



**Missouri
State**
UNIVERSITY



**Missouri State University International Leadership and Training Center
English Studies & Professional Development Program for
Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University
February 13 – May 10, 2024**

Important Dates of Program at Missouri State University

- Recommended arrival in Springfield (SGF Airport) – February 13
- Program Orientation – February 14
- English Placement Test – February 15 – 16
- First day of English language classes – February 19
- Horticulture/Viticulture/Landscaping Tours – During Fridays from February 23 to April 5 and anytime between April 15 – May 8
- Last day of classes – May 8 or 9
- Program Completion – May 9 or 10
- Return to China – May 11

Program Overview

All Northwest A & F University (NWAUFU) students will participate in two months of English classes and one month of a 3-credit hour course called “Advanced Topics in Plant Biotechnology” and professional development activities from February 19 to May 10, 2024.

The first two months of English training program are 20-hours per week, non-credit course that includes intensive instruction in the integrated skills that develops students' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English, and content-based English focusing on agriculture and horticulture.

Among 20 hours, 16 hours will be seated classes and 4 hours will be Friday field trips for English purposes.

"Building English Connections" is an integrated skills course that develops students' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English. Interactive activities support students' development of oral communication skills. Participants will acquire proficiency in practical language application, preparing them for diverse social and professional contexts. The course curriculum allows students to develop confidence using English in conversational settings for successful interpersonal interactions and career advancement.

"English Language in Bloom" is a unique class combining English learning with horticulture exploration. Students engage in interesting readings and accessible discussions to enhance English language skills. The course helps students develop English vocabulary for academic courses in horticulture and boosts their confidence in presenting ideas effectively. It is designed to empower learners to achieve more, ensuring a fulfilling educational experience in both English language development and horticultural knowledge in a welcoming and stress-free environment.

Two days per week, students join local and international students and community members to share culture and conversation about a wide range of topics. During each Conversation Circle meeting, an English idiom is presented, and participants are guided through a conversation with each other on a related topic. Light refreshments are served each session to create a relaxed and comfortable environment.

NWAFU students will have an initial assessment and be assigned to classes at the appropriate level of English instruction that best matches each students' current skill, if there are more than 20 participants in total.

The MSU Darr College of Agriculture will organize a customized 3-credit hour academic program to include a 3-credit hour course called "Advanced Topics in Plant Biotechnology" and professional development activities that will take place after the English training program. The course content will focus on plant science, horticulture, and plant biotechnology – with practical experiences to include visits to Missouri agricultural organizations and research institutes.

Upon successful completion of the program, each student will receive a program completion certificate from the MSU International Leadership and Training Center.

Student Support and Cultural Activities

The opportunity to enjoy cultural activities and the friendly hospitality of the U.S. Midwest is an important aspect of this experience. These proposed cultural activities may be customized to match the specific interests of this group of students:

- On campus activities at Missouri State University to include interaction with students and faculty, and use of MSU recreation center.
- Sightseeing tours and cultural activities in Springfield will include Bass Pro Shops, the Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium, Springfield Conservation Nature Center, shopping at Battlefield Mall, and other recreational activities and sporting events.
- A day-trip to nearby national tourist destination Branson, Missouri (outlet mall shopping, entertainment, and/or natural attractions) and a two-day/one-night trip to St. Louis.
- The MSU International Leadership and Training Center will provide transportation, shopping shuttles, and other student support services as needed.

Program Budget *Itemized and total costs are based on a group of 15 students; all expenses during the program are included, but this budget does not include airfare and visa expenses*

This proposal also includes participation by one NWAFU faculty member at no charge.

Tuition and fees – \$37,500
Housing – \$52,500 (based on shared bedroom in off-campus apartment housing)
Meals – \$16,500 (19 meals per week in campus dining centers; unlimited buffet style; meals not included when campus dining centers are closed)
Local transportation - \$2,550
Professional development tours/travel - \$3,750
Program support - \$7,500
Tuberculosis Screening - \$1,950 (required by law; if preparing health insurance in China; if health insurance in the U.S., the cost will be higher.)

TOTAL: \$122,250 USD (\$8,150 per student for full program)

For additional information or questions, please contact:

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