

ASIAN PERSPECTIVE 2010



ORGANISED BY



NUS Extension

A Business Unit of NUS Enterprise

It's been an enjoyable 6 weeks...

Mandarin is the most widely spoken language in the world. In fact, it is the native language of one out of five people in the world. As more and more international corporations cover grounds in China, being able to speak this increasingly important language is definitely an asset.

Where is the best place to learn Mandarin without feeling like a fish out of water? In Singapore, of course, where you can learn with ease in a bilingual environment. NUS Extension is pleased to offer a 6-week study abroad programme that allows you to learn Mandarin in the morning and discover the richness of Chinese and Southeast

Asian history and cultures in the afternoon. China and Southeast Asia possess an alluring charm in their many races and tribes. As the Chinese and Southeast Asian cultures are deeply entrenched in the multi-ethnic society of Singapore, you will be able to experience first-hand the diversity and uniqueness of a myriad of cultures and



CHINESE PAINTING



FIRST DURIAN EXPERIENCE



OFF ON A PERANAKAN TRAIL

PHOTOS FROM JULY 2010



FROM THE TOP LEFT (CLOCKWISE)

- MOMENTS TAKEN DURING OUR SINGAPORE AND ITS HISTORY TRAIL WITH MR JOHN SEEN
- LAURA WORKING ON HER CHINESE PAINTING
- OUR DUMPLING MAKING SESSION WITH MDM ZHANG LIRONG
- NUS CAMPUS TOUR
- SINGAPORE'S MERLION STATUE

Weekly Updates on Afternoon Activities

Week 1 (5-10 July 2010)

An update on the NUS Extension Asian Perspective Program. Lessons start, we took the placement test. Thoroughly enjoy the first cultural lesson on Monday. Went on a field trip to the National Library of Singapore featuring a historical figure of Early Singapore. We had a big welcome lunch. Settling well and having a good time here.

Week 2 (12-17 July 2010)

We had an interesting hands-on session yesterday learning to make dumplings. Today's lesson was on traditional Chinese festivals. Thoroughly enjoyed the process, very proud of our dumplings. Will send some pictures soon on FB.

Week 3 (19-24 July 2010)

Just finished an Indonesian cultural class. Delighted to learn some traditional Indonesian dance moves from the trainer, enjoyed traditional Indonesian cakes. Went on a day trip to Sentosa resort island in Singapore and got plenty of sun at the beach. Had an enriching afternoon trail, history of the Straits Chinese (Peranakan) in Singapore. Started with a traditional Peranakan lunch, followed by a tour of the old Peranakan enclave. Looking forward to today's Tea House to learn all about Chinese tea and tea brewing.

Week 4 (26-31 July 2010)

We cruised around in a 'junk boat' as part of Singapore Food Festival happenings. A running commentary throughout the cruise explained some of the Singapore River's history. Tasted traditional food from the various Singapore dialect groups, got to keep the tiffin carrier in which the food was served. Witness rehearsals along the Singapore River for upcoming Youth Olympics Opening ceremony as well as rehearsals for Singapore National Day Parade on Saturday. Toured NUS campus at Kent Ridge today and Singapore's museums in the afternoon.

Week 5 (2-7 August 2010)

This is Asian Perspective Programme's 5th week. We had our first durian experience, "king of fruits" of Southeast Asia. Known for its distinctive and highly pungent odour. This fruit has been banned from hotels and public transport. Check out our pictures eating them !! Toured NUS campus, given a tour of the Central Library on campus, impressive books they have there. Can't wait for Chinese painting this afternoon.

Week 6 (10-13 August 2010)

We were all surprised at how adept we were with the Chinese brush! Check out our works of art! We had a Thai appreciation class learning about Thai culture, ate Thai favourites, it was superb. What a wonderful experience, NUS Extension Asian Perspective Program in Singapore – two thumbs up.



LAURA POWELL

I LIKED THE VARIETY OF LEARNING TOOLS USED THROUGHOUT THE COURSE INCLUDING THE PAINTING, COOKING AND TEA CLASSES. I HAVE ENJOYED THE INTENSIVE MANDARIN STUDY AS WELL AND MEETING MANY DIFFERENT TEACHERS AND LEARNING ABOUT MANY DIFFERENT CULTURES.



MICHAEL BUESA

SMALL CLASS SIZE, INTENSIVE MANDARIN COURSE WAS VERY INTERESTING & EFFECTIVE. FURTHERMORE, THE CULTURE CLASSES WERE NOT JUST LECTURES, BUT MORE OFTEN EXCURSIONS TO THE LOCATIONS WHERE WE COULD LEARN THE MOST ABOUT A GIVEN TOPIC.



MATTHEW HEINZMAN

I HAVE ENJOYED HOW EVERY LESSON WAS NOT CONDUCTED IN THE CLASSROOM. SOMETIMES WE WOULD VENTURE OUT INTO THE CITY TO LEARN, BUT OTHER TIMES WE STAYED IN THE CLASSROOM.