

INTRODUCTION

First thing's first: there's a lot that's not in here, and a lot that may have changed or will be just plain wrong by the time you arrive in Beijing. This book is intended to be a guide to some of the things that can help you as a Dartmouth student on the FSP, and unfortunately can't be a guide to the whole of Beijing or of China. There are a bunch of books already available doing that job, and doing it a lot better than I certainly could.

More importantly, though, you're going to Beijing in order to see for yourself what China is like. That's the point of the FSP—to allow a better understanding of Chinese society and culture, and of what it means to be Chinese right now. It's not an LSA, or you would have gone instead of taking Chinese 3. Hopefully, you'll come back with not only a greatly improved set of language skills, but also more of a sense of what's happening on the other side of the world.

That said, you should also go to Beijing to have a good time. It's a big roller coaster of a changing place right now, and there's a sort of exhilaration in just being somewhere where that's happening. Having been on one Beijing FSP as a student and another as a TA, I can say that the changes over the three-year gap between the two were staggering, if not a little bit frightening. Hang on and enjoy the ride.

At its best, China is an epic country of sprawling, breathtaking spectacle with some of the most extravagant and ambitious monuments ever constructed by mankind. At its worst, China is a third-world country in which millions of ill-dressed people push and shove their way down the heavily polluted streets of hideous, ramshackle cities, thinking of little else beyond how to survive in the continuing and unpredictable social experiment that is Chinese life. It has much in common with other impoverished, over-crowded nations, plus a few quirks of its own.

—Peter Neville-Hadley, *China: The Silk Routes*

I hope this guide provides you with some useful information on your own trip to China, and that it's a productive and enlightening one. ! *Zhù nǐ yì lù shùn fēng!*

Brad Evans '98
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Urumqi, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, China

BEFORE YOU GO

Getting to Beijing

Unfortunately, for those with a fear of flying, there aren't many convenient alternative ways to get to China, unless you plan on skipping out on the term before the FSP. Hopefully by the time you're reading this, you've already started making airline, passport, and visa arrangements, but if not, here are some basic guidelines.

Generally speaking, students are responsible for making their own travel arrangements, though your Program Director and the DAMELL Chinese professors are certainly available for consultation if you've got any questions. The Dartmouth FSP has had a long relationship with FETI Travel (telephone 617-451-0606), of Boston, MA. Usually Shirley Yang,

Dartmouth's contact at FETI, does a good job of setting up everyone's travel, often making it possible for FSP participants to arrive in Beijing in one or two major groups (which simplifies a number of things), and getting good rates. If this option is available, your Program Director will notify you.

When planning your travel, keep in mind both costs and what you want to do after the FSP ends. There are a number of programs available in both China and Taiwan for continuing Chinese language classes after the FSP, as well as options for travel and other activities (see "After the FSP", p. 15). If you haven't decided what you want to do yet, you may consider purchasing an open-ended ticket good for 3 or 6 months. Though slightly costlier, it will give you more flexibility in your travel plans. Alternatively, a cheap way of traveling a bit after the program is to arrive in China via Beijing, but leave by way of Hong Kong, taking the train south to catch your flight after the conclusion of the FSP. Keep in mind when booking a flight that most tickets can be changed for a \$50 or \$75 fee, so you are not necessarily wedded to any one plan.

By now you should have applied for and received your passport if you didn't have one already—double check all personal information, and make sure it does not expire within 6 months of departure. If for some reason you haven't applied for a passport yet, head down to the Hanover Post Office or one of the major passport issuing centers in Boston or New York and get this done as soon as possible. You'll need two photos for the passport, and another two for your Chinese visa. The Hanover Camera Shop on Main Street will do these for the exorbitant price of \$7 or \$8 per pair, but CVS will give you six photos for not about \$8. Be sure to sign your passport once you get it; it's not valid until you do so.

With regard to visas, your Program Director will keep you informed as to what you need to do. Generally, these are taken care of at an FSP group meeting in winter or spring term. It's incredibly important that you show up to this meeting—with your passport—so your visa can be processed in time for the FSP.

What to Bring

The key is to pack light. You will almost certainly be coming back to the US with more than you took to China, so leave room for the extra stuff you buy. **If you don't have something on this list, don't go out and buy it.** Unless it says otherwise, you can get it in Beijing, and probably for cheaper.

What should I pack my things in? It depends. Regardless of what you use, you will want to bring a backpack that you can easily put a weekend or a week's worth of clothes in, as you will need it if you travel anywhere within China. There are some rather functional imitation North Face bags (though sometimes of dubious quality) available at various markets, so keep that in mind if you don't own such an item.

For the rest of your stuff, a large suitcase (wheels are essential!) and/or a quality backpack that will allow you to carry three months' belongings comfortably will probably work just fine. The backpack method will come in handy if you plan to travel a lot during or after the program.

Most international flights originating in the US allow you two pieces of checked baggage, each weighing a maximum of 50 lbs (23 kg), plus a carry-on, weighing a maximum of 40 lbs (18 kg). Of course, you probably won't be carrying this much stuff when you depart, but again, do leave room for the things you collect in China. Label your bags inside and out with the program address in both Chinese and English (see p.13-14).

Essentials

- Passport (**Make a copy of the key pages of your passport and keep them separate from your passport; if you lose your passport, it will be easier to replace it if you have these.**)
- Plane ticket
- Medical insurance card and medical insurance claim form (SOS card and materials)
- Money (see below)

Clothing (Be practical! Beijing is hot, muggy, and rainy in the summer but will get chilly in late fall.)

- 10-14 T-shirts
- 3-5 pairs of shorts
- 1-3 pairs of jeans
- 1-3 nice outfits (this really depends on how often you dress up)
- Underwear & socks, of course
- Shoes (It's important that these be comfortable for walking and hiking, because you'll be doing a lot of that. Clogs aren't the best plan, though sandals work well.)
- Sweatshirts and a warm jacket/winter coat for the chilly days
- Bathing suit

Hygiene

- Imodium A/D, Pepto-Bismol, a multi-purpose antibiotic such as Cipro
- Favorite cold/flu medicine
- Deodorant
- Toothbrush
- Sanitary Napkins/Tampons (The jury is still out on these. I've seen Kotex, O.B., and Tampax in Beijing—the grocery store just outside campus has the last two; see "Shopping," p. 10—but some women have reported problems finding their preferred brands. You can make the call.)
- **Any medications you take regularly, or need for a condition that may reoccur (e.g., asthma; see "Health/Immunizations" below)**
- Contact lens solution (not all brands are available in Beijing) – bring your own: some local brands were recently found to be contaminated
- Sufficient supply of contact lenses for the term and/or glasses (also, bring a prescription – glasses are cheap in Beijing)
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent with DEET (to ward against Japanese Encephalitis, and Malaria for travelers to south China)
- Personal first-aid kit

Even though brand name items for toothpaste, shampoo, etc. are widespread in Beijing, the actual products themselves might be different from those you are used to. For instance, the shampoo is without question designed for Chinese hair types. If you have strong product preferences, you might want to bring those products with you from home.

