



# Proposal for International Cooperation

## Virginia Tech at Guangxi Normal University

### Introduction

The Chinese Language Institute (CLI) enables US colleges and universities to establish a permanent presence in China without having to devote resources to this complex process. CLI is closely affiliated with Guangxi Normal University (GXNU), a leading institution of higher education located in Guilin, China. Founded in 1932, GXNU maintains an annual student population of nearly 25,000 and offers a wide range of academic disciplines. CLI's founder, Robert Fried, is a graduate of Virginia Tech.

CLI provides all necessary intercultural connections with GXNU, both on- and off-campus housing options, one-on-one language instruction opportunities, 24-hour student assistance, and numerous other supplementary learning resources.

The following proposal details CLI's various programs and services, including short- and long-term study options, student exchanges, and professional teaching opportunities for GXNU faculty at Virginia Tech.

### Services

The following services are included in each program participant's tuition:

#### Pre-Arrival Assistance

A wide range of questions and concerns arise during a student's preparation to live abroad. With extensive experience living, studying and working in China, CLI's team of international educators can assist students with all inquiries that may arise.

#### Visa Services

All summer session and semester program students receive an official letter of invitation from GXNU which allows them to obtain a six-month student visa. Short-term students can obtain a one- to three-month tourist visa from their local Chinese consulate.

#### 24-Hour Emergency Assistance

CLI's international and local staff is available at all times to assist program participants in the case of an emergency.

#### One-on-One Language Instruction

In order to truly learn and improve conversational Chinese, it is essential that students have ample opportunity to directly communicate with their language instructors. CLI offers all students 1.5 daily hours of one-on-one language instruction.

#### Housing Accommodations

While a college campus offers countless educational resources, invaluable learning comes while immersed in one's living environment. For this reason, CLI offers both on-



and off-campus housing options, including single and double dorms, private apartments, and three-bedroom apartments. For the student seeking complete immersion in Chinese culture, CLI offers an integrated housing option that pairs two Chinese graduate students with one American in a three-bedroom apartment.

### Weekly Activities

In an effort to build a more vibrant learning community, CLI invites all program participants and Chinese student-roommates to weekly activities, including group potlucks, tours of Guilin and its surroundings, guest lectures at the university, boat rides on the beautiful Li River, and various supplemental language activities.

### Travel Excursions

CLI offers one travel excursion per every two months of a student's stay at GXNU. Students visit and tour culturally, politically and economically significant sites throughout southern China.

### Travel Arrangement Assistance

During breaks and long weekends, students are encouraged to take advantage of all that China offers. CLI provides ticket-purchasing assistance, safety tips, sample itineraries, recommendations for lodging, and more.

\*Faculty-led study tours are customized to the specific needs of each group, and therefore may not include some of the previously mentioned services.

## Programs

Short- and long-term program fees are subject to choice of housing, length of term, and specific travel itinerary. CLI offers Virginia Tech four major study abroad programs and intercultural exchange opportunities:

### Short-Term (3-6 weeks)

#### Faculty-Led Study Tours

Program Fees Starting from \$2500 per student

In order to ease the preparation process for university faculty, CLI offers full service in arranging faculty-led study tours in the People's Republic of China. For example, CLI is currently organizing a study tour for three Virginia Tech faculty members and 20 to 35 students for the upcoming summer 2010 session.

CLI will work with Virginia Tech to create a rich itinerary and unforgettable program that uniquely fits the specific group's educational goals. With extensive connections throughout China, CLI arranges guest lectures at leading universities in fields ranging from International Communication to Chinese History, Philosophy, Media, and Architecture, as well as lectures on China's increasing impact on the natural environment.

All faculty-led student groups visit Beijing and Guilin, while additional locations can be selected from the following: Shanghai, Xi'an, Chengdu, Guangzhou, Kunming, Hangzhou,



or Shenzhen.

### Language Intensive Study

Program Fees Starting from \$2275 per student

Guangxi Normal University offers short-term language intensive programs during each winter intersession and summer term. Students will attend up to six hours of language and culture courses per day at the university. In addition, CLI provides an optional 1.5 daily hours of one-on-one instruction, included in program tuition.

Please reference the "Services" section for a complete listing of resources provided. The short-term language intensive study includes one travel excursion.

### Long-Term (8 weeks and above)

Two-Month Summer Session

Program Fees Starting from \$3305 per student

GXNU's summer session generally runs from mid-June to mid-August. CLI expands on the university's program offerings by providing students with a four-day pre-session seminar to orient participants with their new surroundings, airport pick-up and drop-off, and all the resources listed in the above "Services" section.

Semester and Academic Year

Program Fees Starting from \$5500 per Student

All CLI fall and spring semesters begin with a one-week pre-semester seminar that introduces program participants to life in China generally and life at GXNU specifically. The seminar includes a comprehensive program orientation, two large welcome dinners with CLI's international staff, day and night tours of Guilin, and a 2-night travel excursion to Guangxi's capital city, Nanning.

