



SOAS
University of London



SOAS SUMMER SCHOOL

Academic Courses 2014

Taking a summer course at SOAS enables students to learn about a wide range of different topics in an intensive format, combining theory and practice. Students from all backgrounds are welcome to take part in the lively discussions and critical analysis that shape summer school classes. Whether you are a current undergraduate, a professional or leisure learner, taking a summer course at SOAS enables you to fully immerse yourself in a dynamic learning environment, so take a look at what is on offer!

SOAS Summer School at a glance...



About SOAS: SOAS, University of London is the only higher education institution in Europe specialising in the study of Asia, Africa and the Near and Middle East. SOAS is a remarkable institution, uniquely combining language scholarship, disciplinary expertise and regional focus; it has the largest concentration in Europe of academic staff concerned with those regions.

Resources: the SOAS National Library is one of the world's most important academic libraries for the study of Africa, Asia and the Middle East and attracts scholars from all over the world. It has more than 1.5 million items and extensive electronic resources.

Accommodation: a limited number of rooms will be available at University of London Halls of Residence, International Hall, which is located in the heart of Bloomsbury, a five minute walk from the SOAS campus.

Social Programme: we offer a lively and varied optional social programme during your time at SOAS. Some events are free and others are ticketed. You will be invited to our welcome and farewell receptions, a Thames River cruise and a Bloomsbury tour as well as discounted trips through our partner International Friends; www.internationalfriends.co.uk

The student experience

"It was the best teaching I've ever experienced. I was so very impressed and really inspired."

Olivia, Development and Conflict

"The films and talks were a great addition to the lectures and tutorials."

Daphne, The State and Politics in Africa

"We covered an impressive amount of topics and they were all thought out and centred around everyone's interests."

Ingrid, Law Multiculturalism and Intercultural Human Rights

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中國研究院 China Institute



Politics and Society of China and Chinese Language

This combined language and politics course enables students to study Chinese language alongside a comprehensive introduction to Chinese politics and society. Students will undertake one of two levels of Chinese language studies: Beginners Chinese level 1 (BC1), suitable for beginners; Beginners Chinese level 2 (BC2), suitable for those who have knowledge of 300-500 characters and basic Chinese grammar.

Students will also be focusing on the transformations within society and politics that have taken place since the Communist party came to power in 1949. In addition to providing a historical overview and factual information, the course aims to promote the critical understanding of Chinese political events and social structures and to encourage students to move beyond the often one-sided image of China presented in the Western media.

Dates: Monday 23 June – Thursday 24 July 2014

Cost: £2500 for 5 weeks full time, plus a £55 non-refundable application fee. An early bird discount of 10% is available before 15 April 2014. Other discounts are available; please see the website for details.

Entry Requirements: there is a minimum English language requirement if English is not your first language: IELTS (www.ielts.org), 7 overall or higher, with at least 6.5 in all sub scores or equivalent.

Assessment and Credits: students are usually able to obtain credits from their home institution, however the summer courses are not accredited by SOAS. The assessment is optional and will be in the form of a 2000-2500 word essay to be handed in 2 weeks after the end of the course.

Schedule: the course will run from Monday to Thursday and consists of around 90 hours of lectures and seminars. The course is split into two sections with the language course taught in the mornings and the politics and society classes held in the afternoon.

Structure

Part 1

- BC1: introduction to sound system (pinyin) OR
- BC2: general revision and summary of basic grammar/vocabulary
- From socialism to post-socialism

Part 2

- BC1: basic sentence structures OR
- BC2: structure of words and verb complements
- The political campaigns of the socialist period and their impact on culture and society

Part 3

- BC1: question patterns, number and monetary expressions OR
- BC2: 'ba' structures
- Everyday life and social changes

Part 4

- BC1: numbers, time expressions and aspect markers OR
- BC2: university life and modern China
- International relations

Part 5

- BC1: the extended usage of 'wh-' words and of 'le' OR
- BC2: vocabulary relating to Chinese culture
- Recent changes and future prospects