



江苏苏州

独墅湖

Suzhou Dushuhu



项目简报
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观光苏州！

观光苏州！

这个周六（14号）我们一起游玩了苏州。我们去了狮子林和观前街，它们都是苏州很有名的地方。我们上午从MBA公寓出发，乘了大约20分钟的车到达苏州市中心。李老师为我们安排了一个导游，在去狮子林的路上，导游告诉了我们一些苏州的特色，比如小吃糕点、古色古香的建筑等。一天下来，我们中的很多人感到很累，但是我



们很高兴有机会游玩苏州。首先，我们去了狮子林。狮子林里有很多的游客，有些拥挤。我们一边听导游的讲解，一边参观狮子林。在狮子林里，我们走过了许多石头小路，路弯弯曲曲的，我们差点儿迷了路，还好后来我们回到了入口。狮子林风景如画，我们拍了很多照片。我想如果没有这有同学尝试了苏州当地的小吃。

时间慢慢过去，天气越来越热。幸好我们回到了车上，车上的空调让我们感受到了凉爽。

接下来，我们去了山塘街。我们可以自由活动两个小时。正逢中午，我们三三两两分开去吃饭，我和几个同学去松鹤楼吃了有名的松鼠鳜鱼，它非常好吃。吃完饭后，我们逛了商店，有同学买东西，有同学拍照片，还有同学和小朋友们交谈，大家都很开心。

最后，我们回到MBA公寓。在太阳下走了一天，我们都很累。但是这是我们第一次在苏州的文化经历，感觉很棒！请大家期待我们这周去小学的故事。希望在这个项目结束后，我们会成为苏州的专家！

简博琳



Tour of Suzhou!



This Saturday (June 14, 2014) we went on a bus tour of Suzhou. We went to the Lion Forest Garden and Guanqianjie, both of which are famous sites in Suzhou. We took an approximately 20 minute bus ride to the downtown area of Suzhou. Many of us were tired from a long first week in Suzhou, but happy to see a bit of the city.

First, we went to the Lion Forest Garden. On the way there, our tour guide told us a bit about Suzhou. At the garden, we took many pictures as our guide talked. Within the garden, there was a series of paths bordered by sculptured stone. It was easy to get lost, but eventually we found our way to the beginning of the maze.

After leaving the Lion Forest Garden, we took a walk along the adjacent streets. We checked out street vendor stalls while some bought souvenirs and local Suzhou snacks.

As the day progressed, it got hotter and hotter. We were grateful to get back to the air conditioned bus.

Next, we went to Guanqianjie where we wandered without a guide. We were all very hungry so we split up to have lunch. The group I was in bought the famous (and very delicious) squirrefish dish. We then explored shops, took pictures, and practiced our language skills with local children.

After an exhausting day of walking in the sun, we returned to the MBA hotel. It was a good first cultural experience in Suzhou. Stay tuned to hear about this week's trip to a primary school! By the end of this program, we will all be Suzhou experts!

Kimberly Kenny
间博琳



活力健身俱乐部

每个国家都有它的运动习惯，比方说印度的瑜伽、巴西的尊巴等。我们刚来苏州的时候希望可以找到一家又动感又有趣味的健身房看看中国人的运动习惯。幸亏，我们住的MBA公寓对面的文星广场有一家健身房叫“活力健身俱乐部”，我们的探险故事在那里开始。

第二天我带着博琳和雪丽去看看那家健身房顺便打听一下价格，却发现健身房还可以还价。初次听到那家健身房的价格我心跳都要停止了，于是我告诉俱乐部的李先生我们想要坐下来讨论价格。他同意以后，我们开始玩我最喜欢的游戏：讨价还价。他说他健身房的器械都是崭新的，我回应独墅湖还有很多的健身房，我说要是他能便宜一点我就跟几个朋友一起过来，他回答他已经打过折了。虽然原价是两百八十块钱一个月，打折以后我们同意三百五十块钱两个月，这个结果我们双方都满意，而且我的心跳也恢复正常了。

