Course Evaluation Report - Chinese Culture

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The Chinese culture course had been designed for foreign students enrolled at Shandong University of Finance and Economics (SDUFE). The course generally aims at making students familiar with the rich Chinese cultural background throughout consecutive ancient Chinese dynasties. The course outline covers areas such as, ancient Chinese social-life, economic, art, and political developments. Finally, the course also aims at making students able to find similarities and differences between students' own cultural background with that of the Chinese cultural background.

The teaching approach of Chinese culture course states English Language as a medium of instruction for the course. Students are expected to attend 17 classes in total (1 class per week) before they can be granted with course completion status. The duration of each class is 1 hour and 30 minutes. The class atmosphere is open interactive mode between students and Prof. Xie Ling. Students are also required to conduct one presentation in which they can choose any topic related to Chinese culture and link it with their own countries' cultural topic. This allows for a more practical method for comprehending Chinese cultural phenomena that might attract foreign students' attention.

From a personal point of view, I found Chinese culture course an enjoyable course for many reasons including the following:

- 1. Richness of content: Unlike many other ancient histories from around the globe, China is well known to be the only continuous one. This fact has its impact on the originality of the Chinese historic background which had been reflected in almost every single topic we were discussing during class period.
- 2. Well acquainted instructor: Throughout the course duration Prof. Xie Ling had been very helpful and seemed to be well-prepared for our class conceptual and materials wise. She always welcomes questions even when they seem to be out of content. Indeed, it's all relevant as long as China is involved. Personally, the main adding-value element of the course was related to the conceptual part of how to interpret Chinese cultural phenomena and that would have been very a hard job to be done if it was not for the great mind-set and instruction ability of Prof. Xie Ling.
- 3. Pleasant class atmosphere: As mentioned above, the class included presentations that have been done by all students enrolled in the course. This was a great opportunity for us not only to know about the Chinese culture per se, but also to know how it can be linked to other cultures from different parts of the world.

In conclusion, I believe my participation and close involvement in the Chinese culture course at Shandong University of Finance and Economics (SDUFE) have been a great deal to me.