Other Items

- Textbooks
- Money Belt (Or something not unlike a money belt, for safeguarding your money, passport, etc.)
- iPod/CD player for music
- Voltage converter (China runs on 220-240 volts while the US runs on 110 volts. You will need a voltage converter for any appliances you bring that only run on 110 volts. Laptops can usually run on both; check yours if you plan to bring one. You can get a voltage converter (220-240 volts to 110 volts) in the US or in Beijing.)
- Camera (Kodak and Fuji film are everywhere)
- 1-2 novels (a good break from studying)
- Umbrella

- Sunglasses
- Journal
- Photos of family and friends to show Chinese friends, or just to remind you of home
- Something familiar to cheer you up if you get homesick (e.g., a favorite book, CD, game, photos, etc.)
- Laptop (for writing papers, conducting research online, or checking blitz; see p. 15 for connecting from your room). Please remember that some laptops, including Macs, should not be left plugged in for longer than a few weeks because excessive charging may seriously kill your computer's battery life. Unplug your laptop every few days, use up some of the battery and then recharge it.
- Guidebook (Get this before you go; there's a lot that can't be written here that a good guidebook will tell you. The Lonely Planet and the Rough Guide are by far the two best general guides and are geared towards budget travelers; I particularly like *China: The Silk Routes*, by Peter Neville-Hadley. Its focus is mostly on western China and Central Asia, but it has a spectacular chapter on "Anticipating China" and isn't nearly as cynical as Lonely Planet can be. Ask at a big bookstore or try amazon.com.)
- Lonely Planet also makes a nice phrasebook that can be much handier to use than a dictionary.

Need anything else and you can probably get it in Beijing. As for money, you can have your first major adventure in China by changing money at the airport. See p. 3 for instructions on doing that.

What Not to Bring

- Towels and sheets (your TA will let you know if you need to bring towels)
- Sleeping bag (unless you plan to travel or camp)
- Toilet paper (though public bathrooms in China almost never have any, wait until you arrive in Beijing to buy some)
- Prepaid phone cards and cell phones (see p. 13) – unless your cells are compatible for overseas use
- Pets, plants, and other living things

Health/Immunizations

What shots do I need? As soon as you know you are going to China, it is probably a good idea to start on your immunizations. **The Off-Campus Programs office will have a health meeting in the spring that will discuss what immunizations you need as well as some other health concerns. It's very important that you attend this meeting.** However, if you start then there is a good chance you will be unable to complete the course of some of the recommended vaccinations, and in the past some students have complained that they could have taken care of their shots at home over spring break if they had known about them.

This is not an attempt to replace that meeting; it is important that you attend as the College often has important information to present. However, it is probably in your best interest to have your doctor look into what immunizations you need before you go to China early on in the process. Below is the list of immunizations recommended to China FSP participants in recent years:

- Tetanus
- Polio
- Typhoid
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B (most of you inoculated at birth)
- Japanese Encephalitis B

•Malaria pills (see below)

Be sure to talk to your doctor, as this list may change and the various shots may have some side effects. If you can't make it home, you can get the shots you need at Dick's House. Bring your immunization history with you. Be aware that Dick's House will only administer 3 shots per week. Japanese Encephalitis B takes 4 weeks to finish the cycle: day 1, week 1, week 4. It can be abbreviated, but they don't recommend it. And students who plan to travel in China should have some idea about where they are going in case they need to take malaria pills; Dick's House can advise you on the type of malaria pills you will need. For more detailed information on health risks, see the Centers for Disease Control's "Health Information for Travelers to East Asia". Ultimately, you must decide which immunizations you will have. **Also, if you have a condition that you're taking medication for, or a previous condition that could reoccur (e.g., asthma), be sure to bring enough with you to China.** Replacing medicines via mail or at the clinics in Beijing can be quite expensive.

Money

Fortunately, Beijing is relatively inexpensive, even though you will be living at a comfort level significantly higher than most of the population. Dartmouth will bill you for tuition and rent for the term, so that will already be taken care of. You will be responsible for your food, transportation, and other living expenses in China.

How much money should I bring? China has recently switched to a floating currency exchange rate, so a moderate amount of fluctuation can be expected, but the rough rate is ¥6.9 (RMB) to \$1 US (and subject to change). One can easily eat a lot of food for US \$7-8 a day. If you have a small appetite, you can get by on as little as \$3. For the entire term, \$1,000 will certainly cover food expenses with room for going out every now and then to a nice western restaurant (e.g., Hard Rock Cafe and the like). Students on recent FSPs have spent anywhere from \$800 to several thousand dollars over the summer, depending on how much they enjoy Beijing nightlife and/or shopping. **For the typical FSP participant, \$1000-1500 seems to be a solid amount that covers everything comfortably.**

What's the best way to get money to Beijing? You cannot exchange for Chinese currency (*rénmínbì*) at US banks, so you will need to take US dollars or other major currencies to change upon arrival in Beijing.

Traveler's Checks (*lǚxíng zhī pǐào*) are the way to go. Get them from a major issuer (AmEx, Thomas Cook, AAA, etc.), and in reasonably large denominations. The two main reasons to take this route are that the checks are replaceable, and most places give you a better exchange rate on them than on cash. Most banks are changing traveler's checks now. There's a Bank of China just south of the east gate (i.e., turn right when you walk out the gate past the McDonald's).

After traveler's checks, cash and ATM cards are the next best options. Cash, though less secure, can be changed into RMB at slightly more locations than traveler's checks. (However, avoid carrying around large amounts of cash on your person). **ATM machines that accept western cards are pretty common. However, there is a flat fee for each time a withdrawal is made.** The closest is right inside the east gate; another one is available at the Bank of China. Credit cards (*xìnyòngkǎ*) are becoming more commonly used and accepted at malls, but are not entirely ubiquitous (see "Shopping," p. 10). You can also use your credit card to receive a cash advance at some banks if all other options fail (i.e., when you've run out of traveler's checks and none of the ATMs are accepting your

card), but they carry a hefty surcharge when used in China. **A credit card could be very useful in an emergency (e.g., to pay for medical treatment at a clinic in Beijing).**

It's not recommended, but it is possible to wire money to some branches of the Bank of China.

WHEN YOU ARRIVE

At the Airport

It's really not as scary as you think when you get to the airport in Beijing. You will receive an arrival card on the plane to be filled out by the time you land. Present this card with your passport to pass through immigration. Afterwards, wait for your baggage to show up on the carousel and scope out the customs check. The security guards will most likely be hanging around the x-ray machine looking bored and will not bother to x-ray your belongings, so just proceed on to the Green Lane. **Regardless of whether or not they decide to do their jobs and make you x-ray your baggage, you don't have anything to declare and should proceed through the Green Lane.**

Before you leave the airport, change some money (unless you have somehow managed to bring some RMB with you). There is a bank right before the exit to the outside. Changing US \$100 will give you enough cash to get to BNU if you need to take a taxi, pay for your key deposit, and buy food and stuff for the first few days. A ride from the airport should cost around ¥100.