后来，我们看到健身房的健身队一览表发现每天下午都有动感单车、瑜伽、爵士操课等。为了了解中国人上健身操课的习惯，我们周一去参加了爵士操课。我们边笑边运动了因为这堂课的爵士编舞都是美国音乐大明星的俚曲歌曲。因为爵士课收录了碧昂丝和夫人加加的经典歌曲，我无法控制自己不笑出声来。爵士组健身操课结束以后，“美国爵士”已经有了全新的意义。

刘贺然



Suzhou's Vitality Fitness Center



Every nation in the World has starkly different exercise customs, such as Yoga in India and Zumba in Brazil for example. Upon arrival in Suzhou, one of our first missions was to find a fitness center that was lively and energetic but also allowed us the space needed to observe Chinese exercise routines. Luckily, the plaza directly in front of our apartments had its very own gym, the Vitality Fitness Center, which is where our story begins.

On our second day in Suzhou, Shirley, Kimberly and I ventured to the gym to inquire about the price, only to find that it is acceptable to bargain for lower membership fees. Upon hearing the first price offer, my heart nearly stopped! Once I put myself together, I asked Mr. Lee to sit down and have a

conversation about the membership fees. He went on and on about the amenities offered, but I replied that the Dushu lake area is home to many fitness facilities. I told him that if he lowered the price I could advertise the gym to other students and bring more business, but his response was that he was already offering us a discounted rate. Although his original price offer was 280 RMB per month, we eventually agreed that 350 RMB for the length of our two-month stay was a fair price we could both live with. Crisis averted.

Next, while taking a tour of the facilities we noticed a schedule of group fitness classes and discovered that they offered spinning, yoga, and Jazz classes every afternoon. In order to better understand the Chinese exercise culture, we decided to join Monday's Jazz class. We couldn't help but giggle, or at times explode in a roar of laughter, due to the fact that all of the choreography was done to mainstream American pop music. Our class included some of the greatest Jazz artists of our times, such as Lady Gaga and Beyoncé, so of course we could not contain our laughter. By the end of our class, "American Jazz" sure enough had a whole new meaning.

Hiram Rios





尊敬的CLS管理员，校友和朋友们：

大家好！在苏州的第一个星期，我结交了新朋友，他们是卡尔马龙，梅西和内马尔，但其实这是我自己给他们起的外号。每天晚上五点，在我们公寓旁边的足球场，我和我的CLS同学们（贾克，卓鸿涛，郭力，白伟义和简博琳）以及苏州大学的学生一起踢足球。这个场地每天都有自发的足球比赛，校内比赛和校外比赛，因为用得多了，地面都变成了灰色。公寓附近还有一个公园，这里面有羽毛球场，篮球场和网球场，还有一些美国人不熟悉的健身器材。但对于已经来过中国的人来说，大叔们一手举一个类似于方向盘的曲柄的场景已经不足为奇了。在球场上，我有一个外号叫白人。其实这个名字我不是很满意，因为我的肤色和身高抢了我球技的风头。在这几天里，我的“好球”的发音更地道了，我也更加有信心在陌生人面前介绍我自己了。虽然这句话有点老土，但我还是想说：运动让人们团结在一起。比如说，每到世界杯的时候，那些曾经自称对手的足球俱乐部的支持者们都开始团结起来助阵国家队。运动还可以帮助人们更好地痊愈。另外，运动还能促进跨文化交际，就好比我和其他的CLS学生们。在接下来的两个月里，我期待我的语言能力可以有所提高并和马龙，梅西，内马尔在球场内外建立深厚友谊。

祝好，

欧阳天明

Dear CLS Administrators, Alumni and Friends:

In our first week in Suzhou, I have become pals with Karl Malone, Lionel Messi and Neymar. These are the affectionately assigned nicknames of just a few of my new acquaintances, a cohort of Suzhou University students (and fellow CLS-ers Jack, Nick, Jared, Wes and Kim) who play pick-up soccer next to our hotel every day at 5pm. The field – a modern turf surface worn sky-grey by overuse – is home to pick-up soccer games, club matches and interuniversity competitions. The surrounding park is filled with badminton, basketball and tennis courts, as well as curious fitness equipment. For those who have traveled to China before, the sight of elderly men cranking a steering wheel-like apparatus and women racing in place on reduced-form elliptical machines is familiar. I, too, have a hopefully affectionate, but at the very least accurate nickname: *bairén* (Chinese for “White Man”). I would prefer a more awe-inspiring name, but my White, six-foot frame is more distinguishable than my foot skills. A few days of playing has not only perfected my pronunciation of *haoqiu* (Chinese for “good ball” or “well done”), but also increased my confidence in introducing myself in Chinese to strangers – a critical skill for living in any foreign country. And, as corny as it sounds, sports bring people together. For instance, supporters of rival soccer club teams band together to root for country during every World Cup. Sports also help people heal after tragedy. And, sports facilitate cross-cultural communication and friendship, as it has for me and other CLS students in Suzhou. Over the next two months, I look forward to improving my conversation skills and building friendships on and off the field with Malone, Messi, Neymar and others.

Until next time,

Thomas Armstrong

新观点： A Fresh Perspective

周末过去了我们开始新的一星期的课程，作业，任务和十点半的宵禁，我们很兴奋也有一点忧虑。兴奋是因为新的星期给我们提高汉语的机会，忧虑是因为我们要面对大量的课程和作业。但我们处理这种忧虑不安时有助于我们想到CLS项目的终极目标，以及我们作为美国学生在中国留学的重要角色。像这样期盼我们即将来的作业应该利于充实自己决心坚持下去。

随着中国上升为世界第二大经济体，它和美国的关系无论在经济还是其它的方面都更加紧密。为了了解中美关系的成长程度，我们可以用贸易等级作为整体关系的代表。在一九九零年，贸易仅有两百亿，但是在二零一三年中美贸易额达到了六千六百一十亿，甚至比和欧盟的整体贸易额还要多（在相同的时间段是六千五百亿美元）。这些贸易数字只是一个很显著的例子，表现出两国关系在世界上是最重要的。

但是两国的关系就像是两个个体之间的关系，它自己不会简单的保持。而它必须要两国之间的共同理解和尊重来管理。当美中贸易关系发展时，不是说普通的美国民众比二十年前更了解中国的文化，或者是中国对美国社会的了解增长了。这是很重要的一点，因为当美中贸易是两国关系的重要方面时，文化的了解和共同理解的重要性没有被了解。最有效的提高共同理解的办法是住在对方的国家。但是大部分的美国人和中国人都不想从他们的家搬到世界的另一边安家，这就是问题所在。

中国和美国的人群中比较可能出国旅游的是学生。因为学生一般很年轻，而且在将来年轻人会变成政治和商业的领导人，出国留学的项目似乎是发展美中人民之间的长期的共同尊重的最有效的方法。

但是，从数字中可以发现，谈到留学时，很明显是中国在主导。根据100k Strong Foundation 公布的数据，在美国的中国留学生是在中国的美国留学生人数的十二倍（中国的人口比美国的多得多，中国的大学生比美国大学生多出三分之一）。在二零一二年到二零一三年之间中国在美留学人数增长了百分之二十三，相比之下美国在中国的留学人数只增长了百分之五。

为了解决这个问题，希拉里在二零一三年推行了“十万人留学中国计划基金会”，这是为了实现奥巴马总统的二零一四年之前让十万美国人在中国留学的目标。虽然CLS项目比该基金会早，它也是让美国学生在中国留学增长的策略的重要的一部分。虽然将来会怎样还不太清楚，我们可以肯定地说全球的和平和稳定的道路将会因为中美的紧密联系而更加清晰。记住在星期三下午你自己做作业的时候，为你是到中国学习的美国学生骄傲，因为你能够加强两国的关系，并能为整个世界的和平和稳定作出些许贡献。

As the weekend fades and we begin another week of classes, homework, tasks, quests and 10:30 curfews, we are both excited and apprehensive. Excited because of the opportunities the week presents us with to improve our Chinese, and apprehensive because of the sheer amount of homework we are confronted with. However, when dealing with this apprehension it may be helpful to remind ourselves what the ultimate purpose of the CLS program is, and the important role we are playing as American students studying abroad in China. Putting our impending workload in perspective like this should help fill us with the resolve to persevere.

