

American Youth Exchange and Learning Training Program in China

The purpose of this American youth exchange and learning training program in China is to provide an opportunity for American youth to deeply understand traditional Chinese culture, history, art, and landscape design through the unique carrier of Chinese classical gardens. Through systematic course design, on-site visits, model production, and visits to landscape companies, American youth can be trained to appreciate Chinese classical gardens, design ideas, and practical skills, while promoting cultural exchange and understanding between teenagers from China and the United States.

Through this training, we hope that American teenagers can have a comprehensive and in-depth understanding of the charm and value of Chinese classical gardens. In the meanwhile, it can build a good platform for cultural exchange and cooperation between Chinese and American teenagers.

I. Training objectives:

1. Improve knowledge and understanding

It aims to enhance students' understanding of the origin, development, characteristics, and position and role of Chinese classical gardens in Chinese culture. Enable them to master the basic elements of Chinese classical gardens, such as landscapes, architecture, plants, roads and ornaments, and understand their application in landscape design. Students can also understand the design principles, aesthetic standards, and philosophical ideas of Chinese classical gardens, such as "theory that man is an integral part of nature" and "borrowed scenery", etc.

2. Enhance skills and practice

Through on-site visits to the Classical Gardens of Suzhou City in Jiangsu Province, students' ability of observation, analysis and description will be improved, and they will be able to identify and explain the design elements and features in gardens. By experiencing the production of classical garden models, we can cultivate students' hands-on ability and spatial imagination, and learn to apply theoretical knowledge to practice. Students can learn about the combination of modern landscape design and

practice, as well as the application of Chinese classical garden elements in modern landscape design, by visiting landscape companies.

3. Enhance cultural experience and exchange

It aims to enhance students' interest and respect for traditional Chinese culture, and cultivate their ability for cross-cultural communication, exchange and understanding. By interacting with Chinese students, we aim to promote friendship and cooperation between young people from China and the United States, laying the foundation for future cultural exchange and cooperation.

4. Enhance personal qualities and values

It aims to cultivate students' aesthetic awareness and ability, and enhance their beauty perception and appreciation. Cultivate students' innovative awareness and practical ability, encourage them to apply the knowledge they have learned to practical life, and solve practical problems. Emphasize respect and awareness of protecting the natural environment, cultivate students' awareness of environmental protection and sustainable development.

II. Training content module:

This 7-day training course aims to provide American teenagers with an opportunity to deeply understand traditional Chinese culture, history, art, and garden design through the unique cultural carrier of Chinese classical gardens. By combining theoretical learning, on-site visits, hands-on practice, and industry visits, we will construct a rich and colorful training module that is easy to understand, enabling students to comprehensively and systematically understand the charm and value of Chinese classical gardens. Four modules have been set up in total:

Module 1: Courses related to classical gardens

Through systematic teaching, students will have a deep understanding of the origin, development, characteristics, and position and role of Chinese classical gardens in Chinese culture. The course content includes: the history and evolution of Chinese classical gardens, explanation and analysis of garden elements (such as mountains and waters, architecture, plants, roads and ornaments, etc), appreciation of classic garden

cases, etc. (Suzhou Lingering Garden and Humble Administrator's Garden, etc.)

Module 2: On-site visit to the Classical Gardens of Suzhou City in Jiangsu Province

Through on-site visits, students can personally experience the unique charm of Chinese classical gardens and deepen their understanding of garden design. Visit famous classical gardens in Suzhou (such as Humble Administrator's Garden and Lingering Garden) and follow professional guides to understand the historical background, design concepts, and characteristics of the gardens. Students can freely explore and experience the charm and artistic conception of the gardens.

Module 3: Experience model making of the classical gardens

By creating classical garden models by hand, we can cultivate students' spatial imagination, creativity, and practical abilities. The mentor explains the basic steps and techniques of model making, and the students are divided into groups to design and produce the model. Through show and sharing, each group of students presents their own works and shares their experiences and insights during the making process.

Module 4: Visiting Landscape Enterprises

By visiting landscape companies, learn about the combination of modern landscape design and practice, as well as the application of Chinese classical landscape elements in modern landscape design. Students will visit the design studios, model making rooms, and construction sites of landscape companies, exchange ideas with industry professionals such as designers and engineers, and understand the industry trends and development prospects of landscape design. Watch a showcase of garden landscape design cases to understand the innovative application of Chinese classical garden elements in modern garden design.

III. Training content arrangement:

Project 1: Short term learning projects during the semester

Date	Training Process Content	Teacher
The first day	Student reporting and class opening ceremony	All teachers

	Exploration of Lakeside Urban Landscape——The Landmark of Suzhou Oriental Gate	Zhou Yuliao
The second day	Course <i>A Brief History of Suzhou Gardens</i>	Li Chenying
	Course <i>Gardening Techniques in Suzhou Gardens</i>	Hu Weiye
The third day	Site teaching of the Classical Gardens of Suzhou in Jiangsu Province——Lingering Garden	Wu Yuhan
	Visit Suzhou Yuanke Ecological Construction Group Co., Ltd	Zhu Yuxun
The fourth day	Course <i>Suzhou Garden Plant Art</i>	Wang He
	Course <i>Chinese Gardens: Northern and Southern Gardens</i>	Cheng Yifei
	Teaching of Jiangnan Classical Garden Model Making——Dianchunyi	Sun Xue
The fifth day	Site teaching of the Classical Gardens of Suzhou City in Jiangsu Province——The Humble Administrator's Garden	Zhu Fangda
	Combining Classical Gardens with Modern Design——Suzhou Museum	Ding Lanqian
The sixth day	Course <i>Suzhou Gardens, Academy Gardens</i>	Wu Fanji
	Visit the Nursery Base	Yang Zhen
The seventh day	The course <i>Appreciation of Classical Architecture in Suzhou Gardens</i>	Zheng Yue
	The graduation ceremony	All teachers

Project 2: Short-term exchange and visit project to China

Date	Training Process Content	Teacher
The first day	Student reporting and class opening ceremony	All teachers
	Exploration of Lakeside Urban Landscape——The Landmark of Suzhou Oriental Gate	Zhou Yugui

The second day	Course <i>A Brief History of Suzhou Gardens</i>	Li Chenying
	Site teaching of the Classical Gardens of Suzhou in Jiangsu Province——Lingering Garden	Wu Yuhan
The third day	Visit the Classical Gardens of Suzhou in Jiangsu Province——Master of Nets Garden	Hu Weiye
	Teaching of Jiangnan Classical Garden Model Making——Dianchunyi	Sun Xue
The fourth day	Course <i>Suzhou Gardens, Academy Gardens</i>	Wu Fanji
	Course <i>Chinese Gardens: Northern and Southern Gardens</i>	Cheng Yifei
	Visit Suzhou Yuanke Ecological Construction Group Co., Ltd	Zhu Yuxun
The fifth day	Site teaching of the Classical Gardens of Suzhou City in Jiangsu Province——The Humble Administrator's Garden	Zhu Fangda
	Combining Classical Gardens with Modern Design——Suzhou Museum	Ding Lanqian
The sixth day	Visit Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden	Wang He
The seventh day	The course <i>Appreciation of Classical Architecture in Suzhou Gardens</i>	Zheng Yue
	The graduation ceremony	All teachers