When planning your tickets, it really is a good idea to come in with a bunch of your classmates. In addition to having companions for the trip, it makes things easier and increases the chances that BNU will have a bus waiting there so you won't have to mess with a taxi. **If you do have to get a taxi (which you will know before you leave Dartmouth), find the official taxi line, and ignore drivers in unmarked black cars that approach you saying "taxi?"** Go stand in line, and an official airport worker will direct you to a taxi. The common rate is about ¥1.60/km, but can vary from ¥1.20/km to ¥2.00/km, depending on the type of taxi). Most drivers know where BNU is, so telling them *Běijīng Shìfàn Dàxué, Dōngmén* should do you just fine. It is important that you say this correctly, because a different in Beijing is a few miles away from where you want to go. Make sure the driver restarts his meter before you get going. The meter should display the basic fare (about ¥10). The trip to BNU should cost around ¥100 - ¥120, including the ¥10 toll for the airport highway. Don't pay a price that is considerably higher than that, as the occasional driver may try and rip you off.

It's probably a good idea to warn you of a few things at this point. When you're looking for the taxi stand, ignore anyone who tells you they can take you where you need to go or can find you a hotel. Some of these folks are legitimate employees of hotels in Beijing, but others are slightly less honest. Regardless, you don't need their services. Unwitting students have been charged several thousand RMB for a trip to BNU by these unofficial taxi drivers in the past! The other thing to watch out for is the occasional person who decides to take advantage of a green foreigner and give them all their change in *fēn* or *máo* notes. Examine your change carefully for the first couple of transactions you make in China, until you get familiar with the way the money works (see "Changing and Dealing With Money," p. 6). Also, there is no tipping in China, although taxi drivers will certainly appreciate a tip if you ask them to help with luggage.

Arriving at BNU

If you're coming on your own, the dorm you want is called *xīnsōng gōngyù*. It'll be easiest if you have the driver take you there, unless you like hauling your luggage around an unfamiliar college campus. Tell him to ask the guard at the BNU gate how to get there. Do note, however, that recent BNU policy changes have sometimes prevented taxis from driving into the campus. The guards have been known, however, to make exceptions in some cases (i.e. the taxi is carrying a senior citizen, or you have a lot of luggage). If you do get stopped at the gate, try to explain to the guard that you are a foreign student that just arrived, and have a lot of luggage to unload.

Once you arrive, tell the desk that you're with Dartmouth (达莫思大学 *Dámòsī Dàxué*, or just *Dá Dà*). If you know who your roommate is and they've already arrived, point at the list of names and identify your roommate, otherwise just point out your name. You'll need to give them a ¥200 key deposit and fill out an arrival card, and after that you're all set. The rooms each have two safes (保险箱 *bǎoxiǎnxiāng*), so be sure to ask for the combinations (密码 *mimǎ*).

Other Arrival Information

Something you should do reasonably shortly after your arrival in Beijing is to make a trip to US Embassy (or your respective country's embassy) and register as a US or other foreign citizen living in Beijing. In the unlikely event something major happens (i.e., a natural disaster or the like), registering will ensure that the embassy knows you are in Beijing and will be able to evacuate you if necessary. You also have the option of registering online at the US Embassy homepage, but this is a chance to get out and explore a little bit of Beijing. Ask your TA for directions to get to the US Embassy. Once there, you'll see a fenced compound with a guard out front and an American flag. Show the guard your passport and go inside the little checkpoint station, and tell the clerk that you want to register as an American citizen living in Beijing. For non-US citizens, it may be worthwhile to call your embassy in the US before leaving and get the address for their embassy in Beijing. Additionally, shortly after arriving you will need to give the Foreign Students Office at BNU two passport-size pictures for use in making your student ID and other materials. You could print these with your passport/visa photos, but if you haven't done so, there is a place really close to campus available to do this; go out the East Gate and take a right. You'll see Kodak sign on your right. Ask for *Xuéshēnghèng xiàngpiàn* (student ID photos); you can usually pick them up later that day or the next. Your TA can arrange for the group to go together, and will handle the IDs.

This store also does a wonderful job developing film at a much cheaper rate than in the States. They can also develop digital pictures.

CAMPUS LIFE

Academics

What Classes Will I Be Taking? The FSP course load is three credits: Chinese 22 or 31 and 23 or 32, and AMEL 11. The Chinese courses are taught by BNU professors under the supervision of the FSP Director, while the AMEL course is taught by the Director. The distributives for each of the courses have varied in recent years, so you will need to ask the DAMELL office or the registrar at Dartmouth for that information.

Chinese 22/31 and 23/32 These courses typically take place each weekday morning from 8:00 to 11:30. Usually, you will see two professors each day, each for half the time. There is generally a break between the two halves as well as two smaller breaks halfway through each professor's time, dividing the morning classes neatly into four 50-minute periods.

There is a reasonable level of variation each year in the course content, due to individual professors' preferences and teaching methods. However, one constant is the daily (*tīngxìè*), or vocabulary quiz, which usually covers between 10 and 15 characters or compounds. If this sounds like a lot, keep in mind that each lesson will typically have between 20 and 40 new characters/compounds, and that you'll generally go through 3-4 new lessons a week. Yes, this is a lot more than in first-year Chinese, but well within your abilities when you a) are surrounded by the language every day, and b) don't have other classes to worry about.

Beyond vocabulary, classes often feature a wide range of activities, from basic discussion and practice with grammar patterns to debates and role-playing exercises in Chinese. It's important to keep in mind as well that the FSP curriculum is somewhat flexible, and depends hugely on student involvement. If you've got a new idea for a learning exercise in class, suggest it to the professor or to your director. If you intend to be a passive "rider" on the FSP, one can fairly say that you won't get as much out of the program.

It is extremely important to understand the cultural difference between taking classes in a western setting and taking classes in Beijing. During your classes in Beijing, it is expected that the students will arrive to class a few minutes before class begins and never late, that the board should be erased for the professor before and after class, and that students will refrain from eating anything during class. Beverages are permissible as long as your drinking them won't get in the way of you paying attention, answering questions, etc. Give your professors their due respect.

AMEL 11 Since the individual Program Directors teach this class, the syllabus changes each year to reflect the current director's expertise and academic interests. Topics in recent years have ranged from "The Languages of China" to "Chinese Storytelling" to "The Anthropology of Beijing" to "Economic and Social Change in post-Mao China." Generally, however, the class is held in what would be a 2A time slot, Tues. and Thurs. from 2-4pm. Class requirements also vary from year to year, but usually involve final projects/papers and a few shorter assignments during the term.

Cultural Activities Though not officially part of the course load, the FSP will also feature periodic cultural activities, such as midweek trips to see Chinese Acrobats or Beijing Opera, or weekend outings to places like the Great Wall or Forbidden City. Try to take advantage of these, as they're a good chance to check out things you might not get to see otherwise, not to mention they're included in the program budget so you won't have to pay for them yourself. Even if a particular outing is sub-par, they all illustrate *something* about Chinese society, which is the point of the program.

