



Proposal for an intercultural summer course
on global and regional leadership challenges
for undergraduate students of Peking University, China



22 January – 15 February 2013

Victoria University of Wellington

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Introduction

Our world is a changing place – a place where information and communication knows no borders; where local events have global ramifications; where the welfare and security of humanity depends upon responsible action, both individual and communal. This dynamic environment requires young people to be equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to address the challenges of tomorrow.

Victoria University of Wellington is committed to encouraging students to engage with the challenges of the globalised, interconnected world which confronts them. The Victoria International Leadership Programme (VILP) has been at the forefront of the University's efforts to do so. The VILP was developed to enhance students' understanding of global and regional leadership challenges by developing their intercultural and cross-cultural competence. Drawing on the ethos and success of this award-winning programme for Victoria students, the University has developed an Intercultural Leadership Summer Course (ILSC) to extend the benefits of the VILP to groups of students from partner universities. The 4-week programme will cover themes related to international leadership, cross-cultural communication and understanding, regional challenges and global connectedness.

The ILSC is a unique opportunity for undergraduate students of Peking University who have a strong interest in leadership and have at least an intermediate knowledge of English to engage with different international leadership topics. Through the ILSC, participants will be exposed to New Zealand culture and will be able to connect with Victoria University students through various activities. The programme encourages students from both countries to reflect on the respective places of their societies in the rapidly changing Asia-Pacific region.

The ILSC will achieve these aims by focusing on establishing a framework for thinking about global leadership challenges through seminars, reflective journaling, hands-on workshops and social activities. Participants will be encouraged to approach global and regional issues from different angles, including reading background materials provided by seminar facilitators, discussing topics in groups, debating current issues and applying the key concepts to written reflections and a culminating group project.

About the City of Wellington

Victoria is located in Wellington, New Zealand's centre of government and the world's southernmost capital city. It is also the country's cultural capital and the third most populous urban area in New Zealand. The city is home to many museums, theatres and arts festivals, including Te Papa Tongarewa (the Museum of New Zealand), the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, the Royal New Zealand Ballet, and the biennial International Festival of the Arts. Wellington is also a leading centre for creative industries, such as film and computer technology, and it is the home of the New Zealand Stock Exchange (NZX).

The city is situated alongside Wellington Harbour and surrounded by natural beauty including Zealandia, an award-winning eco-attraction, just minutes from the central business district.

About Victoria University of Wellington

Victoria is a comprehensive university with a strong research focus. It is located in close proximity to the country's archives and national collection libraries and the wealth of research institutions concentrated there. The University was established in 1899, making it among the oldest universities in New Zealand and Australia.

Victoria University of Wellington combines the benefits of a long and distinguished tradition of academic excellence with innovation and a strong sense of commitment to serving the needs of students and the community in the new millennium.

Victoria was created through an act of Parliament in 1897 and was founded in 1899 as a college affiliated to the University of New Zealand. Victoria became an autonomous university in 1962, taking the name Victoria University of Wellington. More recently to reflect New Zealand's bicultural (European and Maori) heritage this was extended to the current full name: Victoria University of Wellington Te Whare Wananga o te Upoko o te Ika a Maui.

Victoria offers a range of study options: a pre-degree programme in English language preparation and Foundation Studies; undergraduate degrees; postgraduate programmes of study including Bachelors with Honours, Graduate and Postgraduate Certificates and Diplomas, Masters degrees and PhDs. Study opportunities are offered through seven faculties: Architecture & Design, Commerce & Administration, Education, Engineering, Humanities & Social Sciences, Law, and Science.

As a comprehensive, research-intensive university, Victoria has research strengths in all Faculties. The University as a whole is regularly ranked in the world's top 250 universities. Numerous disciplines are ranked in the world's top 150, especially within the Humanities and Social Sciences. In particular, Victoria's traditionally renowned Law Faculty has been ranked 23rd in the world in the 2012 QS rankings.

Victoria's International Engagement and China Focus

Victoria aspires to be New Zealand's most internationally engaged university. In particular, the University has a strong commitment to positive and innovative engagement with China and the dynamic Asia-Pacific region. As part of this commitment, the University has been developing a range of multi-faceted links with China based on strong, mutually beneficial partnerships to enhance opportunities for staff, students and stakeholders. Some of Victoria's links which promote New Zealand – China understanding include:

- China-focused academic programmes across a variety of disciplines;
- student and staff exchange programmes and joint programmes with key Chinese institutions, including a double degree programme (MIR and MPP) between Victoria and Peking University's School of Government;
- research and cultural exchange through Victoria-based centres such as the New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre, a Confucius Institute (which is partnered with Xiamen University), and the Centre for Strategic Studies;
- participation with other New Zealand universities in the New Zealand Centre at Peking University;
- other forms of scholarly, diplomatic and developmental engagement.

