

Fulbright – Hays
Seminars Abroad Program
to the
People's Republic of China

*Contemporary Surroundings and Local
History in Select Cities in China*

by



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Contemporary Surroundings and Local History in Select Cities in China by Barry S. Davidson. This curriculum unit is intended for use by university graduate education students who are interested in or may soon be visiting China. The project is based on a series of short literacy tests which should lead into further study on local history in China. This lesson can also be adapted for use at the upper secondary school or undergraduate collegiate level (high school or college).

China – cities: Beijing, Xi’an, Chongqing, Shanghai and Hong Kong

Established Goal (s): To learn about cities in China and draw comparisons with each student’s home area of residence. The unit emphasizes meaningful and practical learning experiences in preparing students to be innovative, informed, reflective decision makers by having learners do research on items related to Chinese culture, language, geography and history. To study concepts, learning theories, materials and media related to curriculum, test construction and program development in comparative education.

Understanding: To compare international education perspectives and cooperation on academic issues, global interdependence and awareness, intercultural communication patterns and implications for the future. To prepare students to formulate investigation methodologies by researching various items for general knowledge to include in city or town literacy tests and to experience applications of some of these concepts

within the classroom. To review current global education teaching methods with the goal of preparing learners to implement these precepts into the students' classrooms.

Essential Questions:

1. What historical and philosophical issues shape test design in a country?
2. What are the social and cultural influences on examination formulation in a nation?
3. What learning theories and principles prevail in test design in each region?
4. What common problems can be recognized in examination and quiz design?
5. How does one identify methodologies for teaching a concept?
6. How does one evaluate the effectiveness of a class activity?

Learning Activities:

1. To demonstrate competency in analyzing and critiquing current comparative education curriculum test design issues effectively.
2. To demonstrate safe, responsible, legal and ethical use of information including technology in the development of a comparative education examination and individual test items.
3. To examine the issue currently shaping curriculum development for comparative education of having individuals develop tests on or about their home town.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to successfully develop a diverse curriculum with test items that builds on an understanding of comparative education.
2. Students will demonstrate and apply their knowledge in an examination curriculum project related to each individual's home area.

Performance Task: Have students develop a test similar to the Beijing, Xi'an, Chongqing, Shanghai and Hong Kong examples for the local town or municipality, state capital city, and / or major industrial metropolitan area in the learner's home state with photographic support. (Pre- test students take each city test; at the conclusion of each city unit, students sit for the Post-test). As an example see the Troy, Alabama - Pike County Literacy Test.

Justification for Lesson: To have students learn more about other cities particularly in China and become more curious about their own home town, city or metropolitan area. Each student will provide answers to the pre-test questions based upon his/her knowledge of China. It is predicted that a high percentage of adult learners and secondary students will respond that they know nothing or very little about the history and culture of China as indicated by city pre-test scores. Teachers would next have students research each city or town and then administer the post-test.

Lesson Activity Directions:

1. Divide the class into groups of four, five or six students.
2. Assign each group one Chinese city. Group members may assist with the administration of the literacy pre-test for that city.
3. Each student group will be responsible for doing research on a city unit.
4. Student groups will present a written summary and findings on the assigned city with visuals (e.g, Power Points, photographs, maps, etc.) to the overall class.
5. Administer the literacy examination again as a post-test on each individual Chinese city.
6. Compare student results between pre- and post tests.

Culminating Activity: At the conclusion of the China unit, students will be able to score at least 90% on the city identification tests. Following this post-test graduate students will discuss what methodologies were used in this activity, why it works or does not work, how the learning activity could be modified for various achievement or student age levels, and if this could work in international contexts.

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Beijing Literacy Test

1. Xichang'an Avenue separates Beijing's
- A. Summer Palace and Wangfujing Snack Street
 - B. Temple of Heaven and Xuanwu Art Garden
 - C. Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City
 - D. National Stadium (the Bird's Nest) and the National Aquatics Center (the Water cube)



2. The number of districts in Beijing is
- A. 21
 - B. 34
 - C. 16
 - D. 9

3. The expressway which runs towards the Northeast from downtown Beijing to the Beijing International Airport is called the
- A. Linangmaqiao Expressway
 - B. City Ring Expressway
 - C. Zuojiashuang Expressway
 - D. Shoudujichang Expressway



4. The founder of Beijing in 1368 was
- A. Emperor Yang of the Sui Dynasty
 - B. Emperor Yongle of the Ming Dynasty
 - C. Emperor Taizong of the Tang Dynasty
 - D. Emperor Manchus of the Qing Dynasty