Additional Classes If there is sufficient interest, informal classes can often be arranged in Calligraphy, Cooking, Chinese Dance, and Tàijiquán (Tai Chi), among others. However, be advised that starting a class and then dropping out after one or two sessions often leaves a very bad impression. One way to avoid this might be to ask if a demonstration for the group is possible, after which people can decide whether or not they want to take the class. Talk to your Program Director or Chinese professors if you're interested.

You may also wish to set up such classes outside BNU, through friends or other contacts. If you walk around campus or any local parks at around 6am, you will find people engaged in all sorts of activities (Tai Chi and other martial arts, singing, dancing, etc.). You may find classes here that you can join for a small fee.

Xīnsōng Gōngyù—Home Sweet Home

Xīnsōng gōngyù is one of four foreign-student dorms on campus. The rooms are all one-room doubles with private baths and air conditioning, amenities that have greatly eased the mosquito and toilet odor problems of years past. There are still mosquito problems at times, however, so keep a vigilant eye and be sure to buy an electric mosquito repellent (available at the campus convenience store— see pg. 10). Let the staff know if there are any pest problems.

You will have daily cleaning services to sweep the floor, change the towels, and, if you're really nice, make your bed. However, the messier your room, the less likely the *fúwùyuan* (cleaning attendant) is going to be willing to do anything at all to your room, much less make the bed. It's your call. The attendants are technically not allowed to accept any gifts from the tenants and are only allowed to interact with students on a professional level. However, you can still foster a good relationship with the attendants simply by smiling and saying hi, and having a friendly relationship with your floor's attendant really pays off if your room has any problems.

The rooms also have phones, TVs, and cable. Additionally, there are card phones in the lobby (see "Telephone/Fax," p. 14). If you're looking for some place to study besides your dorm room, there's a nice spot on the 5th floor by the stairs, and a bunch of classrooms in a small wing on the second floor. Also on the second floor is a small store with snacks and drinks (open until about 11:30 - 2pm), as well as a lounge area and a few computers for Internet access (ask the person working the snack store). The snack store has a phone for international calls priced at about ¥1-2/minute, which is very cheap.

There are laundry machines on the first floor. To use them, you need to buy a *xǐyīkǎ* (literally, "wash clothes card") from the front desk. They cost ¥50 each and are good for 10 washes. You'll also get a ¥20 refund if you return the card to the desk when it's used up. Once the wash is done, you'll have to hang your clothes in your room to dry or use the tiny new dryer. You can also find dryers in *Liyun* dormitory (Dormitory #3) right next to the East Gate, which would be less than five minutes walking from Xīnsōng. Each floor of this dormitory will have several washers and one very tiny drier. To use these driers you will have to buy another ¥50 card at the dorm's counter. Each wash with this card will deduct ¥5 from the card's balance, and each use of the dryer will deduct ¥10. If you'd rather not deal with drying your clothes, you can buy clothes hangers cheaply from the various odds-and-ends stores along the streets or at the student store on campus.

The front desk can do photocopying (*fúyìn*) for a small fee (varies depending on the paper size) as well as send and receive faxes (see "Telephone/Fax," p. 14). Generally speaking, it's a good idea to make friends with the staff, as they're pretty nice folks and will do a lot to help you if you keep good relations.

The Campus

The city of Beijing is organized with square "rings" of expressways. BNU is located in the northwest part of city, just south of the Third Ring Road (*sān huán lù*). The campus is actually rather conveniently located, as there are numerous restaurants, markets, and small shops nearby. The two entrances with which you will become most familiar are the

East and South Gates. You most likely entered through the East Gate when you first arrived on campus; it's north of the dorm and opens onto 新街口外大街 (*xīnjiēkǒu wàidàjiē*). Xīnjiēkǒu runs straight into downtown Beijing if you follow it south, and to the Third Ring Road if you follow it north.

The South Gate opens onto 学院南路 (*xuéyuàn nánlù*); useful if you want to go west into the Haidian area or south on Xīnjiēkǒu.

On campus, Xīnsōng is located just across from the new library. Right by Xīnsōng is the (外事 / 专家楼) *wàishì/zhuānjiā lóu*, or Foreign Affairs Office, where your director lives on the fifth floor. You'll pass by the building whenever you leave campus through the east gate; this is where the Internet café is (*wǎngbā*). In the same building are a western café, a Japanese *cāntīng*, and another restaurant. In the courtyard here are two ping pong tables for foreign student use. Note that the external lights have not been working, so be careful when playing a game after dark.

If you go straight after exiting the dorm, after a while you'll reach the school's athletic facilities, with basketball and tennis courts, two tracks, and an indoor gym. There's *always* a pickup game of basketball going on in the afternoons. To use the courts, the track, or the gym you'll have to get a membership card (ask your director or the TA about this). It should be about ¥10 for the basketball courts and track, which will last all summer, and about ¥120 for a gym card, which is good for a month before you have to renew it.

LIFE IN BEIJING

Changing and Dealing With Money

Before you've been in Beijing too long, you're going to need to 换钱 (*huàn qián*), or change some money. What you've got is probably in US dollars (*měi yuán*) and what you want is 人民币 (*rénmínbì*). There are actually quite a few places to do this in Beijing. Wherever you go, you'll need your passport (护照 *hùzhào*) and whatever form of money you're going to change. The easiest place to get things done is either at the Agricultural Bank of China directly across the street from East Gate or the Bank of China right next to *Liyun*, south of East Gate (if you don't know your directions in Beijing, remember that East Gate faces *east*). Though there is no actual difference between the two banks as far as you are concerned, you might possibly find friendlier service at the Agricultural Bank. When you enter the bank you should take a number from the machine on the wall facing the entrance. Wait until your number is called/shows up on the display above the bank tellers. Don't wait too long, they will only call your number twice before moving onto the next customer. Make your way to the counter and tell the teller you want to *huàn měiyuán* (or *huàn lǚxíng zhǐpiào* if you have traveler's checks). Give the teller your passport when he or she asks for it; you'll get it back along with a form to fill out. You'll have to write your name, passport number, and address in Beijing (which would be Xīnsōng Gōngyù in Beijing Shif'an Daxue), as well as the amount of money you are exchanging.

After a short wait, the teller will hand you a stack of different colored bills of varying size. What does it all mean? Starting with the biggest, the red ones that say 100 and have a picture of Mao are worth ¥100. Then there's the ¥50 bills, with either a picture of Mao or pictures of the three main sectors of communist society: worker, farmer, and intellectual. The next size down is ¥20, then 10, ¥5, and ¥1 ones. The next size down are *máo* (or *jio* in written form), small notes or coins that come in denominations of ¥.50, ¥.20, and ¥.10.

Note, however, *máo* are units of ten each, so that when you buy stuff, ¥.50 is 5 *máo*.

