



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK

Proposal for a 4-week course:

**Beijing University of Technology
Undergraduate Language Development Programme**

July 2014



Centre for Applied Linguistics

March 2014

Introduction

The course outlined in the following draft proposal is designed to fulfil the requirements of the Beijing University of Technology (BJUT). This proposal is based on discussion and correspondence entered into by:

- Ms Wenying Wu, Director of International Office
Dean of College of International Education, Beijing University of Technology
- Ms Wu Yan, International Office, Beijing University of Technology
- Mr Paul Wilson and Mrs Rose Woodford, Short Course Managers, Centre for Applied Linguistics, University of Warwick

The course will focus on language and cultural development for undergraduates from BJUT. It will be designed and delivered by the Centre for Applied Linguistics (The Centre) at the University of Warwick.

The Course

The four-week course will take place from July 21st to August 17th 2014. It will have a dedicated Director of Studies, supported by a tutor team drawn from the Centre. There will be approximately 19 hours of teaching each week. The programme will consist of the following integrated elements:

- 1. Intensive English Language Development**
- 2. Cultural Studies**
- 3. Programme of Cultural Visits**

1. Intensive English Language Development

This element of the course will provide students with the opportunity to gain confidence in their use of English in a range of social and academic situations. It will consist of:

- Study skills classes to develop confidence in academic listening, speaking, reading and writing in English;
- Research project, which students would plan, develop and present, in small groups;
- Pronunciation, stress and intonation.

In addition to classroom activities, living with a host family in the vicinity of the university, will offer practice of English in authentic situations on a daily basis, and help participants explore British culture first-hand and develop cross-cultural communication skills. Students will also have the chance to meet students of other nationalities in social contexts, further enabling them to use their English in natural settings.

2. Cultural Studies

This element of the course will provide input on topics of cultural interest. Although initially led by the tutor, these sessions will encourage maximum participation and

discussion by the students. This will allow them to gain an insight into the cultural life of the UK and the importance of the destinations of the Cultural Visits schedule, if this is included. The exact programme of seminars would be agreed in advance with Beijing University of Technology.

3. Programme of Cultural Visits

The programme of cultural visits will be planned to enable participants to gain a thorough understanding of aspects of British culture. Each visit will be preceded by a preparatory session in order for participants to make the most of their cultural visit programme.

The programme included in the costings would involve three half-day visits and two whole-day visits during the programme.

Suggested venues for the half-day visits would be:

- **Warwick Castle**, one of the most exciting and well preserved castles in Europe (see <http://www.warwick-castle.co.uk/>)
- **Stratford-upon-Avon**, the historic town of Shakespeare's birth (see <http://www.stratford-upon-avon.co.uk/>)
- **Cotswolds**, a rural area of outstanding natural beauty (see <http://www.the-cotswolds.org/>)

The suggested venues for the weekend whole-day visits would be:

- **Oxford**, the beautiful old University town (see <http://www.visitoxford.org/>)
- **Bath**, a lovely city founded in Roman times 2000 years ago (see <http://visitbath.co.uk/>)

Resources and facilities

Participants will have access to the main recently refurbished Library of the university and the student IT resources and provision, giving them computer access. They will also have access to our Resource Centre, which houses large specialised collections of ELT materials, including CD-Roms and DVDs, and provides excellent conditions for self-access work. Participants will also have access to the Sports Centre, where many activities are free of charge. For classes, tutors will use tailor-made materials. Bibliographies and web references will be issued for some topics and guidance will be given for reading, completing tasks between classes and preparing presentations.

Accommodation and Meals

Accommodation will be offered in carefully vetted, high-quality homestay families within easy travelling distance from the University. Participants will live with a family on a half-board basis during the week and full-board at the weekend. They will have a private study bedroom. In this way participants will gain invaluable personal experience of contemporary British life and will have the chance to use English in a range of social situations. We can welcome the group the weekend prior to the start of the programme on either July 19th or 20th, with departure on Saturday August 16th.

Participant Support

Our International Student Support Officers, Ms Amanda Grantham and Ms Sara Pestell, will be available to look after pastoral issues, and to deal with any settling-in difficulties if they arise.

