

Study Abroad Experience 2008

Diana Henry's experience

In May of 2008, I began my study abroad experience. Below is one of my most memorable moments while studying abroad in Tianjin, China: a welcome to the Beijing Airport.



After the initial shock of actually being on the Asian Continent, I gathered myself together and realized that this was a once in a lifetime experience. I am [thankful to Tennessee State University](#) for selecting me to represent the school while taking International Business and The History and Culture of China classes at **Tianjin Polytechnic University, TJPU**. One of the greatest experiences I had while in China was not only viewing the awesomeness of **The Great Wall of China**, but actually climbing the centuries old steps and sitting on them with friends from Tennessee State University.



While in China on this study abroad trip I also realized that I have a wonderful family, home, and job. I understand now that we are all given the same opportunities to excel in this life. If we take advantage of these opportunities the sky is the limit as to where we can go. The study abroad trips are not only a way to see another part of the world, but they allow us to experience the culture of other countries. This study abroad experience caused my mind to be more understanding of the Asian culture. It also helped me to appreciate my life in America. Below are a few photos of the massacre of Nanjing.



While traveling in China I visited **Nanjing** and learned of the massacre that slaughtered 300,000 people almost wiping out the entire capital of China. I would have never known about this massacre if I had not studied abroad.

Not only did I learn of this tragic event, but I was able to see **The Summer Palace, The Forbidden City**, and some of the **temples** that make China such a memorable place.



Finally, the thing that I learned most from my study abroad trip to Tianjin, China is that everybody needs somebody. In this life, we all must understand that things are not important, but people are. It is our life to live and we all should live it to the fullest. Study abroad will broaden your horizons, enlighten you, and make you appreciate all that you have as some people in this world are less fortunate than you. I am so thankful to my family for supporting me as I embarked on this endeavor; without my family I would not have made it. Thanks to TSU again for a wonderful experience in Tianjin, China.



I recommend it to every student as it is a once in a lifetime experience.