



International Student Exchange **@PKU**





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WHY CHOOSE PKU

Reputation

Established in 1898, as China's leading higher education institution for teaching and research, Peking University ranks among the top 50 universities in the world.

Location in China

Peking University is located in Beijing city, the capital and the political and cultural center of China. Beijing used to be the capital of six dynasties in Chinese history, and its historic architectures and sites are distributed around and carefully protected. As a metropolis, it also boasts its modern architectures and vibrant city life. In this city the great charm of the traditional Chinese culture and the modern vitality of the metropolis integrate with harmony.

Learn from the Best

Peking University enjoys an excellent academic reputation, attracting top scholars and students from China and all over the world. The University continues to expand its collaborative research by developing a global network of partnership with over 260 world renowned institutions in more than 50 countries and regions.

Experiencing Culture

China not only has a long history but also develops fast with vitality. China's history dates back to thousands of years ago. China's economic development attracts world-wide attention. A number of China's technological innovations have been making their moves in the world. Among them, four stand out with a reputation of China's "four great new inventions" in modern times, which have made the daily life of the public more and more convenient.



Broaden Horizons

Meet new Chinese friends and international friends on PKU campus and enjoy the modern Chinese way of life (high-speed rail, Alipay/Tenpay, E-commerce, dockless shared bicycles, etc.) .



STUDY AT PKU

Academic Calendar

The academic year at Peking University, from early September to July, is divided into two semesters, each of 18 weeks duration, including 16 weeks of classroom attendance and 2 examination weeks. The autumn semester starts in early September and ends in mid January of the following year, while the spring semester begins in late February and ends in late June.

University Calendar (September - July)^①

First semester (Autumn semester)	
Early September	Registration
Early October	National Day holiday
January 1	New Year's Day
Early January	Examination Weeks
Middle January	Winter holiday begins
Second semester (Spring semester)	
Late February	Registration
Around April 20	PKU Sports Day
Late June	Examination Weeks
Early July	Summer holiday begins

^① Confirmed dates will be provided in your admission letter from the University.

Your Studies

To become an exchange student you need to be officially nominated by your home university and cannot apply directly to PKU. Please contact the International Office at your home university if you wish to study at PKU as an exchange student.

Peking University offers Chinese language training courses and undergraduate courses, allowing university-wide exchange students to choose courses across schools/departments. Regular graduate courses are taught in Chinese, and the availability of such courses depends on the schools/departments' permission. English-taught graduate courses are not open, as such courses belong to special Master programs (MBA, Master in International Relations, Master in Public Policy, LL.M in Chinese Law, Yenching Academy, etc.).

What courses can I take?

If you are **not proficient in Chinese**, you may choose one from the following two options:

- 1 Enrolled in the School of Chinese as a Second Language (SCSL) to mainly study Chinese. At the same time, you are also permitted to take English-taught subject courses of no more than 6 credits in total each semester at other schools/departments if the courses and quotas are available.
- 2 Relinquish SCSL's Chinese language courses and only take English-taught subject courses at other schools/departments.

If you are **proficient in Chinese**, you can apply to take subject courses (Chinese-taught /English-taught) at other schools/departments.

How am I to test my Chinese language proficiency?

If you are not native Chinese speaker, you may test your Chinese language proficiency either by sitting in the HSK exam (Level 6) or by trying PKU MOOC Chinese-taught courses online at <http://mooc.pku.edu.cn/mooc/>.

How am I graded?

You will receive an official transcript approximately two months after you completed exchange at PKU. Please consult your home university concerning the credit transfer.

The PKU undergraduate grading system is as follows:

$$\text{GPA} = 4 - 3(100 - X) / 1600 \quad (60 \leq X \leq 100)$$

Mark	GPA	Mark	GPA	Mark	GPA	Mark	GPA
60	1	61	1.15	62	1.29	63	1.43
64	1.57	65	1.7	66	1.83	67	1.96
68	2.08	69	2.2	70	2.31	71	2.42
72	2.53	73	2.63	74	2.73	75	2.83
76	2.92	77	3.01	78	3.09	79	3.17
80	3.25	81	3.32	82	3.39	83	3.46
84	3.52	85	3.58	86	3.63	87	3.68
88	3.73	89	3.77	90	3.81	91	3.85
92	3.88	93	3.91	94	3.93	95	3.95
96	3.97	97	3.98	98	3.99	≥99	4

NOTE: If mark < 60, then GPA = 0.