The proposed intercultural programme for promising young Chinese and New Zealand leaders is a key part of Victoria's strategy of partnership-building with one of our key Asian neighbours. It is based on the premise that long-term mutual understanding must involve greater interaction between young people from both countries.

About the Victoria International Leadership Programme

The Victoria International Leadership Programme (VILP) was launched in October 2008 and is the first programme of its kind among New Zealand universities. Since its launch, over 2000 undergraduate and postgraduate students have registered for the VILP.

The VILP is an academically-oriented extra-curricular programme of seminars, speaker events and experiential activities relevant to the themes of international leadership, cross-cultural communication, global connectedness and sustainability. It takes advantage of the university's Wellington location – in the political centre and cultural capital of New Zealand – and links Victoria with a wide range of stakeholders at a local, national and global level.

Through interaction between international and domestic students, across various university faculties and with external stakeholders, the VILP enhances student's leadership skills, international knowledge and cultural awareness so they are able to thrive as active, global citizens in the global knowledge economy.

Intercultural Leadership Summer Course Programme Outline

This proposal is for the provision of a 4-week academically-oriented programme with two components:

- 1) Young Leaders' content covering themes of international leadership and negotiation, cross-cultural communication and understanding, and global connectedness;
- 2) New Zealand culture and tourism experience.

Participants will be undergraduate students and are normally expected to have good knowledge of English (minimum IELTS 6 / TOEFL 550), a strong academic record and interest in global issues and leadership.

The purpose of the ILSC programme is:

- a) to enhance participants' understanding of leadership as global citizens;
- b) to develop their intercultural and cross-cultural competence;
- c) to encourage students to share their experiences and ideas with others in an academic and social environment;
- d) to engage them with Victoria University academic staff and others on leadership topics;
- e) to connect them with VILP students in seminars, hands-on workshops and social activities;
- f) to thereby enhance mutual understanding between New Zealand and Chinese students of each other's cultures, societies and political systems.

To achieve this, the programme will provide participants with:

- 1) Inter-active seminars on:
 - leadership in a global context;
 - cross-cultural communication and intercultural competence;
 - leadership issues across cultures and religions;
 - economic, political, diplomatic and cultural relations between China and New Zealand within the context of wider regional developments.
- 2) Skills training workshops on:
 - global youth leadership skills;
 - negotiation skills;
 - presentation skills.
- 3) Hands-on workshops and presentations with a group of selected VILP students culminating in a simulated, international negotiation forum, such as a Model United Nations or summit.
- 4) A programme of activities and visits to local institutions outside of Victoria University.
- 5) Weekend excursion to a regional tourist destination:
 - Rotorua – North Island: Travel by bus to Rotorua, New Zealand’s world famous tourist destination located in the central North Island, and visit a local Maori community, soak in the hot pools and enjoy some of the exciting adventure activities available.

Seminars will typically be held in the mornings. Following lunch, students will engage in group work and presentations, as well as have the opportunity to visit Parliament, the Te Papa museum and other local sites of interest. In the evenings, students will be able to interact with their VILP colleagues on a more casual level through organised social activities including a film night, team building and sports activities, as well as take advantage of a variety of summer events hosted throughout the city. A possible schedule is outlined in Table 1.

ILSC Programme content

The programme will focus on establishing a framework for thinking about global leadership challenges through engagement with different international leadership topics. It will expose the Chinese students to New Zealand culture and politics, while encouraging students from both countries to reflect on the respective places of their societies in the rapidly changing Asia-Pacific region. Participants will approach regional and global issues from different angles, including reading background materials provided by seminar facilitators, discussing topics in groups, debating current issues and applying the key concepts to written reflections and group presentations.

Each week of seminars, activities, group work and field trips will be organised around a particular theme: Culture; Politics; China-New Zealand Relationship, Global Leadership Challenges. Some self-study will be

encouraged and students will have access to resources and facilities at Victoria, including the Language Learning Centre and the library. The leadership seminars will be facilitated by Victoria staff and members of the wider Wellington community drawing on the diplomatic corps, business and private sectors.

Participants will be expected to write a reflection journal expressing their opinions on the seminars throughout the programme. The final entry of the journal will be a 'capstone' assignment, which will give participants the opportunity to reflect in-depth on one particular thread of the leadership programme that applies to his/her area of interest. Both the supporting staff and the student-peers from New Zealand will provide formative feedback on the journal entries.

Participants will be organised into small groups who will present to each other on various topics from their own cultural perspective over the course of the programme. Students will draw on these sessions to prepare for participating in an international negotiating forum, such as a Model United Nations meeting during the final week of the programme. Upon completion of the programme, students will be awarded a certificate of participation from Victoria.