5. The mayor of Beijing is
- A. Mr. Huang Wei
 - B. Ms. Cheng Hong
 - C. Mr. Liu Jingmin
 - D. Mr. Guo Jinglong

6. The National Stadium (the Bird's Nest) is located in which part of the city
- A. the North
 - B. the South
 - C. the East
 - D. the West



7. The name during the war years in the 20th century for Beijing was
- A. Nanjing
 - B. Beiping
 - C. Dadu
 - D. Youdu Ji
8. The original dynasty that inhabited Beijing was the
- A. Hutong
 - B. Song
 - C. Zhang
 - D. Ming

9. The nickname of Peking University is

- A. Beida
- B. Beinongda
- C. Beihang
- D. Beigongda



10. Which of the following countries was the last to establish an embassy in Beijing in 2008?

- A. Kazakhstan
- B. Norway
- C. Myanmar (formerly Burma)
- D. Malawi

11. The Yongding River flows into Beijing from the west and changes its name to _____ which creates the City Moat.

- A. the Yangtze River
- B. the Hucheng River
- C. the Tonghui River
- D. the Lianhuachi River

12. The Pacific island nation due south of Beijing and closest to China is

- A. The Philippines
- B. Indonesia
- C. Malaysia
- D. Australia

13. The tallest building in Beijing is
- A. China World Trade Center Tower III
 - B. China Central Television Tower
 - C. LG Twin Towers 1 and 2
 - D. Fortune Plaza Office Building 1



14. Which American municipalities are sister cities of Beijing?
- A. Atlanta and Miami
 - B. Los Angeles and San Francisco
 - C. New York and Washington, DC
 - D. Chicago and Boston
15. The number of institutions of higher learning in Beijing is
- A. 50
 - B. 35
 - C. 46
 - D. 76

Beijing Literacy Test Answer Key

1. C
2. C
3. D
4. B
5. D
6. A
7. B
8. D
9. A
10. D
11. B
12. C
13. A
14. C
15. D

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Xi'an Literacy Test

1. Xi'an, the capital city of Shaanxi Province is known as
 - A. the "cradle of civilization" in China
 - B. the "cradle of modern industrial development" in China
 - C. the "cradle of art" in China
 - D. the "cradle of higher education" in China
2. _____ was an historically important trade route between China and the Mediterranean. This ancient roads eastern terminus for Marco Polo was at Chang'an, the ancient name of Xi'an.
 - A. The Silk Road
 - B. The Gold Road
 - C. The Porcelain Road
 - D. The Jade Road
3. Beijing, Nanjing, Xi'an and _____ were regarded as the head of the four ancient capitals in China.
 - A. Shanghai
 - B. Chengdu
 - C. Guangzhou
 - D. Luoyang
4. The _____ mountain range is famous in China for its stunning scenery, astonishing peaks and superlative natural beauty located only 50 kilometers (km) southeast of Xi'an.
 - A. Taiwei
 - B. Dongting
 - C. Qinling
 - D. Yanco



5. All of the following are top universities located in Xi'an except _____.

- A. Shaanxi Normal University
- B. The Fourth Military Medical University
- C. Mao Deng University
- D. Xi'an Jiaotong University

6. The largest ethnic minority group living in Xi'an is the

- A. Hui people
- B. Miao people
- C. Buyi people
- D. Qiang people

7. Xi'an is recognized as an incredibly diverse city for over _____ years and it was first settled _____ years ago?

- A. 2000 and 4500
- B. 2300 and 4000
- C. 2500 and 5500
- D. 3000 and 7000

8. The Xi'an city wall is the best preserved, oldest and largest ancient city defense system in modern China, which originated from the _____ dynasty.

- A. Han
- B. Ming
- C. Tang
- D. Song



9. In 2008 construction began on the then proposed to be largest railway station in China the _____.
- A. Xi'an Midtown Railway Station
 - B. Xi'an Central Station
 - C. Xi'an North Station
 - D. Xi'an East Station

10. The Terracotta Army is a collection of over _____ life-sized figures of warriors and horses created for the tomb of China's first emperor in 221 BC.
- A. 2,000
 - B. 4,000
 - C. 6,000
 - D. 8,000



