China Study Abroad – Summer 2007
Pre-Trip Orientation
233 Science II

Week 2 – January 31

I. What’s up in China? News reports from students.

II. Academic – Overview of history, people, culture and languages
   Guest lecturer: Dr. Mu Aili, Assistant Professor, World Languages and Cultures
   Review discussion questions distributed last week (time permitting)

III. Preparation
   a. Introduction of case study methods: Bob Jolly
   c. Housekeeping
      i. Course Registration – 6 credits total:
      ii. Spring 2007: 3 credits in either NREM 496A, Section CN or ECON 496
      iii. Summer 2007: 3 credits in either NREM 496A, Section CN or ECON 496
   d. Travel Updates
      i. Airline tickets: The Ag Study Abroad office is working through a travel agency to
         purchase group tickets. Please let us know if you anticipate departing or returning from
         a city other than Des Moines, or if you anticipate extended travel beyond the dates of
         the program (May 15-June 9). We will keep you informed about the progress.
      ii. Passports: Bring passports to group leaders or to Ag Study Abroad Office, 111 Curtiss
         Hall, no later than Monday, April 2. Passports will be sent to Chinese Consulate in
         Chicago to obtain visas. You cannot enter China without a passport and visa!
   e. Immunizations
      i. Visit your regular doctor or student health travel clinic to obtain information about
         recommended immunizations.
      ii. Please review these websites:
         http://www.cdc.gov/travel/eastasia.htm
         http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/abroad.html

IV. Questions?

V. Cultural – Chopstick Challenge!

VI. Reminders –
   a. Weekly Warming-Up Activities - Research current events in P.R. China. Each week, each
      member of one group should be prepared to give a brief (1-2 minute) oral overview regarding one
      news article you found interesting.
      Suggested sources:
   b. Spring/Summer semester Activities - To increase your knowledge of China and enhance your
      experience, we recommend that you read one book of your choice that focuses on China (fiction,
      nonfiction, biography, etc.) during the course of the program. If time permits during our weekly
      meetings in China, each student may give a 5-8 minute review of his/her book and discuss the
      similarities and differences between book and observations during the trip. Suggested book list is
      attached.
VI. **Next meeting: Wednesday, February 7, 6:00-8:30 p.m., 233 Science II**

a. Overview of China’s economy

b. Cultural differences