A course coordinator from Victoria International will oversee all aspects of the programme.

Certificates and Course Evaluation

A certificate of attendance is presented to each student at a farewell ceremony at the end of the course.

At the end of the course, students are asked to provide short evaluations in order to provide valuable feedback for Peking University, teachers and course planners.

Accommodation and meals

Students will be placed in fully-catered accommodation at Te Puni Village, the University's premier hall of residence which boasts one of the best views of Wellington (<http://www.tepunivillage.co.nz/>):

- Each participant will be placed in a fully furnished, single bedroom. Linens and towels are provided. Rooms are non-smoking.
- There are separate communal bathrooms for men and women.
- Three meals are provided daily during the week and two meals are provided daily on the weekends (Saturday and Sunday). Meals are served in a communal dining hall. Vegetarian options are available.
- Electricity and local phone calls are included. Internet access is included in the cost of the programme.
- The accommodation is located on the Kelburn Campus and is a 10 minute walk to the city. Public transport is readily accessible.

Dates

The suggested dates of the 2013 programme would be Tuesday 22 January – Friday 15 February. Participants would depart China on Friday 18 January and arrive in Wellington on Saturday evening. Monday 21 January is a public holiday in Wellington, so the programme would begin on Tuesday. The final day of the programme would be 15 February. Participants would depart Wellington on Saturday 16 February in the evening and arrive in Peking on Sunday morning.

Programme costs

The costs of a 4-week programme for 2013 are outlined below:

	Number of Participants	Rate Per Person	Total (\$NZ)
Accommodation and meals	25	\$1000	\$25,000
Programme*	25	\$1800	\$45,000
Rotorua Weekend Excursion	25	\$700	\$17,500
TOTAL	25	\$3500	\$87,500

*Includes medical and travel insurance (Studentsafe package), airport transfers, programme materials, English language component, leadership component, local sightseeing and activities. Note these fees are current at the time of issue of this agreement but any increases are beyond the control of the Victoria and will be passed on directly to students.

Information on the Studentsafe insurance policy can be found on the following website:

http://www.studentassist.co.nz/sf_university.asp

Exclusions:

- public transport in and around Wellington = approximately \$25 per week
- entertainment = approximately \$40 per week
- personal spending (snacks, toiletries, international phone calls, etc) = approximately \$30 per week

Table 1: Draft Schedule

	Morning	Afternoon / Evening
Week 1	Culture	
Fri 18 January		Depart PEK
Sat 19 January		Arrive WLG, transfer to accommodation
Sun 20 January	Informal welcome, programme briefing, campus tour, walking city tour	
Mon 21 January	Public Holiday – Wellington Anniversary	
Tues 22 January	<p style="text-align: center;">Programme Start</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inception activity – change your way of thinking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team building / rec centre activities Welcome function
Wed 23 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seminar: Maori Leadership Powhiri briefing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morning Seminar Reflections Powhiri welcome and afternoon tea
Thurs 24 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop A: Presentation Skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group work / presentations Visit to Te Papa
Fri 25 January	Free	Rotorua Excursion
Sat 26 January	Rotorua Excursion	
Sun 27 January		
Week 2	Politics	
Mon 28 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seminar: Global Youth Leadership Development Skills (AIESEC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seminar: Humanitarian Diplomacy Group work / presentations
Tues 29 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seminar: New Zealand in the World 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group work / presentations
Wed 30 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seminar: What is leadership? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cross-cultural movie night and discussion
Thurs 31 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seminar: NZ Politics – Member of Parliament to speak 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit to the Beehive
Fri 1 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seminar: Regional Security 	Free
Sat 2 February		
Sun 3 February		
Week 3	China – NZ Relationship	
Mon 4 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seminar: East Asia and the Future of New Zealand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop B: Negotiation Skills
Tues 5 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seminar: Cross-Cultural Communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group work / presentations
Wed 6 February	Public Holiday – Waitangi Day	
Thurs 7 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seminar: New Zealand and Asia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diplomatic Dialogue with the diplomatic corps
Fri 8 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seminar: John McKinnon, former NZ Ambassador to China 	Free
Sat 9 February		
Sun 10 February		
Week 4	Global Leadership Challenges	

Mon 11 February	• Workshop C: Advanced Skills	• Seminar: Securitising Climate Change
Tues 12 February	• Seminar: Global Leadership	• Group work / presentations
Wed 13 February	• Seminar: Global Interdependence	Free
Thurs 14 February	International Forum	
Fri 15 February	<i>Programme Finishes</i>	• Ceremony and farewell function
Sat 16 February		Depart WLG
Sun 17 February	Arrive PEK	