Courses

Chinese language courses

Visiting students who plan to study Chinese will be enrolled at the PKU School of Chinese as a Second Language (SCSL). Chinese language courses, designed particularly for international students, are divided into elementary, intermediate, and advanced levels, each level including Chinese compulsory courses and elective courses (language beginners only have compulsory courses). Class size is approximately fifteen students. Normally class hours are allocated in the morning and afternoon, from Monday to Friday, four class hours per day, eighteen to twenty class hours per week.

Different from PKU undergraduate courses, Chinese language courses are training courses, therefore they have class hours but NO credits.

Compulsory courses of each level (elementary/intermediate/advanced) include one intensive Chinese course and one spoken Chinese course.

Level	Compulsory Intensive Chinese		Compulsory Spoken Chinese	
	Course	Total class hours	Course	Total class hours
Elementary	Elementary Intensive Chinese I	160	Elementary Spoken Chinese I	160
	Elementary Intensive Chinese II	128	Elementary Spoken Chinese II	128
	Elementary Intensive Chinese III	128	Elementary Spoken Chinese III	128
Intermediate	Intermediate Intensive Chinese I	128	Intermediate Spoken Chinese I	96
	Intermediate Intensive Chinese II	128	Intermediate Spoken Chinese II	96
	Intermediate Intensive Chinese III	128	Intermediate Spoken Chinese III	96
Advanced	Advanced Intensive Chinese I	96	Advanced Spoken Chinese I	96
	Advanced Intensive Chinese II	96	Advanced Spoken Chinese II	96
	Advanced Intensive Chinese III	96	Advanced Spoken Chinese III	96



School of Chinese as a Second Language also offers a variety of elective Chinese language courses to visiting students.

Level	Elective Chinese Language Courses	
Elementary	Course	Total class hours
	Elementary Chinese Characters and Words	60
	Elementary Chinese Listening	60
Intermediate	Pronunciation	30
	Intermediate Chinese Listening	30
	Audio-Video Chinese for Intermediate Learners	60
	Intermediate Writing	60
	Chinese Characters and Words	60
	Intermediate Chinese Grammar	60
	Business Chinese for Intermediate Learners	60
	Business Chinese for Advanced Learners	60
	Advanced Reading of Newspapers and Periodicals	60
	Advanced Writing	60
Advanced	General Introduction to China	60
	Ancient Chinese	60
	English-Chinese Translation for Advanced Learners	60
	Selected Readings of Contemporary Chinese Novels	60
	Lectures on Chinese Culture	28
	Function Words in Chinese	60
	Chinese History	60
	Chinese Culture for Advanced Learners	60
	Learn Chinese with Films	60

Undergraduate courses

Peking University offers a wide range of undergraduate courses to allow visiting students to choose the subjects in which they are most interested across schools/ departments. There is no department/school limit in course registration.

Among the English-taught undergraduate courses, Peking University particularly promotes some courses, which are listed in the “On China Series English-Instructed Courses” and covers four fields: humanities, social sciences, economics and management, and the natural sciences.

On China Series English-Instructed Undergraduate Courses		
Course	Semester Available	Credit
Chinese Perspectives on International and Global Affairs	Autumn and Spring	3
Chinese Politics and Public Policy	Autumn and Spring	3
China and International Organizations	Spring	3
Environmental Issues and Policies in China	Autumn	2
Our Changing Planet	Spring	2
China's Energy and Environmental Challenges	Spring	2
Garden City's Practice in China	Spring	3
China's Education and Its Cultural Foundations	Autumn and Spring	2
Chinese Folklore and Culture	Autumn	2
The Image of China in Selected Works of Western Literature	Autumn	2
Comparative Studies of Chinese Media and Western Media	Autumn	2
Media and Society in China	Autumn	2
China and Media Matters	Spring	2
History of Sino-European Relations	Spring	3
The Silk Road: A Global History	Spring	2
A General Survey of Traditional Chinese Arts	Spring	2
Business and Society in Modern China: An Institutional Perspective	Autumn	2
Doing Business in China	Spring	2
Chinese Society and Business Culture	Spring	2
Chinese Economy	Spring	3
Chinese Financial Market and Institution	Spring	2

Normally one PKU credit equals one class hour/week, 16-18 class hours in total in one semester.