As China has risen to become the second largest economy in the world, its relationship with the United States – both economic and otherwise – has deepened considerably. To understand the magnitude of this growth in the US-China relationship, we can use trade levels as a proxy for the overall relationship. In 1990, overall trade was a modest \$20 Billion (nominal), yet in 2013 the volume of trade between the US and China reached a staggering \$661 Billion (nominal), larger even than the total amount of trade with the European Union (\$650 Billion). These trade figures are just one striking example of what has been called the “most important” relationship in the world between two countries.

Yet a relationship between two countries, like a relationship between individuals, does not simply maintain itself. Rather, it must be stewarded and cultivated by mutual understanding and respect between the parties involved. While trade levels between China and the United States have ballooned, it does not follow that the average American is aware of China’s culture or that Chinese understanding of American society has increased. This is a critical point, because while trade between the US and China is certainly a major aspect of their relationship, the importance of cultural awareness and mutual understanding cannot be understated. The most effective way to develop mutual understanding between peoples is for them to live in each others’ countries. Yet the vast majority of Americans and Chinese don’t want to uproot from their homes to travel halfway across the world, and therein lies the problem.

There is one specific subset of the Chinese and American populations that is more likely than most to travel abroad: students. Given the fact that students are generally young, and it is the young who will become leaders in politics and business in the future, study abroad programs seem the most effective way to develop long term mutual respect between people of the United States and China.

Looking at the numbers, it becomes clear that China is leading in study abroad. According to statistics from the 100k Strong Foundation, the number of Chinese students studying in America is more than 12 times that of Americans studying in China (while China’s population is much larger than the United States’, China only has about 1/3rd more college students). Furthermore, the increase in the number of Chinese students studying in America increased by 23% between 2012 and 2013, in comparison to a figure of 5% for American students studying in China.

To help solve this, in 2013 the 100k Strong Foundation was launched by Hilary Clinton. The foundation seeks to work towards President Barack Obama’s goal of having 100 thousand American students study abroad in China by 2014, this being the President’s ‘100 Thousand Strong Initiative’ which is a centerpiece of the U.S.-China Consultation on People-to-People Exchange (CPE), the “official bilateral dialogue to discuss deepening connections between [the United States and China]”, according to the 100k Strong Foundation’s website. While the Critical Language Scholarship predates the 100 Thousand Strong Initiative, it is an important part of the Initiative’s overall strategy to get more American students studying in China.

While it is unclear what the future holds, we can say with some certainty that the path to global peace will be made clearer by a strong bond between the United States and China. Remind yourself on Wednesday afternoon, when you are memorizing dialogues, to pride in the fact that, as American students abroad in China, we are strengthening the bonds between our nations, thus contributing in a small yet significant way to overall world stability.

Zach LaPorta

小憩一刻

Take a Rest

我们在一周前来到苏州，我希望你们已经发现一个奇妙的地方。这个课程很难，所以我们需要想一个好主意，找一个活动以缓解压力。有的同学去体育馆参加活动课。我听说体育馆有一个韩流的舞蹈班！有的同学跟苏州人踢足球。其他同学买自行车去这个城市探险。可是，我们都没去卡拉OK。

我喜欢寻找没吃过的饭。每天去便利店买新食品。同学常常问我“好吃吗？”然后我回答“不知道，还没尝出来”。我那么喜欢吃辣，可是还没找到很辣的饭。星期六Wyatt, Phoebe, Ameen, Christine, Kay Ann, Hannah和我去了翰林邻里中心的韩国菜饭馆儿。我吃了辣豆腐汤。中国式韩国菜和韩国菜不一样，可是还是很好吃。

这个暑期我们会学很多中文，可能会有很大的压力。可是做你们喜欢的活动可以舒压。你们试试去做运动，看电影，或者只是听音乐。这个夏天会很高兴！

郭晓燕



It has been a week since we came to Suzhou. I hope that you have already found a wonderful place in the city. This program is intense, so it is a good idea to find an activity to relieve stress. Some of our classmates have joined in on classes at the gym. I heard they offer a Kpop dance class! Some of us have played soccer with some of the local residents, and others have purchased bikes and explored the city, but no one has gone to karaoke yet.

