

Tips for Studying Abroad at Beijing Normal University

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Before

1. Complete the application
2. Get housing
 - a. Remember that there is a time difference, China is usually 12 or 13 hours ahead
 - i. Ex: 10 am in Bloom – 10 pm in China
3. Phone
 - a. See if you can remove your sim card because you will want to get a sim card in China
 - i. If you can't you can purchase a cheap phone in China
 1. Xiaomi
 2. Huawei
 3. Oppo
 - b. Download WeChat (messaging app)
 - i. You can use this app to message people
 - ii. Buy things
 - iii. Order food
 - iv. Order taxi
 - c. Another app to buy things/food – Alipay

In China

4. Exchange money
5. Find the shuttle bus to the University
 - a. Get at taxi
 - i. DO NOT GET IN THE BLACK CAB- THEY WILL SCAM YOU
 - ii. The ride should cost around 100 renminbi
6. Check in dorm
7. Open a bank account
 - a. Have passport
 - b. Don't put down your SSN- just put down your driver's license
8. Go to registration
 - a. Get insurance
 - b. Pay school fees
 - c. Get a SIM card
 - d. Get school ID
9. Bank
 - a. Make sure to start drawing out money, you will have to pay for your dorm fee in cash. You cannot pay by check. Do not miss the deadline for the dorm fee.
 - b. Put some money on your WeChat
 - i. You can pay for things
10. Subway/ Bus card
 - a. Go to the subway
 - b. Get one that you can refill

11. Placement Exam

- a. You can't study for it
- b. Listening, speaking, reading, writing section
- c. DO YOUR BEST NOT TO LEAVE TEST QUESTIONS UNANSWERED. The more you answer the better the teachers know about you and be able to place you in the right section.

12. Printing on campus

- a. International dorm there is a printing station on the second floor
- b. Printing shops on campus

Other Tips

Food

1. There is a McDonalds on campus, but try the school food
 - a. There are 5 canteens
 - b. International Canteen
 - i. Jianbing
2. Korean food in Wudaokou 五道口
3. Western/ European Food in Sanlintun 三里屯
4. Order food via app
5. Don't order pizza from Dominos or Pizza Hut – It doesn't taste the same.
 - a. Order from the Tube Station
6. Peking Duck
7. Hot Pot

Places to Visit

1. Hutongs
2. Olympic Park
3. Forbidden City & Tiananmen Square
4. Temple of Heaven
5. Zoo
6. Wangfujing 王府井
7. Markets
 - a. If they are open....
8. School trip
 - a. If your professor talks about a school trip, I highly recommend that you go
9. Tianjin
 - a. Not far from Beijing
 - b. Day trip
10. Fall Semester
 - a. Week of no classes- Go travel
11. Group Organized Trips (trips to great wall and other sites outside of Beijing)

- a. FCN
- b. Laowai
- c. CETtrip