Media and Culture in China
WITH TRAVEL TO BEIJING, CHINA

Witness the transformation of the Chinese media environment as the Chinese government seeks to balance outside influences with an ongoing desire for control of information at home. Visit with scholars, practitioners and observers who provide a variety of perspectives on this key issue in contemporary China. Media and Culture in China is a four-credit, semester-long course during spring semester that explores the various cultural and political pressures that determine the way the media and ancillary industries operate in China. The class includes spring break travel to Beijing, China.

China’s communication practitioners have developed from staunchly Communist hardliners to media professionals who are caught in the contradictory cross-pressures of commercialism and political ideology. By developing a better understanding of the ways these political and cultural forces shape media practices in China, students will develop a deeper understanding of the concept of press freedom as well as an awareness of the professional values of practitioners operating in an environment that has not been shaped by Western traditions.

Taught by associate professor Emily Metzgar, the class will introduce students to the historical, social, cultural and political background of China. Students will analyze China’s media system and hear from guest speakers both on campus in Bloomington and on the ground in Beijing.

Eligibility
To apply for the course, you must:

- be on track to be a sophomore by credit hours (30 hours completed) by the end of fall 2016 semester;
- have a 3.0 cumulative GPA;
- be on track to be admitted to The Media School by the end of the fall 2016 semester (students in legacy majors who have been admitted to the College are considered to have fulfilled this requirement).

Master’s degree students also may be eligible to apply to take the class for graduate-level credit. Contact Audrie Osterman, director of experiential education, at osterman@indiana.edu for more information.

Trip details
Travel to China from March 10-18, 2017 (tentative dates), is a required component of this course.

Costs
The Media School provides a scholarship to all students admitted to this course to lower the course fee that’s assessed for travel.

Full program costs: $3,500
Scholarship: $1,050
Course fee after scholarship: $2,450

The course fee covers round-trip transportation from Bloomington, lodging, all required activities, health insurance and some meals. We recommend students also have at least $400 available during the trip to cover meals and personal expenses.

These expenses can be reduced through other scholarships and grants, such as the Hutton International Experiences grant. Upon acceptance into the field experience course, your bursar account will be billed a $500 non-refundable deposit. The remainder of the basic program costs will be billed to your bursar account in November, due in December with spring tuition. The scholarship will also be posted at that time.