

My time in China was fantastic! Every day since I try to think of ways to go back. My fall semester in Shanghai started with full time studies of mandarin. This was very rewarding. Even though I have studied mandarin in five years since eighth grade until senior year in high school I have never learnt this much in such a short time. To be in contact with the culture and people every day was magical. It felt as if you had stepped into a whole new world that you understood more and more each day. Sometimes I even surprised myself with how much of the language I had actually learnt when speaking with taxi drivers, fruit sellers etc, and my Chinese friends of course. Part of what I learned was a repetition of everything that I learned in secondary school and high school but the big difference was that I have gained a confidence in speaking which is not possible to get in any other way than by going to China. This is my biggest tip if you want to learn Mandarin; go to China! Since the course I took was a combined culture and language course I ended my semester with a short internship at a Chinese communications agency, TOMORROW. Here I got the opportunity to work with Chinese speaking colleagues every day and really practically implement my skills and deep dive into the Chinese marketing landscape. My semester was finished by doing a Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi II where I achieved an excellent result of 95%. The experiences that I have gained will serve as fine merits for my future endeavors. Especially since I aim for an international career with a focus on Asia. I am very pleased with my time in China and both proud and happy that the Swedish Chamber of Commerce in China made it possible.

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