How to Search for the Subjects

To apply for exchange at PKU, you will first need to identify the subjects you wish to study.

Chinese language courses at the School of Chinese as a Second Language:

<http://hy.pku.edu.cn/student/textbook/> ^②

All the undergraduate courses (both Chinese-taught and English-taught):

<http://dean.pku.edu.cn/pkudean/course/kcb.php?ll=1>

English-taught undergraduate courses in particular:

<http://dean.pku.edu.cn/englishcourses/index.html>

Normally the list of undergraduate courses available for the coming semester is released in middle January/July.

Some courses are not offered every semester, and the courses that you want to read or need to read may not be available for you in your exchange period.

Research programs

Master/PhD exchange students may join in the research programs if they do not plan to take any PKU courses. They normally conduct research with PKU professors and do not follow courses (Chinese language courses/undergraduate/graduate courses) as regular exchange students. Senior undergraduate students could also be enrolled in the research programs, on the conditions that the PKU professor agrees to accept the student into his/her research project.

^② To open the link, please use IE explorer (not browsers).

PKU LIFE

Housing Options

Peking University will assist exchange students in finding on-campus accommodation in accordance with the bilateral student exchange agreement signed between PKU and its partner institutions. Please check first with your home university whether the bilateral student exchange agreement covers free accommodation.

For the free accommodation under the agreement:

Your dormitory will be in the Zhongguanyuan Global Village, Building No.5.

Location at the east gate of Peking University, 5 minutes' walking distance to major classroom buildings.

Room type two international students share one room.

Room facilities rooms are equipped with basic furniture (single bed, desk, cabinet, etc.), bedding, heating, air-conditioning, internet and washbasin. Independent bathroom is not available in the room but there is bathroom on each floor. Laundry and kitchens are also available in the building.



Fee-paying accommodation on campus:

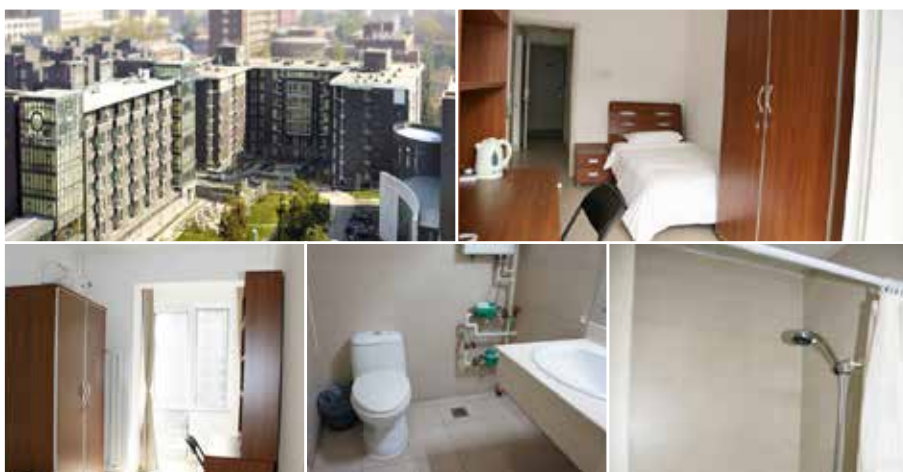
Peking University also offers fee-paying accommodation at the Zhongguanyuan Global Village.

Room types available single room, double-bedroom suite, three-bedroom suite, four-person double-bedroom suite.