11. Which one is Xi'an in Chinese?
- A. 西安
 - B. 天津
 - C. 北京
 - D. 上海
12. Xi'an attracts visitors mainly to which dynasty historical sites and museums?
- A. Tang Dynasty and Ming Dynasty
 - B. Song Dynasty and Tang Dynasty
 - C. Ming Dynasty and Yuan Dynasty
 - D. Qin Dynasty and Tang Dynasty

13. How many Chinese dynasties spanning from the 11th century BC to the 10th century AD made Xi'an their capital city?
- A. 15
 - B. 13
 - C. 16
 - D. 10

14. The Big Wild Goose Pagoda located in the southern part of Xi'an was built in 652 AD during the Tang Dynasty. How many layers (levels or floors) are in this pagoda today?
- A. 10
 - B. 9
 - C. 8
 - D. 7



15. The _____ was used for timekeeping and information dissemination in ancient Xi'an.
- A. Big Wild Goose Pagoda
 - B. Small Wild Goose Pagoda
 - C. Drum Tower
 - D. Bell Tower of Xi'an



Xi'an Literacy Test Answer Key

1. A
2. A
3. D
4. C
5. C
6. A
7. D
8. B
9. C
10. D
11. A
12. A
13. B
14. D
15. D

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<http://www.chinahighlights.com/xian/attraction/bell-tower.htm>

Chongqing Literacy Test

1. Chongqing was a sub-provincial city of Sichuan Province before the beginning of the 21st century. In which year did it become an independent municipality of China?

A. 1996
B. 1997
C. 1998
D. 1999



2. The population of Chongqing is around _____ .

A. 11,000,000
B. 21,000,000
C. 31,000,000
D. 41,000,000

3. The tallest building in Chongqing is the
- A. Chongqing World Trade Center
B. Chongqing International Finance Center
C. Chongqing City Center Building
D. Chongqing Hilton Hotel

4. Where do the Yangtze and Jialing rivers join together (intersect) in Chongqing?

A. Cuiweimen
B. Chaotianmen
C. Luijiataidock
D. Zidantoudock



5. The climate of Chongqing in summer with humidity as a factor is _____ .
- A. Warm
 - B. Hot
 - C. Very hot
 - D. Extremely hot
6. Which American municipality is the sister city of Chongqing?
- A. Boston
 - B. Denver
 - C. Seattle
 - D. Tulsa

7. Changing Masks (Bianlian) is a nationally famous art in Chongqing. How many masks can a professional person change in one second?
- A. 3
 - B. 4
 - C. 5
 - D. 6



8. The food in Chongqing is very spicy. _____ is the most famous food in Chongqing, and it is also well-known in China.
- A. Hot Pot
 - B. Cool Pot
 - C. Crazy Pot
 - D. Boiling Pot



9. Which leader in Chinese history was from Guangan, Sichuan Province, a city 100 kilometers from Chongqing?



A. Mao Zedong (Mao Tse-tung)



B. Deng Xiaoping (Teng Hsiao-p'ing)



C. Jiang Zemin (Chiang Tse-min)



D. Zhou Enlai (Chou En-lai)

10. Chongqing is located in the _____ part of China.

A. Northeast

B. Northwest

C. Southeast

D. Southwest

11. Which one is the nickname of Chongqing?

A. the Forest City

B. the Spring City

C. the Mountain City

D. the Bridge City

12. Which year is the 80th Anniversary of Chongqing University?

A. 2008

B. 2009

C. 2010

D. 2011

13. What is the abbreviation of Chongqing?
- A. Yu (渝)
 - B. Gui (贵)
 - C. Shen (申)
 - D. Jing (京)
14. Which one is Chongqing in Chinese?
- A. 北京
 - B. 上海
 - C. 天津
 - D. 重庆
15. What does “Bangbang” mean in the Chongqing dialect?
- A. Teacher
 - B. Father
 - C. Porter
 - D. Friend

Chongqing Literacy Test Answer Key

1. B
2. C
3. A
4. B
5. D
6. C
7. C
8. A
9. B
10. D
11. C
12. B
13. A
14. D
15. C

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Shanghai Literacy Test

1. The Huangpu River divides Shanghai into
 - A. North and South
 - B. East and West
 - C. Northeast and Southwest
 - D. Nothing, it is not a divider
2. The number of districts in Shanghai is
 - A. 5
 - B. 9
 - C. 13
 - D. 18
3. The Chinese name for the bridge that connects the Huangpu district to the Hongkou district is called the
 - A. Waibaidu Bridge
 - B. Pudong Bridge
 - C. Shanghai-Pudong South Bridge
 - D. Huangpu Bridge
4. Shanghai was officially established as a city under what dynasty?
 - A. Yuan Dynasty
 - B. East Jin Dynasty
 - C. Han Dynasty
 - D. Ming Dynasty



