

Lessons from Teaching as a Fulbright Scholar in China



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Fulbright Awards in Public Policy Fields 1996-2011

- Public Administration, Public Affairs, and Public Policy = 155
- Political Science = 260
- Economics and Finance = 120

Fulbright Program in China 2007

- Research Scholarships
- Lecturer and Research Scholarships
- Lecturer Scholarships
 - 5 full year, 4 fall only, 5 spring only
 - Fields: Public Administration, Journalism, Law, English Literature

Renmin University of China (Renda)

- People's University - established 1937
- Present name as 1st university of the PRC
- Approximately 20,000 students
- National key comprehensive university
- Focus on humanities, social sciences, economics, managerial sciences
- School of Public Administration
 - Degree: MPA (MPP, MPM)

Living on Campus



Teaching

- **Program Evaluation**
 - 29 first semester MPA students
 - Required to take the course in English
- **Health Policy**
 - Elective for students across the campus
 - Students in Social Security, Business, Public Administration
 - 1/3 doctoral students





Lessons about western teaching

- Li Wen Zhou, Ph.D.
- Junior Faculty Member
- Teaching Assistant/Translator
- Offered lessons to the faculty SPA



Lessons:

1. Syllabus lays out the whole course
2. Reading materials are “rich”
3. Tools and skills to solve actual problems
4. Students critique real cases
5. Plagiarism is “forbidden completely”
6. Encourage, inspire and praise students
7. Enjoy contact with students
8. American faculty have “good welfare”

Teaching Challenges

- English writing skills
- Hesitancy to ask questions in class
- Plagiarism
- Limited faculty contact

Challenges: Living, breathing, language, transportation



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Impact of the experience

- On Life
 - Recognize my own ethnocentrism
- On Teaching
 - Sensitive to concerns of international students
- On Professional Network
 - Faculty exchange
- On Research
 - Four related research publications

Apply!

- Go with the flow; be prepared to change your syllabus, teaching style, expectations, etc.
- Laugh

- Reward =
The students!

*Energetic
Dedicated
Friendly*



Publications

- **Teaching Public Administration as a Fulbright Scholar in China**
 - Infeld, D.L. & Li Wenzhao. *Journal of Public Affairs Education*, 2009
- **Career Values of Public Administration and Public Policy Students in China, Malaysia and the U.S.**
 - Infeld D.L, Adams, W.D., Qi G., and Rosnah, N. *International Journal of Public Administration*, 2010
- **Fulbright Scholars in Public Administration, Public Affairs, and Public Policy**
 - Adams, W.C. & D.L. Infeld. *Journal of Public Affairs Education*, 2011
- **Fulbright Scholars in Political Science**
 - Adams, W.C. and D.L. Infeld. *PS*. 44(3), 2011