

## ASDP China Field Seminar: China's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Challenges

July 5-26, 2009

China as a major player on the world scene is conscious of its political, economic and cultural identities. This was most recently evident during the 2008 Olympics. The 2009 ASDP field seminar will focus on Chinese identity as an ongoing process, the result of national politics and policies, international relations, economic trade and media. One of the foci of the 2009 China field study is how Chinese identities are projected in monumental structures such as the Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square; in urban landscapes like the rapidly rising titanic buildings of Shanghai and the recent Olympic structures in Beijing; in historical sites such as the impressive new Sanxingdui Museum near Chengdu; and in "cultural parks" that showcase ethnic minorities.

The field seminar will also explore issues related to the environment, minority cultures and rural development. These issues will be highlighted throughout the field study, but particularly in the Southwest Provinces of Guizhou and Sichuan which are noted for their diverse landscapes, agricultural economies, and many minorities.

Through meetings with scholars and site visits, the field seminar will look at the challenges China faces in reconciling traditional and contemporary spaces, in managing competing ecologies of development, and in educating future generations.

The itinerary will include Beijing, Chengdu in Sichuan Province, Guiyang in Guizhou Province, and Shanghai. The Field Seminar is co-sponsored by the Chinese Ministry of Education, Peking University and the Asian Studies Development Program, a joint program of the East-West Center and University of Hawaii.

Tentative Itinerary: July 5 to July 26, 2009

- July 5 arrival in Beijing;
- July 10 travel to Chengdu, Sichuan;
- July 16 travel to Guiyang, Guizhou;
- July 21 travel to Shanghai;
- July 26 departure from Shanghai.

This field study is suitable for travelers who are comfortable participating in 3-5 hours of daily physical activities and sightseeing and able to walk 3 miles unassisted over the course of each day. The terrain will include city streets and rugged paths.

Program Costs: There is a program fee of approximately \$750.00.

Participants are responsible for VISA costs and international airfare from the United States to Beijing and from Shanghai back to the United States.

