**Program information:** [http://hospitality.fiu.edu/china/](http://hospitality.fiu.edu/china/)

1) **Start date for classes:** Classes will begin on January 6, 2020; All classes/exams should end by May 2, 2020. Students must be in China for the entire semester. **China class dates are different than Miami.**

2) **Cost of program:** This program is offered as a package at a cost of $2,620 for the full Spring 2020 semester, plus applicable tuition at the current in-state rate. The program includes: transportation (round trip airfare and airport transfers in China), double-occupancy housing, some internet fees, lab fees (if registered for a cooking class), health insurance, visa processing, and a guided tour of Tianjin. **Students must pay a $1,500 deposit by October 1.** Two additional payments will be due on November 1 & December 1. A late fee will be assessed for all late payments. Cancellations received before November 1 will be refunded, less a $100 administrative fee. No refunds will be processed after November 1.

Textbooks and food are not included. TUC does not offer meal plans. The approximate cost for food on campus is $7.50 per person per day. HTM will make available the purchase of most textbooks in China.

3) **Class registration:** Students will review the schedule, select their classes, and submit their course registration form before November 1. Enrollments are limited to 5 study abroad students per class section, and will be assigned priority in the order course registration forms are received. Students must pay all tuition and fees by the FIU payment deadline for Spring 2020. Please consult your academic advisor for assistance in choosing classes. Non-Hospitality majors should also consult an advisor for assistance in completing the paperwork for their “International Hospitality Studies” minor.

4) **Living facilities:** TUC will provide living facilities in the FIU-TUC center. Housing rates are based on double-occupancy. Single rooms are available at an additional expense of $750. Please make your request for a single room in writing to Dawn before the second payment is due on November 1.

5) **Spring 2020 Class Schedule will include:**
   We will offer all HM core courses (with the exception of the Advanced Internship course) and some hospitality electives.

6) **Transportation:** Students participating in the group flight will leave from a South Florida Airport on or about January 3 (tentative). A bus will transport students from the Beijing airport to Tianjin’s TUC/FIU’s Center. If a student cannot travel on this date or if they are not participating in the group flight option, HTM can help arrange for airport pick-up, but the student will be responsible for transportation expenses (about $120). Students who wish to secure their own airfare may receive a deduction of $1,120 in the cost of the study abroad package.

7) **Weather:** Tianjin’s weather can be compared to that of the northeast USA: Hot during the summer, cold and temperate in the fall, freezing temperatures in the winter. Weather reports are available on any of the major search engines, ex: Yahoo, Google, etc.

8) **Additional living expenses:** Students will be responsible for their food, linens, clothing, personal travel, and other miscellaneous expenses.

9) **Exchange rate:** The current exchange rate is $1 = 6.90 RMB, subject to change without notice. ([http://oanda.com/](http://oanda.com/))

10) **Currency:** Students should travel to China with at least $250 in RMB (Chinese currency). In the last several years, China has moved to a largely cashless society, so we recommend that students plan to open a Chinese bank account on-campus in China and link that account to a payment app such as WeChat Pay. Traveling with a major credit card is always recommended, but it may not be widely accepted in local areas and shops.
**Students’ responsibilities**

1) **Application Process:** Interested students should complete an application package before September 27. The student must attend a personal interview (October 2-3) and two mandatory meetings: a Study Abroad Q&A on Thursday, October 3 at 3:30 p.m. in HM 211 (HM Conference Room) and a Pre-Departure information session hosted by the Office of Study Abroad – Date/time TBA. Visit [http://hospitality.fiu.edu/china/](http://hospitality.fiu.edu/china/) now to apply!

2) **Student’s academic standing:** All students applying to go to Tianjin must be in good academic standing. Students with incomplete classes or on academic probation/warning/suspension will not be allowed to participate in this program. A minimum **2.5 GPA** is required to study abroad.

3) **Behavior and curfew:** Miami students are expected to obey the rules and regulations observed by TUC. The views on privacy are very different in China. Students have a 11 p.m. curfew and are expected to obey it. **Violations of TUC housing and other rules may be cause for immediate dismissal.** If a student is dismissed from the program, he/she will be responsible for any fees charged to adjust airline tickets. Housing fees and tuition will not be refunded.

4) **Dietary considerations:** **We are not able to meet any special dietary considerations.**

5) **Health Conditions:** If you suffered from an illness in the past, be aware that such illness may recur while you are in China. Completion of a Medical Form is required for participation in the study abroad program. Please consult your physician for information and permission to participate in the program.

6) **Health insurance:** All students will have health insurance, processed through FIU’s Office of Study Abroad.

7) **Travel documents:** Citizens from all countries are required to have a visa and a valid passport to enter China. Students must provide a passport, a passport sized picture, and a completed visa application. **A student visa will be requested on the student’s behalf from the government of China.** With a single entry visa, it is the student’s responsibility to obtain a new re-entry visa if s/he leaves China before the end of the Fall semester (**Saturday, May 2**).

8) **Time difference:** There is a 12 hour difference between Miami and Tianjin based on EDT and a 13-hour time difference based on EST.

9) **Communication:** Cellular phones are very popular in China. Disposable cellular phones are available for sale in China. Students may also communicate via computer through skype.com. You will have access to the internet in your room on campus. Download of the virtual private network (VPN) to all devices is highly recommended before departure to China. See [https://network.fiu.edu/vpn/](https://network.fiu.edu/vpn/) for details.

**Learn more at an information session:**

- **Biscayne Bay Campus in HM 211**
  - Thursday, Sept. 12 at 3:30 p.m.

- **Modesto Maidique Campus-Office of Study Abroad–SASC 230**
  - Wednesday, Sept. 11 at 10 a.m.

**Scholarships/Financial Aid**

Students may use their FIU financial aid, which will be disbursed after the semester has begun.

The Chaplin School is offering up to $5,000 in scholarships for Spring 2020. Up to twenty (10) $500 scholarships will be awarded ($500/student). See the application details on the Marriott Tianjin China Program website: [http://hospitality.fiu.edu/china/](http://hospitality.fiu.edu/china/).

Students may apply for scholarships from other agencies, like Gilman. Additional details and links may be found on the website above or the [Office of Study Abroad website](#).