You'll get a copy of the form you filled out back with your money; keep the forms. If you have RMB left at the end of the trip and wish to change it back into dollars, you need to prove (using the form) that you changed at least that much RMB from dollars at some earlier point. **You definitely want to change your money back to US dollars before you leave.** It's not illegal to export RMB anymore, but its value plummets once you leave China, and it's difficult to change in the states. You can change back half the amount that you changed from traveler's checks, so keep those forms.

The Bank of China also has an ATM outside its door. There are also ATMs in most of the major shopping malls in Beijing, like Xidān and Wángfūjīng (See "Shopping," p. 10).

There are safes in your dorm room, so use them. It's silly to lose money due to theft when it can easily be avoided. Additionally, you should only carry as much money as you think you might need, especially when you're going to crowded places with a high number of foreign wallets floating around (such as on the No. 22 bus, Xidān, etc.).

Getting Around

There are multiple options for getting around Beijing, each with a unique set of advantages. In general, though, even taking taxis all the time is not that expensive by American terms, so there's really no good excuse not to get out and explore the city.

Bus: Relatively convenient, and definitely more crowded than a bike. The 22 route runs directly in front of the East Gate, and goes down to *Qiánmén* (the south end of Tiananmen Square) via *Xidān* (see "Shopping," p. 10). There are other good routes, but the 22 will take care of a lot of your needs. There's also a major "hub" at Běitāipíngzhuāng (turn left out the east gate; a 5-10 minute walk); you can catch a bus to anywhere along the third ring road and elsewhere from here, including the airport. Fares are usually ¥1, but will be ¥2+ if you get on an air-conditioned bus. Theft in the form of pick pocketing and bag-slashing has been on the rise, so keep a close eye on your things.

Subway: The *ditiě* is fast, cool, and never as crowded as a bus (though it can be a zoo at rush hour). The problem? At present, there are three lines, with the two commonly used lines being a ring running under the Second Ring Road and an east-west line starting that goes from the far west reaches of the city to the far east reaches. At least three lines are in development in preparation for the 2008 Olympic Games. Still, almost everywhere you might want to go in the heart of Beijing is serviced, and a ride only costs ¥3. The closest station is *Jīshuǐtán*, at the intersection of Xīnjiēkǒu and the Second Ring Road. It's a decent walk from campus (think River Cluster to East Wheelock), but you can take the 22 or another bus down there. On the bus, get off at the first stop after you cross the Second Ring Road; the stop is not called Jīshuǐtán, but *xīnjiēkǒu huòkǒu*. Useful subway stops include *Jiànguómén* east of the US Embassy), *Chóngwénmén* (north of *Hóngqiáo* Market), *Xidān*, *Qiánmén*, and *Běijīngzhàn* (the Beijing Railway Station).

Taxis: Despite being the most expensive option, *chūzūchē* are relatively cheap. The rates are ¥1.20, 1.60, and 2.00 per kilometer. The minimum for any trip is ¥10. It's common for the passenger to sit up front with the driver. And it used to be considered rude to buckle-up, but it might not be such a bad idea.

At any rate, to get one just head to the street and stick out your arm. If you can't get anyone to stop, make sure you're not

standing in a no-stopping zone (indicated by the character *tíng* with a big red line through it). Though your driver's Chinese may not be as clear as the Chinese you hear from your profs, conversing with drivers is one of the better ways to practice your Chinese. Just be sure they actually use the meter (a rare problem, but more common at night). One other thing: make sure when coming home that the driver knows you want BNU, not *Shōudū Shǐfān Dàxué* or *Běijīng Dàxué*. Neither of these are terribly close to BNU.

Illness and Emergencies

Everyone will feel the effects of adjusting to a different environment, thus illness is fairly common for FSP students, program directors and TA's alike. One very common sickness is diarrhea (*lā dùzi*) resulting from your system adjusting to the local food and water. This should only last a few weeks at most and is usually nothing more than an inconvenience at first. Taking Pepto-Bismol or similar antidiarrhetics may help with the symptoms.

Constipation is another problem you may encounter while in China. In the US, people generally drink a lot more while eating than they do in China. The lack of water during meals may cause constipation even if adequate fiber is in your diet. Make sure to order a drink with your meals to avoid this problem.

Other illnesses like colds or the flu are not uncommon, and are easily spread since students live in close proximity to each other. If you start to feel really sick, get a fever or are otherwise concerned, you should call and make an appointment with the SOS International Medical Center (see Appendix V, p. 22). True to their name, they are staffed with physicians fluent in English as well as other languages. After you arrive in Beijing your TA should hand out SOS cards that provide the center's address, phone number and a map to show you (or a taxi driver) how to get there.

In general, you should consult with your health insurance provider before going to China to find out how your policy works in Beijing. If you have Dartmouth Student Group Health Plan (DSGHP) insurance, retain all receipts from medical expenses (which you must first pay for out of your own pocket), fill out a claims form (you can download one from <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~health/depts/insurance/>) and mail the form along with the receipt to Klais and Company, whose address is listed on your insurance card. The policy will reimburse 80% of all medical fees. Note that claims for prescription medicines have a separate claims form. In case of an emergency requiring you to be evacuated back to the US, SOS and Off-Campus Activities have arranged for an emergency evacuation service via air ambulance. Be aware, however, that this *does not* replace international travel insurance—you still need to have your own coverage. You can refer to the SOS Letter you received via blitz enclosure for all the details; also, your TA should have a copy of the letter handy in Beijing in case you want to review the information.

Safety Issues

Though petty crime like theft is not uncommon in Beijing, being smart about your belongings and looking alert go a long way in deterring a pickpocket. China actually has one of the lowest crime rates in the world, but it's still good to be careful and prudent. The Chinese probably do not appreciate disruptive antics as much as you might hope, but as long as you behave reasonably then it is highly unlikely that you will encounter much trouble. Remember: respect the culture, but don't let yourself get stepped on.

When you leave your dormitory, bear in mind the cultural

norms of Beijing and consider possible misperceptions people might have about Americans. For example, the combination of looking foreign and showing a lot of skin will attract attention, some of which may not be welcomed. In general, if you feel uncomfortable going somewhere by yourself, get some friends (or the TA) to accompany you, and avoid sketchy places altogether. Always travel with friends late at night. If you are going out with new acquaintances, then leave names, contact details and your planned time of return with a classmate, the TA, or director. If you are receiving harassment or unwanted attention from someone you know, then talk to the director; you can also contact one of the Dartmouth services listed below.

Remember that the director and TA will help in any way they can if you have safety problems of any kind, so do not hesitate to talk to them. Also, remember that, although you will be far away from Dartmouth, you can still email or call any of the Dartmouth advice centers: Counseling and Human Development 603-650-1442; Dean of the College 603-646-2243; Dick's House 603-650-1400; Coordinator, Sexual Abuse Awareness Program 603-650-1430).

You should always carry a list of emergency numbers with you, including the director and TA's cell phone numbers, the International SOS medical center's number and the US (or your own) embassy's emergency number (see Appendix V).

