safe as it gets
- 4 Promising Sino-Dutch job opportunities