Room facilities rooms are equipped with basic furniture (single bed, desk, cabinet, etc.), bedding, heating, air-conditioning, internet, bathroom (washbasin, sit down toilet, shower, 24-hour hot water).

Rent RMB2300-4200 Yuan/month (dependent on the room type)

Application the online booking is in middle January/July. The latest notice concerning online booking is released at <http://www.isd.pku.edu.cn>



Cost of Living

COSTS	
Living cost	Ranging from RMB 1000 - 3000 Yuan per month depending on individuals; Students can survive with every little cost on campus which provides basically everything including food, grocery, laundry, books, internet, etc.
Accommodation	Ranging from RMB 2000-5000 Yuan per month depending on location and room condition.
University fee	Normally exchange students do not pay any application, tuition or administrative fees as per the university bilateral agreement.
Local Transportation	Public transportation is as cheap as 2 Yuan for bus, less than 10 Yuan for subway.
Insurance	Exchange students MUST purchase the designated medical insurance plan in China for a cost of RMB 300 Yuan per semester.

Scholarship Funding

Both the Chinese Government Scholarship and the Confucius Institute Scholarship are open to exchange students. Scholarship applicants who are already officially nominated by Peking University's partner universities for exchange under the agreement will be preferentially admitted.

Please consult the Chinese embassy in your country for more application information.

The free accommodation covered under the Chinese Government Scholarship/ the Confucius Institute Scholarship is double room, with two international students sharing the room. Independent bathroom is not available in the room but there is bathroom on each floor. Laundry and kitchens are also available in the building.

PKU Buddy Program

Having a local friend will help you find your feet when you first arrive in Beijing. Peking University Buddy program will assist you in being partnered with one of the local students, who will help you organize your stay in PKU.

EXPERIENCING CHINA

Cultural Activities

As a Chinese saying goes, "he who travels far knows much" (读万卷书, 行万里路). China is one of the world's four great civilizations. It is majestic and grand, boasting a long history, a vast geographical area, and diversified cultures of 56 nationalities. Peking University provides international students with opportunities to visit Chinese cities and towns and to experience Chinese culture and local people's way of life.



The Chinese opera was the most unique and something I haven't seen in my previous visits to China.

Student from Canada



The Shandong trip was a very joyful experience with international friends together discovering the ancient history of China.

Julio from Mexico



The trip to the Forbidden City with PKU was one of the first I did in Beijing. It was highly interesting to learn so much about Beijing's and China's history. The city itself is very beautiful and teaches you a lot about historical architecture... Especially as the trip was planned for the very beginning of the semester it was a great opportunity to get to know other students from all around the world.

Ferdinand from Germany



这次的旅游去的地方之中, 给我留下了深刻的印象的地方是嫁吐蕃的文成公主告别唐的日月山日亭、从车窗看到的青海湖的蓝色和油菜花的黄色的对比、彩色鲜明的七彩丹霞地质公园、陷入“这里是埃及?”的错觉的敦煌鸣沙山... 正在进行开发的西部, 我感到过去只听过地方的名字, 只有模糊的印象的地方, 亲眼看风景和亲身感到那个地方的空气是很重要的事。

Reika from Japan

当黄山爬完的时候，第四天我们游览宏村古村落和西递古村落……最后两天我们去了南京，我很高兴因为我可以学习中国的历史……我们去过两个不一样的博物馆，所以现在我知道很多中国的历史。

Nadia from Belgium



Our trip started in the best of the ways, and got so exciting. Thank you PKU for all the effort you put in helping us learn and have a great time in China.

Chiara from Italy



我们在西安去很多地方，它们都很有意思，但是对我来说最有意思的东西是西安的兵马俑……我觉得它们做的非常厉害，因为每个兵马俑的人都不一样……这一个星期后回到北京让我感觉有点儿难过，在这个活动看到那么多很有意思的地方，让我认识很多很好的不一样国家的人。

Vanessa from Germany

Internship Opportunities

International students studying at Peking University for one year or above are permitted to apply for the internship visa at the Beijing Public Security Bureau. Exchange students for full-year exchange at PKU can apply for the internship visa.

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