Participants will attend GXNU language and culture courses alongside other international students from all over the globe. The majority of GXNU's international population is southeast Asian, while the university also hosts hundreds of students from Africa, Europe, Australia and the Americas.

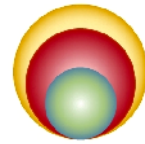
Please reference the "Services" section for a complete listing of resources provided.

### GXNU Students at Virginia Tech

Abroad for One to Two Semesters

GXNU currently sponsors a program that allows its students to study abroad for up to an academic year. Generally, a 5-year contract is signed in which GXNU chooses up to 10 of its brightest students to study abroad in any given term at the cooperating American institution, in this case Virginia Tech.

GXNU is extremely open to new opportunities for intercultural exchange and would love to cooperate in this fashion. CLI will perform this intermediary service free of charge.



## GXNU Faculty at Virginia Tech

In addition to the previously mentioned services, CLI can play a crucial role in arranging for GXNU faculty and graduates to join the VT community as visiting professors. The specific arrangement will be subject to the needs of both parties.

GXNU has expressed an enthusiasm for providing US universities with visiting faculty members. GXNU prefers to send teachers for one academic year, and will require a list of salary and benefits that would be provided to their visiting faculty.

All potential faculty are required to pass the TOEFL examination. Additionally, Virginia Tech will play a central role in approving all potential faculty members.

## The CLI Advantage

Trust, Reliability, Local Knowledge

The Chinese Language Institute was founded by two American brothers who both have extensive experience living, teaching and studying in China. After recognizing several shortcomings in their personal study abroad experiences in the PRC, CLI's founders molded a unique study abroad opportunity that delivers American efficiency, comprehensiveness and creativity to the Chinese educational system.

Preparing for and carrying out a study abroad trip to China can be a long and uncertain process. CLI's team of international educators has gained a deep understanding of all the steps involved and in turn delivers a comprehensive and enriching study abroad experience to each of our program participants.

CLI vs. Broker Companies

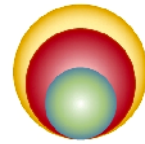
Many study abroad companies simply connect American colleges and universities to large Chinese institutions without playing any direct role in the education and day-to-day well-being of their program participants. As such, a student's education is simply outsourced.

Removing the uncertainties and difficulties of coming to China is only CLI's first step. After enrolling our students at GXNU and providing comfortable living arrangements, CLI remains directly involved in the daily education of its program participants. In contrast to run-of-the-mill study abroad broker services, CLI follows through with a variety of learning resources (highlighted under "Services"). Each of these additional benefits helps provide a richer and more satisfying study abroad experience, while simultaneously sustaining a more conducive learning environment.

## The CLI Team

Robert L. Fried – Managing Director

Robert has studied both at Guangxi Normal University and Beijing's Tsinghua University, taught Chinese students at the kindergarten, high school and university levels, traveled to over 15 major Chinese cities, and has spent countless hours interacting with the people of China. As a result of this extensive experience, CLI's



founder and managing director recognized a significant need to improve China's existing educational system.

Robert is currently based in Guilin, China, where he manages the overall operations of CLI. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Virginia Tech, receiving a B.A. in Political Science and Communication Theory. He also completed a minor concentration in Asian Area Studies. Robert is fluent in both English and Mandarin Chinese.

In addition to his experience in China, Robert has visited Egypt, Israel, the West Bank, England, France, the Czech Republic, Mexico and Haiti.

Bradford J. Fried – Program Director

A seasoned international educator and Guilin veteran, Bradford has lived, studied and taught in a variety of Chinese settings. He arrived in Guilin at the turn of the millennium and has since continued his studies of the Chinese language while developing a unique and interactive learning experience that goes beyond the classroom.

In addition, Bradford has taught at Guangxi Normal University for over five years, developing important relationships with faculty and administrators along the way. He maintains a position at GXNU as a Professor of English.

Bradford received a B.A. in Philosophy from Portland, Oregon's Lewis and Clark College. He is fluent in both English and Mandarin Chinese.

Jakob M. Garrow – Head Program Consultant

Jakob's considerable time teaching and studying in China and throughout Europe taught him first hand the shortfalls incumbent in the traditional classroom language-learning environment. His substantial experience living and working abroad, particularly in Guilin, makes Mr. Garrow an invaluable resource to CLI's program participants.

Jakob currently manages the overall activities of CLI's United States based activities. He graduated from St. Lawrence University with Honors in Government and History.

Li Jie ("LJ") – Director of Student Affairs / Legal Counsel

A longtime Guilin resident and well-established entrepreneur, LJ offers a deep understanding of China's diverse business environment, as well as strong familiarity with the wants and needs of international students and professionals studying in China.

Ms. Li received a law degree from Guangxi Normal University in 2001. LJ is fluent in English and Mandarin Chinese, as well as Cantonese and several other local dialects.

### For More Information

---

Online	<a href="http://www.StudyCLI.org">www.StudyCLI.org</a>
E-mail	<a href="mailto:Robert@StudyCLI.org">Robert@StudyCLI.org</a>
US Toll Free	(888) 781-8383