Dining

What do I eat? How do I order? Well, you don't really have much of a choice about the matter, since it's either restaurant food, the student cafeterias, or instant noodles in your room. Rule no. 1 about going to restaurants: Chill Out. You'll be much more understandable if you're not stressing out about what you want to order. Roll with it and be adventurous. If you get really desperate, either point at what other diners are having or pick random dishes from the menu and have the waitress pronounce them clearly for you so you can remember the names if you like them.

Three things you will need to know how to say and recognize regardless of what you order are:

“jī wèi?”
“qǐng zài lái ___”; and
“jié zhàng.”

The first is what the waitress will ask you when you walk in, and the answer is how many people are in your group. The second is “Please bring me/us another ___.” If it's something that you don't already have, get rid of the *zài*. And the last is the equivalent of “Check, please” (*mǎi dān* is another way of saying the same thing).

On the following page is a list of common dishes. If you don't already know, most Chinese dishes are named by having a cooking verb, the main ingredients, and often a description of how the ingredients are cut. For example, everyone's favorite Sweet and Sour

Chicken is usually rendered 糖醋 *tángcù* (Sugar-vinegar) 鸡 *jī* (chicken) 条 *tiáo* (strips). So a lot of times you can mix-and-match. However, some names don't give any clear indication of the ingredients (e.g., *fēng zhuǎ*, “phoenix talons”). Also, note that the default meaning for *ròu* in Chinese is pork, so if you want some other kind of meat you need to specify.

Mac Repair

If your computer happens to break down in Beijing, you have a few options (if you happen to have a Mac). Apple's authorized reseller is located in *Zhongguancun* in the basement level of the *Dinghao* building, B1825. The phone numbers are 8269-6282 and 8269-6001. There is also a Mac store in *DōngFāng GuǎngChǎng* (Oriental Plaza) by *Wangfujing*, although they might not do repairs. If you have a PC or run into other problems, contact your friendly TA for help.

Meat Dishes

Sweet and Sour Chicken	tángcù jītiáo	糖醋鸡条
Sweet and Sour Pork	tángcù lǐjī	糖醋里脊
Chicken Slices over Rice Crust	Guōbā jīpiàn (try it at Xiao Sichuan, down the Xiaoxitian Alley)	锅巴鸡片
“Iron Plate” Beef	tiěbǎn niúròu	铁板牛肉
“Iron Plate” Squid	tiěbǎn yóuyú	铁板游鱼
Shredded Chicken w/Spicy & Sweet Garlic and Mushroom Sauce	yúxiāng jīsī	鱼香鸡丝
Kung Pao Chicken	gōngbǎo jīdīng	宫保鸡丁
Green Pepper Beef	qīngjiāo niúròu	青椒牛肉
“Old Woman’s Tofu”	mápó dòufu	麻婆豆腐
	málà dòufu	麻辣豆腐

Vegetables

(most of these can be ordered “qīng chǎo” or “sù chǎo”, which means stir-fried either with garlic or in soy sauce)

Snow Peas	hélán dòu	荷兰豆
Broccoli	xīlán huā	西兰花
Empty Heart Vegetable	kōngxīn cài	空心菜
Potato	tǔdòu	土豆
Potato Shreds stir-fried with vinegar	cùchǎo tǔdòusī	醋朝土豆丝
Eggplant	qiézi	茄子
Tomato & Scrambled Egg	fānqié jīdàn or xīhóngshì jīdàn	番茄鸡蛋 or 西红柿鸡蛋
Corn with Pine Nuts	sōngzi yùmǐ	松子玉米
Winter Melon	dōngguā	冬瓜
Home Style Tofu	jiācháng dòufu	家常豆腐

Basics

White rice	mǐfàn	米饭
Noodles	miàntiáo	面条

As far as trying all the exciting stuff you see being cooked on the side of the road, feel free to be adventurous and check it out. However, you might want to go a little gingerly at first to make sure your system has adapted to being in China. If eating in normal restaurants is giving you trouble, it’s probably best to hold off on the street food for a while. Otherwise, go for it. If it looks reasonably clean and hasn’t been sitting out getting cold all day, it’s probably fine, but be your own judge. The same goes for fruit as well as vegetables. You might be a little cautious at first, but don’t forget to be adventurous sometimes too. Note: always wash and peel your fruit before eating.

A good place to start when eating out is the *tàipíng jiāoziguǎn*, which has an English/Pinyin menu and a friendly staff. To get there take a left out of the east gate. (The English

menu was done a few years ago by a clever BNU student from California who, in return for his services, now receives free meals for life.) Once you know the names of the dishes you like, be adventurous. There are restaurants everywhere and each presents the classic dishes a little bit differently. For late night snacks or meals, there are restaurants open into the early hours of the morning outside the south gate, and some south on Xīnjiēkǒu where you can get cheap draft beer and kebabs (*yáng ròu chuānr*), among other things.

Finally, *don’t be afraid to just jump on a bus* and get off a few stops away from campus. You’re bound to find a few good Chinese restaurants, and if you get lost, you can always take a taxi back.

If I have to eat Chinese food again, I think I'm going to die. What else is there? As you will no doubt have discovered by the time you get to this point, there are places for western, Korean, and Japanese food on campus, and even more in the immediate area around BNU. One of the Korean places, located outside the south gate, delivers to your dorm room; so does the Japanese restaurant by the Jiaoziguan, called *hóng yè* (Red Leaf). If you are craving sandwiches or pizza, go to Tube Station (think Subway imitation). To get there, go across the pedestrian bridge, take a left, and walk for a few minutes. They have pizza and various subs (roast beef, turkey, tuna, etc.) and their oatmeal raisin cookies are baked to perfection. Tube Station also has pretty good curry, and they will deliver to the dorm as well. Tube Station has been immensely popular with students in the past for the convenience of their delivery and their decent selection of pizzas and sandwiches. Note that the delivery person does not expect tips, whether you are ordering from Tube Station, Domino's or anywhere else. Even closer is Origus Pizza Factory, an all-you-can-eat-for-¥38 joint that has wings, chicken nuggets, pasta, French fries, ice cream, drinks (including beer on tap) and, of course, pizza.

Uyghur food has become a favorite of FSPers in recent years, probably more for the fact that it resembles western food but is available at Chinese prices than anything else. The most popular dishes are

usually spaghetti-style *lā miàn* (pulled noodles), *náng* (flatbread), and *yángròu chuànr* (mutton kebabs). If you really want to show off, greet the waiter with "Yakshimu?" (Uyghur for *ni hao ma?*) and order "laghman", "nang", or "kawap", respectively. Plov, or rice pilaf, is also very good. To get your Uyghur fix, you've got a few options. There's a small place serving noodles and kebabs down the road past 成都小吃, the large market/alley south of BNU on Xīnjiēkǒu. Look for a place with a kebab grill out front and lots of people sitting outside, and probably some fellow with a shaven head shouting at you to come and eat at his restaurant.