I like to find foods I have never eaten. Everyday I go to a convenience store and buy a new item. My fellow participants often ask me "Is it good?" and I reply "I don't know, I haven't decided". I especially like to eat spicy foods, but I have yet to find really spicy food. Last Saturday Wyatt, Phoebe, Ameen, Kay-Ann, Christine, Hannah and I went to the Korean restaurant in the Hanlin Neighborhood Center, and I hate soft tofu stew. Chinese style Korean food is different than Korean food, but it was still delicious.

This summer we will study a lot of Chinese, and possibly be under a lot of pressure. But doing an activity you like may relieve your stress. You should go and play sports, watch a film, or just listen to some music. This summer is going to be fun!

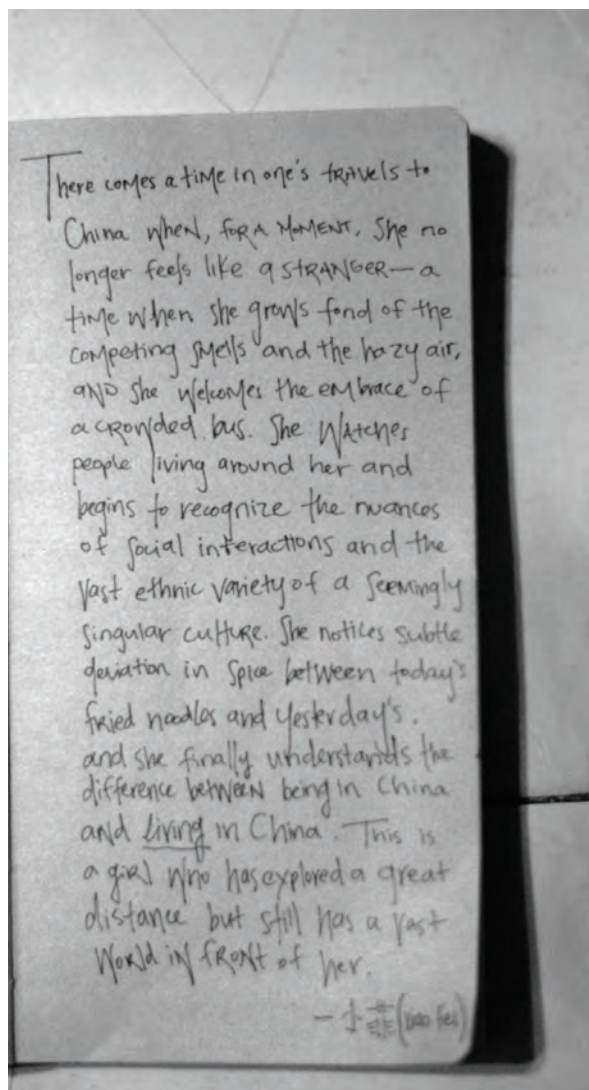
Paige Pearson



小菲想法

(Xiaofei's Inner Thoughts)

一个人到了中国一段时间之后，她会不再觉得自己是一个陌生人。她开始接受各种繁杂的气味，接受雾蒙蒙的天空，也能接受拥挤的公交车了。她关注着周遭的人，开始留心人与人交流时的细微差异。在这个看似单一的文化中，其实存在着显著的多样性。她开始注意到，昨天和今天吃的炒面中放了不同的香料。她体会到，身在中国与住在中国，其实并不一样。这个女孩已经历了很长的一段旅程，但是在地面前仍然有一个很大的世界。



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