

## University of York – Zhejiang University Winter Programme 2013

### Overview

The programme provides an opportunity to develop academic communication skills and intercultural awareness at a world-class University situated in a beautiful historic city.

### York city

York is beautiful mediaeval city with top attractions such as York Minster and the city walls. It is small, friendly and easy to get to know. It is centrally located within the UK so it is easy to travel to London and Edinburgh as well as other cities such as Leeds, Manchester and Liverpool.





## The University of York

Situated just minutes from the historic centre of York, the University presently has about 15,000 participants with over 30 academic departments and research centres. Highly rated amongst UK Universities, it was named University of the Year at The Times Higher Education Awards in December 2010 and was recently named the number one university in the UK under 50 years old. The picturesque lakeside campus makes the University of York an ideal place for study. Free wi-fi is available across campus.





## The Programme

### Aims

The main aims of this programme are to enable students to improve their communication skills in an academic context. It also aims to enable them to broaden their cultural horizons and give them a better understanding of intercultural differences between China and the UK. There will also be an opportunity to experience life in a department at the University of York.

### Components

#### 1. Academic Communication Skills

The general aim is to improve fluency and confidence when speaking in English. This strand is divided into two sub-sections.

- a. Seminar skills will help to prepare for communication in academic situations
- b. Presentation skills will help prepare for the end of programme seminar

#### 2. Issues in Culture and Society

This component aims to broaden participants' cultural horizons and raise their international awareness through lively presentation and discussion of a range of issues. It also includes visits to places of local interest, for which there will be preparation sessions.

#### 3. Introduction to York Departments

This will involve a tour of the York campus and an introduction to the University of York. Participants will also have the opportunity to attend lectures and/or seminars at departments related to their area of study. They will be able to meet members of staff as well as sample the academic work of the department.

#### 4. Project

This component will give participants the opportunity to explore an aspect of British life and culture in greater detail and compare it to life in China.

#### 5. The commercialisation of research

These plenary sessions will focus on entrepreneurship in a university context and how research can be developed commercially.

## Trips



Whitby



Leeds

## Our approach to teaching

We aim to provide active and experiential learning with participants involved and engaged intellectually and affectively. Teachers will be responsive to participant needs and our programmes are designed to flexibly allow participants opportunity to pursue their own personal and professional interests. We encourage and facilitate participants to use the university, their host families and the city of York as resources in order to stimulate their use of English in practical situations.



All our teachers are suitably qualified and experienced and the participants will get to know the staff well.



**Matt Smelt-Webb**  
Programme Manager CLC



**Sally Jenkins**  
Senior Tutor

## Host families

Students will be accommodated with local host families. After participants fill in a questionnaire, CELT will allocate them to a suitable host family. The family will then send a letter of introduction a month before the start of the programme so that everyone can start to get to know each other. The families meet the students on arrival in York. The host family programme is a wonderful opportunity to speak English and be immersed in British life and culture.



## Testimonials

This is what previous Zhejiang University students have said about the York programme:

- I learnt a lot! I can practice a lot during the class.
- i love these kind of classes and i can learn more from them
- We all completed the project carefully, and improved a lot in our speaking skills and thinking methods.
- I live in a totally English environment which can push you to study English.
- Very excellent, hope to take part in it again
- Useful and impressive!