If it's western food you want and you don't mind paying for it, try the Hard Rock Cafe (*yìngshí cāntīng*) or the Holiday Inn (*lǐdū*). For American fast food, there is a McDonald's right out side of the east gate and a KFC at Bèitāipíngzhuāng, just north of campus. For more expensive and authentic fare, there's an endless variety of foreign food from Thai to Italian to American down on *sānlǐtún*, the bar district in Beijing that's being torn down for the Olympics. Mexican food lovers will be mostly out of luck, though Mexican Wave on *dōng dàqiáolù* makes a good attempt. Try the chicken burrito, and the *sangria* is great on a steamy Beijing evening. Other top-class restaurants can be found in guidebooks, the best of which is the "That's Beijing" magazine, edited by ex-patriots living in the city.

Your best bet for non-Chinese food in Beijing at reasonable prices will be the various Asian ethnic cuisines. At the risk of sounding like a broken record: be adventurous!

For Chinese food that's a little bit different, try *hēi tǔdì* (Black Earth), a place specializing in Cultural Revolution-era kitsch and peasant food; it's on *hépínglǐ dōng dàjiē*, #9. Additionally, you shouldn't leave Beijing without having *huōguō*, or hotpot. You order a bunch of raw meats (of which mutton is the centerpiece), vegetables, tofu, noodles, and other goodies, and cook them by throwing them in the pot of boiling soup (spicy or plain) sitting in the middle of the table. Though the spicy broth is fun just to watch everyone sweat, see if you can get a split pot with both kinds so you get a break from the heat if you want. There are hotpot places all over town (some of which include unlimited beverages with meals). Finally, check out the night markets that pop up in various places around town during the summer.

Shopping

Of course, you want to know where the good places are to buy stuff. Beijing is in an interesting state right now; you've got, as one past FSPer put it, "A brand-new luxury shopping mall opening up right next to the old man selling plastic hair clips laid out on a blanket."

The basic rule is that you shouldn't let appearances deceive you, in either direction. There's some really great stuff in places you wouldn't believe, and some absolute junk marketed as the real thing.

Where do I get basic, everyday stuff? A couple of easy options here. If you need stationery and other random "school supplies," try the store in Xīnsōng (not the cheapest, but definitely convenient); for bigger stuff like coat-hangers, water bottles, shampoo, and what-not, go to the on-campus student store (take the second right off of the main road when you head into campus through the east gate).

For the real deal – and an experience you shouldn't miss -- the closest and best place to go for anything is probably the Jinwuxing Department City (金五星百货城 *jīnwúxīng bǎihuòchéng*). It's an indoor maze of stalls, and it's probably safe to say you can find practically anything you need here – clothes, hangers, detergent, electronics, adapters/voltage-converters, speakers, gifts, bicycles; think of it as the normal Beijingers' version of K-Mart. There are also tailors and Chinese doctors here. **Don't forget to bargain!** This is also where you can pick up cheap phone cards for making calls to the U.S. (see "Telephone/Fax", p. 14). To get there, take the 123 bus from the Bèitāipíngzhuāng bus stop (make a left when you leave the east gate and walk up Xīnjiēkǒu, cross over to the side where KFC is and turn left), or take a right out the south gate and keeping walking until you come to a railroad crossing, and turn right. You'll see a huge sign with the name of the place even before you make the turn.

If it's something Western you need and you can't find it anywhere else, you've got plenty of options. The easiest one to reach is Parkson's, at *fixīngmén*; just take the subway to the Fuxingmen stop. For over-the-counter drugs (including antibiotics), toiletries, and most notably, deodorant, head to any of the Watsons outlets (be prepared to pay American prices or more for whatever you get there). Just take the subway to Cháoyángmén or the Beijing Railway Station and head for Full Link Plaza or the Henderson Centre, respectively. For food items, there are supermarkets in the basement of Oriental Plaza at Wángfùjǐng, the Henderson Centre and Full Link, and the Lufthansa Center (take a bus from Bèitāipíngzhuāng to Liàngmǎqiáo to get there). Further out but sometimes worth the trip is the Holiday Inn *Lidū*, a sort of American colony in Beijing – you can find great food and nice commercial items here. If you can't find what you're looking for at any of the larger supermarkets, try Jenny Lou's, a little convenience store in the Sānlǐtún area on *Gōngrén Tīyùguǎn Bèilù* (Worker's Stadium North Road, *Gōngtǐ Bèilù* for short).

That's nice, but what about clothes and other useful stuff? You'll have a wide range of stuff to choose from; everything from designer apparel to imitation designer to just normal, everyday stuff is available. Keep in mind, though, that what you may view as regular, casual clothing is often viewed as high-class, so it might be a bit harder to find than you think. T-shirts are a prime example here. Additionally, if you're taller than

about 5'9" for men or 5'5" for women, you might have a harder time finding things that fit. In general, the average Beijinger body type may be extremely different from the average FSPer's, and it is not uncommon for an FSPer wearing Large shirts in the US to buy XL or even XXL in Beijing. Pants are even more problematic

as tailoring purchased pants can be a hassle. The moral is, try and bring enough clothing if you're worried that stuff won't fit you in Beijing.

In the past few years several huge, shimmering malls and plazas have appeared as Beijingers get wealthier and their lifestyles demand designer clothes, cell-phones, cars, and other luxuries. To name a few that just opened in the last 2-3 years, there is the largest: Oriental Plaza at Wángfǔjǐng; Scitech Plaza by Xīdān and another, better one, by Jianguomen; Shuangan Plaza in Haidian District; Full Link Plaza in Chaoyangmen; and the Cofco Plaza by the Beijing Railway Station (all of these are subway stops, except Shuangan, which is also probably the closest. Take a bus west from Běitāipíngzhuāng to get there). For the Chinese department store experience, it's not a bad idea to take the 22 bus to Xīdān and just start there. Next is Wángfǔjǐng; it's not as close and conveniently reached as Xīdān, but it's Beijing's largest and most famous shopping street, with the huge indoor malls of Xin Dong An and Oriental Plaza. Also, the Jin Yuan, or Golden Resources Mall (jīnyuán shídài gòuwù zhōngxīn), recently opened up in Beijing inside the West Fourth Ring. It is reportedly the second largest mall in the world, and carries a variety of boutique and luxury brands. Though it can be a bit pricey (especially for the Chinese citizens, one reason why it is often quite empty), it is worth checking out.

For your basic walk and shop (and bargain), just walk south on Xīnjiēkǒu road, and once you've passed the second ring, there are numerous shops and restaurants on either side of the street. There are a lot of good DVD stores here, and you can get just about *anything* here. You can literally spend a whole day in this area.