5. The mayor of Shanghai is
- A. Mr. Ai Baojun
 - B. Ms. Zhao Wen
 - C. Mr. Shen Xiaoming
 - D. Mr. Han Zheng

6. The Oriental Pearl Radio and Television Tower is located in what district of Shanghai?
- A. Luwan District
 - B. Xuhui District
 - C. Pudong District
 - D. Zhabei District



7. The earliest name for the land which became the city of Shanghai was
- A. Shen
 - B. Wu
 - C. Chu
 - D. Songze
8. The name Shanghai first appeared in
- A. 460 CE
 - B. 960 CE
 - C. 1460 CE
 - D. 1960 CE

9. Which of the following celebrities was born in Shanghai?
- A. Jackie Chan
 - B. Bruce Lee
 - C. Trevor Zhao
 - D. Yao Ming
10. What famous structure of the various historic buildings on the Bund is known for housing the first Chinese owned bank in mainland China?
- A. Building #15- The Russo-Chinese Bank Building
 - B. Building # 6- The China Merchants Bank Building
 - C. Building #23- The Bank of China Building
 - D. Building #13- The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Building
11. What well known Shanghai attraction is located along Zhongshan Dongyi Road (no.1. Zhongshan Road East) but is between Baidu Bridge and Jinling Dong Lu Street (Jinling Road East)?
- A. Shanghai Stock Exchange
 - B. Century Park
 - C. The Bund
 - D. Shanghai Ocean Aquarium



12. The island southeast of Shanghai is?

- A. Hainan
- B. Hong Kong
- C. Taiwan
- D. Macau

13. The tallest building in Shanghai is the

- A. Shanghai World Financial Center
- B. Jinmao Tower
- C. The Oriental Pearl Radio and Television Tower
- D. JW Marriot Hotel Shanghai



14. How many households were relocated when the Lujiazui (in Chinese Pinyin) Central Green Belt was opened on July 1, 1997 in the Pudong district of Shanghai?
- A. 5,000
 - B. 3,500
 - C. 2,400
 - D. 1,300
15. As of 2008, there were how many institutions of higher learning in Shanghai?
- A. 50
 - B. 35
 - C. 46
 - D. 61

Shanghai Literacy Test Answer Key

1. B
2. D
3. A
4. A
5. D
6. C
7. A
8. B
9. D
10. B
11. C
12. C
13. A
14. B
15. D

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Hong Kong Literacy Test

1. The Hong Kong film festival is very prestigious and respected. Producers and film makers from Hong Kong, mainland China and Taiwan submit works for review annually. What year was the Hong Kong film awards ceremony founded?
 - A. 1972
 - B. 1982
 - C. 1992
 - D. 2002
2. Which Chinese city and Hong Kong have very close business, trade and social links.
 - A. Shenzhen
 - B. Chongqing
 - C. Xian
 - D. Chengdu
3. _____ and _____ are Hong Kong's two official languages. However, the _____ dialect is the most commonly spoken language.
 - A. Spanish, English. Chinese.
 - B. English, Cantonese. Chinese
 - C. English, Chinese. Cantonese
 - D. English, French. Japanese
4. Which one is the flag of Hong Kong?
 - A. 
 - B. 
 - C. 
 - D. 

5. The last Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Hong Kong under British rule was
- A. Neil Billington (Ni O Bier Ling Dun)
 - B. Michael Chang (Zhang Depei)
 - C. Chris Patten (Peng Ding Kang)
 - D. Jun Zhang (Jun Cheung)
6. Hong Kong Island's tallest mountain at 1,308 feet (392m) which offers spectacular views is
- A. Victoria Peak
 - B. Crystal Peak
 - C. Elizabeth Peak
 - D. Bonnie Peak
7. The famous Chinese actor born in Hong Kong was
- A. Bruce Lee (Zheng Fan Li)
 - B. Jackie Chan (Chan Kong Sang)
 - C. Jack Soo (Goro Suzuki)
 - D. Jet Lee (Li Lian Jie)
8. The most famous and main shopping location (district) of Hong Kong is
- A. Stanley Market
 - B. Haynes Market
 - C. Tompkins Market
 - D. Franklin Market
9. The current population of Hong Kong is a little over how many million
- A. 6
 - B. 7
 - C. 8
 - D. 9