Weekly Timetable

A weekly timetable of approximately 19 hours will be arranged. Morning sessions will normally take place between 9.00am and 12.00noon every weekday morning, and on two days there will usually be afternoon sessions between 2.00pm and 4.00pm.

Costings

Costings for the four-week programme outlined are given below in GB pounds sterling for a group size of between 10 and 32 participants. The fees will include:

- tuition
- homestay accommodation on half-board basis (breakfast and dinner) with experienced hosts
- cultural programme of visits
- airport collection and return
- Welcome Lunch on the first day and Farewell Lunch on the final day
- university registration which gives access to the library, IT facilities and the Sports Centre
- Warwick certificate of attendance and group photograph
- bus pass for participants to travel to and from the university and the surrounding area

The fees do not include flights, visa charges or travel insurance for participants. We are able to arrange travel insurance on request at an additional charge.

Course Duration in weeks	Number of participants	With cultural programme	
		Cost per participant per week	Total cost per participant
4	28-34	GBP 516	GBP 2,064
4	18-22	GBP 526	GBP 2,104
4	14-17	GBP 558	GBP 2,232
4	10-13	GBP 609	GBP 2,436

If any amendment is requested to the above programme in the duration, group size or content, we will be happy to provide a revised costing for the programme.

Programme Planning and Visas

We are very grateful for the close co-operation in sending student details, homestay questionnaires and photos. A programme agreement will be issued for the course and an invoice, which we understand will be paid by the students. Once we receive confirmation of participants we will issue invitation letters to facilitate the application for a visa.

It is our understanding that students attending this programme must have a student visitor visa. Students not holding such a visa will not be able to join the course.

Background Information

The Short Course Unit in the Centre for Applied Linguistics runs a range of tailor made, carefully focused and individually designed courses for universities, international companies, The British Council, Ministries of Education and other educational agencies. The unit works with university students, trainee teachers, experienced teachers, teacher-trainers, course designers, materials writers, official translators, business managers and educational administrators. We have a wide portfolio of courses, many of which are highly-evaluated and repeated annually. The strength of our programmes lies in the care and personal attention our participants receive from our responsive and flexible team. All our programmes are arranged and managed by Paul Wilson and Rose Woodford, Short Course Managers, who have considerable experience in designing and running such academic and professional courses both in the UK and abroad.

The Centre for Applied Linguistics was established in 1983 (under the name of the Centre for English Language Teacher Education). It operates as an independent Centre within the Faculty of Social Studies. Its main interests are research and teaching in Applied Linguistics and English Language Teaching, and the development of teacher education, both through its award bearing Masters, Ed.D and Ph.D programmes, and through individually designed short intensive courses.

Quality of Teaching in the Centre is very high. During the recent Departmental review carried out by the national Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA). The Centre was awarded the highest possible grade of 24/24. The QAA report particularly praised the "Teaching and learning strategies that were effectively delivered through a range of intellectually challenging approaches...offering excellent learning experiences.... supported by stimulating materials that were intellectually challenging." The Centre's activities are subject to strict quality assurance procedures by the regulations of the University.

The University of Warwick is widely rated among the best of UK universities. It is research led, having been ranked 7th among the UK's 100 universities for the quality of research in the Research Assessment Exercise of 2008. Equally, it is committed to providing undergraduate and postgraduate teaching of the highest quality. It has a fast growing reputation as an innovator in Europe and as a leader on the wider international stage. It has considerable experience of working with students, teachers and lecturers from a range of countries. The University is centrally located in the Heart of England within easy reach of the rest of the country. The campus is situated on a green landscaped site which provides many areas of natural beauty and tranquillity combined with many excellent academic and social facilities. It houses the largest Arts Centre in the UK outside London, with two theatres, a 1500 seat concert hall, a cinema and art gallery, and there are shops, banks, bars and restaurants on campus. In addition, participants will have the use of a wide range of sports facilities on campus, including a swimming pool, sports centres and tennis courts.

For further information about the Centre for Applied Linguistics and tailor-made short courses, please visit the Short Course website <http://www.warwick.ac.uk/al/scu/>

For further information about the University of Warwick, please visit <http://www.warwick.ac.uk/>

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