

# Anthropology & Geography

## CHINA FIELD SCHOOL

### APPLICATION

**Candidates:** Please read and fill out the following application form. Submit an electronic copy of the form to the faculty member(s) in charge of the field school by **November 9, 2018**. Full disclosure of information is essential for the participating faculty members to be able to manage personal issues related to your health, well-being, and safety. **Incomplete or late application forms will not be accepted.**

**Statement of Department Policy:** Field Schools are excellent opportunities for students to experience contact with different cultures and life ways in foreign countries. The instructors and facilitators of these projects endeavour to enhance exposure to these cultures through various educational activities in their selected areas and work hard to ensure their students' safety and well-being. Canadian standards of safety and comfort are an ideal that may not be possible elsewhere and students may endure some discomfort (e.g., heat, limited personal space); this is also true of standards of living. Cultural relativism is central to anthropological ethics and behaviour in the field. Students who choose to participate in field schools should be aware of these ethical issues, recognize differences in cultures, and modify their behavior accordingly. Failure to do so may put the entire group and the field school at risk. "Culture shock" and travel stress are a natural outcome for any field school in any foreign environment. Students will experience both to some degree.

Group cohesion is essential for the success of any field school as students and faculty will need to rely on each other for physical and emotional support. Aggressive or counterproductive behavior will not be tolerated. Faculty members are responsible for conflict management; but, students are expected to behave in a non-confrontational manner with their fellow students, faculty members, and any other people they encounter. The **VIU Code of Conduct** is in effect for all field schools. **Infractions of the Code and/or failure to adhere to the guidelines set out by instructors will result in immediate dismissal from the internship/field school and may result in further academic repercussions.** Unless otherwise stated by the faculty member, budgeting and trip planning are the responsibilities of those in charge of the field schools. For this reason, democratic group decision-making is not always possible. Delays, cancellations, and unexpected events are highly likely and do not indicate inadequate planning on the part of the faculty. Students must accept any modifications in itineraries.

**Evaluation of Candidates:** The number of field schools and the numbers of students who can participate in these opportunities are limited. Acceptance for one of these projects is a privilege. **All potential candidates for field schools will be evaluated by members of the Departments of Anthropology and Geography. They will also be interviewed by a committee of two members of the Faculty.** Students should supply two references from outside the Department of Anthropology or Geography, as applicable: 1) an instructor from whom you have taken more than one course; and 2) a person who has known you over 5 years (this should *not* be a family member). Evaluations will be based on the following criteria: academic standing; estimated time for completion of degree; satisfactory completion of prerequisite courses; suitability for specific field school; compatibility with fellow students. Students approaching graduation will be given priority, if they satisfy the other evaluation criteria.

#### **Prerequisites for Field School:**

China Field School: Students should be prepared to do much walking over uneven surfaces, including stairs. Our place of accommodation will likely require climbing stairs with luggage (consider this when packing!); accommodation will be simple and basic, especially in the village. Students with dietary restrictions, including vegetarians, will be greatly challenged as the group will be sharing meals. Adventurous omnivores will be best positioned to enjoy the culinary aspects of this field school

Preference is given to those with the following course prerequisites (according to whether applying as an ANTH or GEOG student): ANTH 112, ANTH 211; or GEOG 100, GEOG 230 **or** 240; **and** third-year standing. Those with some of the prerequisites are still invited to apply.

Name:		Student ID:	
Address:		Phone:	
		Email:	
Nationality of passport(s) held:		Languages (spoken/read/written):	
Major:	Minor:	Year of Programme:	GPA:
Anthropology/Geography Courses Completed: ANTH 112 <input type="checkbox"/> ANTH 211 <input type="checkbox"/> GEOG 100 <input type="checkbox"/> GEOG 230 <input type="checkbox"/> <i>or</i> 240 <input type="checkbox"/> Upper Level Courses, relevant to application (Enter course number):			
Why do you want to attend this field school?			
Privacy is limited in a field school. What personal qualities or experiences do you have which you feel would be an asset to this field school?			

What are your personal expectations of this field school? What do you hope to gain from the experience?

There will be pre-departure lectures and meetings (3-hr block) scheduled at some mutually acceptable time, possibly during the Study Week (February) or the first week in May. As well two full days will be dedicated to field trips to Vancouver during this time.

Time Preference:      Morning                       Afternoon                       Evening

References:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and fully understand the Statement of Department Policy for field schools. I accept these conditions and will endeavour to fulfill the requirements stated herein. I have also read the section on the evaluation of candidates and fully understand how candidates will be selected for this field school.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_