

ORIENTATION

Chengdu American Center

An Alternative Fall Semester

As unique and challenging Year 2020 is, G-MEO has been sparing no efforts in making contribution to international education. Following a great success of 2020 Summer Online Session, G-MEO has established an Alternative Fall Semester (AFS) in cooperation with Fairleigh Dickinson University, American University, Norwich University and other partner universities in the US, in order to accommodate and offer in-person class to those Chinese international students in China. This fall, the G-MEO Chengdu American Center for Study Abroad welcomes 101 Chinese international students from seven American universities. Fifteen courses covering topics from business and finance, to math and music, and some others are available.



Welcome to G-MEO 2020 Fall Semester!



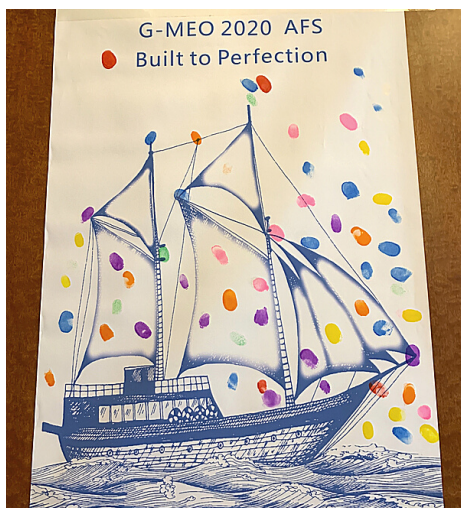
Sign-in table was ready



A big thank-you to student volunteers at the Orientation

A Healthy & Fun Sign-in

On September 21st, 2020, the G-MEO Chengdu American Center for Study Abroad held its Orientation for G-MEO 2020 Alternative Fall Semester (AFS). With reporting no local new cases of the COVID in Chengdu for more than two months, the Center still took serious precautions against coronavirus. On the Orientation Day, the classrooms and their nearby areas were sanitized before the students' arrival. The students were also required to show their personal Health Code when they signed in so as to make sure a safe and healthy learning community in the following three months. Additionally, the students left their finger prints on a ship-like poster, which means "we set sail together"!



With a sailor's spirit, here we go!

Orientation

On the Orientation Day, the Center's Associate Director Ms. Sara Luo gave a welcome speech and introduced G-MEO Chengdu Team. Presentations on program policies and information about 2020 fall semester were given during academic and daily life sessions. In addition to that, G-MEO founder and CEO Dr. David Chang gave a virtual live speech to wish everyone a wonderful semester!



Ms. Sara Luo was introducing the staff team after welcoming all the faculty members, students, and other guests.



G-MEO Founder and CEO Dr. David Chang was giving a Zoom live speech.

Dr. Andy Guth was presenting in the academic session.



Student Voice

"I would like to thank Norwich University and G-MEO for this opportunity to continue our studies in a safe environment. Through these first days of study, I feel the enthusiastic help from professors and staff members, and the friendly relationship with other students. I believe that we can become good friends in the future study and life."

-- Zehao Wang, Norwich University



Faculty Members

Academic quality is always one of G-MEO's top priorities in any course delivery format, online, in-person or hybrid teaching mode. This fall, we have 12 faculty members plus two teaching assistants for all 15 courses. All the faculty members hold a Ph.D. and are with high expertise. The two teaching assistants are graduate students in relevant majors. A special faculty session was held at the Orientation to go through Faculty Handbook and other academics related to help ensure an error-free start in the new semester.



A professional faculty group!

Daily Life Session

One big difference from the previous fall semesters at the G-MEO Chengdu is that this cohort are all Chinese, which means the language barrier and probable culture shock disappear. However, G-MEO values a lot students' non-academic life. During the daily life session at the Orientation, students were emphasized about safety and health and went through the extra-curricular activities as well as important academic dates. Other information on available resources and tips on exploring Chengdu was delivered.

Students were getting familiar with those extra-curricular activities.

Faculty Voice

"Welcome to Chengdu! It was great to meet all the students and see their eagerness to learn this semester. I think with the excitement of the students, staff, and faculty it will be a great semester enjoyed by all. Life will always present challenges...always. It is how we respond to those challenges that define our character. So far, it looks like everyone, including the home universities, have chosen to add some sugar to the sourness of travel restrictions and ensure we move forward with classes and hopefully maintain a graduation schedules for the students."

-- Dr. Andy Guth, American University



Ice-breaker Game

On the Orientation Day, the students were not only introduced to the staff team and faculty members, they also got a chance to know each other. We always want students to better engage themselves in our learning community, and to establish new friendship and connections. The ice-breaker game was a competition that asked the students to memorize as many other students' names as possible. Prizes were presented to the best teams and the final winner with the strongest memory. This game brought lots of excitement, joy and fun.



"Here is my name!"



A wonderful semester kicks off!

Student Voice

"To be preparing but never possible to be prepared enough. The strongest desire before coming to Chengdu was waking up from the nightmare - worldwide pandemic. But I finally had to accept the fact and came to Chengdu. There are two reasons for choosing G-MEO Chengdu Program while the other two cities are also available. One is because of local food here, and the other one is the higher familiarity for me and my peers with G-MEO comparing with two others. I distrusted the staff's capabilities here initially, but their subtle preparations through many details have given me tremendous confidence to have an immense academic experience during this fall semester. G-MEO's staff pre-researched about restaurants, accommodations, gyms, transports, and took seriously about every student and every parent's needs. One shortage now is that students do not have too many opportunities to know more fun stories about students from other classes. This is because most classes does not happen simultaneously with another one. As a result, the atmosphere of being in a college is weakened. I am looking forward to other plans designed by G-MEO and have the confidence to achieve my academic goals with the assistance from all professional faculties.

-- Tianyi Guo, American University