10. The GDP (Gross Domestic Product) per capita in Hong Kong is a close equivalent to what amount of US dollars?
- A. \$22,000
 - B. \$25,000
 - C. \$32,000
 - D. \$35,000
11. Hong Kong was returned to China on July 1, ____ and functions under the principle of “one country, two systems.”
- A. 1991
 - B. 1993
 - C. 1995
 - D. 1997
12. Hong Kong’s most popular Daoist (Taoist) temple located in the far north end of Kowloon Peninsula is _____.
- A. Wu Tai Sun
 - B. Chen Tai Tam
 - C. Wong Tai Sin
 - D. Chong Tai Tang
13. Hong Kong has how many districts?
- A. 16
 - B. 18
 - C. 20
 - D. 22

14. Kwun Tong is located in Kowloon. It is the most densely populated district of Hong Kong with over _____ people per square kilometer (km²).
- A. 40,000
 - B. 50,000
 - C. 60,000
 - D. 70,000
15. Which university is the oldest tertiary (postsecondary) institution in Hong Kong?
- A. Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
 - B. Hong Kong Baptist University
 - C. City University of Hong Kong
 - D. University of Hong Kong

Hong Kong Literacy Test Answer Key

1. B
2. A
3. C
4. A
5. C
6. A
7. B
8. A
9. B
10. C
11. D
12. C
13. B
14. B
15. D

Question #4 – Permission to use images of flags granted by Rob Raeside, Director, Flags of the World, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada, Monday, June 14, 2010.
Source <http://flags.net>

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Troy, Alabama - Pike County Literacy Test

1. Founded in 1887 as the State Normal School at Troy in 1887 the institution of higher learning has had seven name changes and became Troy University on



- A) March 21, 1961
 - B) December 14, 1967
 - C) August 1, 2005
 - D) September 18, 2008
2. The number of cities, towns, and census designated communities with over 50 residents in Pike County, Alabama, is
- A) 27
 - B) 37
 - C) 47
 - D) 57
3. The early name for Troy was
- A) Deer Stand Hill
 - B) Fort Pike
 - C) Three Egg Village
 - D) Zebulon
4. The mayor of Troy, Alabama, is
- A) Jack W. Hawkins, Jr.
 - B) R. Douglas Hawkins
 - C) Linda Felton-Smith
 - D) Jimmy Lunsford

5. The governor of Alabama is
 - A) Robert J. Bentley
 - B) H. Guy Hunt
 - C) Forest H. "Fob" James, Jr.
 - D) James E. Folsom, Jr.

6. City Ordinance no. 246 deals with
 - A) Smoking of tobacco products
 - B) Consumption of alcohol
 - C) Parking on the square in downtown Troy
 - D) Ball playing in city parks

7. The state superintendent of education for Alabama is
 - A) William F. Perry
 - B) Ed Richardson
 - C) Wayne Teague
 - D) Joseph B. Morton

8. The original Native American (First Nations) Indian tribe which inhabited Troy was the
 - A) Creeks
 - B) Choctaws
 - C) Chickasaws
 - D) Cherokees

9. The Troy University football team is known as the
 - A) Tigers
 - B) Tide
 - C) Timberwolves
 - D) Trojans

10. The tallest building in Troy is the

A) Pike County Court House



B) Courtyard by Marriott Hotel



C) Gellerstedt Building



D) R. Douglas Hawkins Tower



11. South Three Notch Street/Highway 29 divides the town of Troy into



A) Nothing, it is not a divider

B) Troy and Goshen

C) North and South

D) East and West

12. South Brundidge Street runs parallel to



- A) Elm Street
- B) University Avenue
- C) Collegedale Street
- D) George Wallace Drive

13. South Brundidge Street changes its name after it crosses US Highway 231 to Highway 87/167 commonly referred to as



- A) Murphee Street
- B) South Three Notch Street
- C) Elba Highway
- D) Franklin Drive

14. The first (inaugural) president of Troy University in 1887 was

- A) Joseph Dill
- B) Edwin Ruthven Eldridge
- C) Edward Madison Shackelford
- D) Frank Ross Stewart

15. The number of school districts in Pike County is

- A) One
- B) Two
- C) Three
- D) Four

Troy, Alabama Pike County Literacy Test Answer Key

1. C
2. C
3. A
4. D
5. A
6. A
7. D
8. A
9. D
10. D
11. D
12. D
13. C
14. A
15. B

Troy, Alabama – Pike County Literacy Test Sources

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