Summer Institute for Intercultural Communication

Portland - Oregon - USA



Session I, July 12-14, 2017

中國: 關鍵事項國家簡報

3. China: Encountering the Culture of a Rising Power

What if China succeeds? What is really going on inside China today? Why does Chinese culture seem so dramatically different from ours? How can we teach, train, and work with Chinese more effectively? These questions are of concern to educators, corporate managers, diplomats, social service personnel, and intercultural specialists—China is challenging all of us. This highly interactive workshop clarifies the fundamental realities in China today, and illustrates the serious consequences of culture through real-life stories and case studies.

Designed for: Educators, corporate managers, diplomats, social service personnel, and intercultural specialists. China is challenging all of us.

Workshop Objectives

- Clarify the big picture: conditions, major trends, and opportunities in China today.
- Discover the underlying reasons why Chinese think, learn, act, and interact in the distinctive ways they do.
- Plan, specifically, how to work most effectively with Chinese students, employees, counterparts, and colleagues. Thereby ensure that the participants in this workshop, when actually working with Chinese, will achieve their goals. And ensure that the Chinese with whom they are working achieve their goals.
- Participants will gain deeper insight into themselves and their own cultures. (This is special insight, which a real encounter with Chinese culture can create.)

Learning Activities

- Faculty presentations (thought-provoking, interactive, and illustrated) on the fundamental realities in China today
- Construction of a unique, compelling model of Chinese culture
- Real-life stories of George's work with Chinese and Westerners in China (and recently with Chinese students and companies in the U.S.)
- In-depth discussions of the issues of greatest concern to Chinese and Westerners
- Case studies of challenging situations in different kinds of relationships and organizations
- Discussions of illuminating selections from 20 of the best books on China. Subjects include history, philosophy, religion, intercultural communication, how Chinese learn, the political system, alternative futures for China, and culture-revealing biographies and novels.



Dr. George Renwick, a founding faculty member of the Summer Institute, has been traveling on assignments to China frequently since 1982. He has worked for 25 organizations in Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Beijing, Tianjin, and Qinhuangdao. On most of his assignments, George serves as a coach and advisor to senior Chinese and Western managers. He has written over 50 confidential studies, reports, and letters to senior managers on Chinese-Western interaction. In addition, he conducts intensive seminars and briefings for employees at all levels in a variety of organizations in China. Prior to his coaching and consulting practice, George was on the faculty and director of the summer school at New Asia College in the Chinese University of Hong Kong. While in Hong Kong he lived with a Chinese family.