So what's all this about Silk Alley? Silk Alley WAS the famous market-style, haggle-till-you-drop place. However, it no longer exists. The good news is that it has been replaced with a bigger, better, more crowded "indoor silk alley." It is located on Jiānguóménwài road (Outer Jiānguómén Road), and most taxi drivers know of this place. Just mention xiùshuǐjiē market to them. True to its name, the place has silk in just about any form you could imagine: scarves, boxer shorts, pajamas, underwear, nightgowns, ties, carpets, and so on. It might be worth going to a fabric store or some such in the States before you leave and checking out what different grades of silk feel like, since all of the stall owners will of course insist that their goods are pure silk (zhēn sī) of the finest quality. In the department stores, bargaining is *not* looked highly upon, as prices are generally fixed, but on the street, if they agree to the price, it's yours. Rule of thumb is: if you think you can bargain in a market, you probably could.

Other than silk, the market also has a substantial trade in other apparel of all kinds. Some of this is fake, some of it is pirated from factories in the south, and very rarely, it's the real thing. You can get "North Face" and "Helly Hansen" jackets, as well as "Nike" and "Reebok" shoes and "Teva" sandals. Also available are Polo, Armani, Lacoste (blatantly fake), Gap, and Timberland clothing, backpacks from North Face and other manufacturers, Beanie Babies, and LOTS of pirated CDs. Be warned: if you want the real thing, either know exactly what to look for or wait until you get home. If you want a reasonable facsimile that looks good for a fraction of the price, go for it. To get there, either take a taxi—the taxi drivers all know the place—or take the fast and cheap route and hop on the subway to the Jianguomen stop. Take the northeast exit (if you don't go up a big escalator, you're at the wrong exit) and walk east past the Friendship Store until you see a big sign that says "Xiù Shuǐ Jiē Market" or something to that effect.

The other major market is the *Hóngqiáo Shìchǎng* (Red Bridge Market), located just outside the east gate of the Temple

of Heaven (Tiāntán). Again, taxi drivers generally know the name of the place, but it's a long cab ride. Alternately, you can take the subway to Chòngwénmén and take a walk south a little farther than the distance from BNU to the Jishuitán stop. The bottom floor is a seafood market and the lower floors feature stationery, toys, and most notably, electronics. Upper floors have clothing (avoid the endangered animal skins/furs; among other things, they're hard to get back into the US legally) and Chinese antiques/curios, respectively. The main draw here is the electronics section, where you can get audio equipment with features not available in the US for a good couple of months for a substantial discount. Try before you buy, but generally the merchants here have been rather good about returns of faulty goods (make sure you get a receipt, of course).

Hóngqiáo is the place to go in Beijing for pearls. They are much cheaper than in the states and decent quality; go to a respectable looking stall. Don't pay more than ¥100 for a set of earrings and slightly more for a necklace. They make a great gift for mothers.

Also, you might want to check out the Scroll Market (*Pānjiā Yuànr*) one Sunday morning while you're in Beijing. It's just east of the Temple of Heaven (Tiāntán); you can take the subway to *Guómào* and head south by public bus, or take a cab from BNU (the cab driver will know what you're talking about if you pronounce it with the --er). The artists and calligraphers there will work on commission rather cheaply. Additionally, there are a lot of fun pre-and post-Liberation "antiques" in a lot of the stalls.

琉璃厂 *liúlíchǎng*, just a short walk south from the Hépingmén subway stop, is another famous shopping street, and an expensive place to go for Chinese paintings and custom-made calligraphy; **bargain extremely hard there** as the shop owners are aware of how much most foreigners can afford and have moved prices up accordingly. This is a good place to get a chop engraved, although you'll find cheaper places when you travel outside Beijing.

Finally, if you make it over to *Qiánmén*, just south of Tiananmen Square, it's definitely worth checking out *Dàzhàlán*, once famous for its opera houses, but now probably the most authentic Chinese market street. There's a Tibetan shop here, as well as a shoe shop that's been making cotton shoes for China's leaders since Mao. It's definitely worth checking out because the streets here will lead you into the quieter *hútòng* of Beijing, where you can get a more genuine sense of daily life of the typical Beijinger. China's oldest and famous pharmacy for traditional medicine is also here – *Tónggrén Yàodiàn*.

How do I bargain? This is a skill that will get you a decent amount of mileage in China, though less than it used to. Everything from vegetables to silk to electronics can be bargained for. **DO NOT bargain for taxi rides and restaurant bills!!** The main rules are not to let the seller know how much you can really afford to pay or how much you really want the item. Also, try and be friendly about the whole thing. No sense in getting in a fight with someone over what amounts to a couple of dollars.

Basically, it works like this: you ask how much (*duōshǎo qián?*), they reply with a price, and you say (*tài guì le!*). Ask if they can lower the price (*kěyǐ piányi yidiǎn ma?*); generally they say yes, and then expect you to make an offer. Remember that *yībǎiwǔ* is one hundred fifty and NOT one hundred five. If you want to say ¥250, it is less embarrassing if you say *èrbǎiwǔshí*, not *èrbǎiwǔ*—slang for moron. At street markets, it's usually good to start with a quarter to a fifth (in some cases a tenth) of the original asking price, and work upwards from there. It's good to have in mind the maximum you're willing to pay, so a little research among classmates who've already bought what you want is a good

idea. Beyond the simple haggling over price, there are a few things that can help: 1) Complain that the item's not exactly the way you want it. Too big, too small, not quite the right color, you don't quite like the design, etc. 2) Remember: you're a poor student (*qióng xuéshēng*). Compared to most of the people buying this stuff, you are. Keep the BNU pin you get upon arrival, and pin it on your bag or show them your student ID. 3) Buying in quantity or with friends always helps. It's the rare merchant who's not willing to give a discount for more than one item or a sale to more than one person. 4) **The best move is to just walk away.** Tell them you're going to take a look at other stuff, or that it's just too much money, or whatever. Usually, the price will fall with each step away from the booth. Keep going until you hear what you want, or come back later and restart bargaining with the last price you heard. Don't shake hands before you've agreed for certain on the price, though, and pick out *exactly* which goods you want before you hand over the money.

Are there any other shopping options? Invariably, one of your Chinese professors will have or know a tailor. If you have something in mind that you want made, bring a picture or a pattern with you, and pick out the fabric when you get to Beijing. Most students are very pleased with the clothes they get, as they're inexpensive and look pretty nice. Be sure the tailor understands what you want, though, or mishaps can result (such as bathrobes that don't close in front). Past students have bought custom made suits and traditional Chinese dresses and coats. Be insistent on your stylistic requests, as western fashion may be different than what the tailors are used to.

One other thing: it's usually a good idea to avoid buying things at official gift shops on tours, at tourist attractions, and in hotels. In most of these official shops you'll find stuff that you could usually get elsewhere for much cheaper, sold by folks who are pretty slick and have a decent command of English, which for some reason seems to make people spend more than they would at other places. You should probably use these places for research and little else.

Entertainment

So what's there to do in Beijing, anyway? For museums, palaces, and the like, you should definitely check out a decent guidebook, as there's too much to cover otherwise. One word of advice: **if you bring your camera along, be sure to ask people before taking their picture and observe signs that forbid cameras.**

Some of the best experiences come from just setting out on your own into unknown territories. Take a walk down an alley and you'll probably find old people playing mahjong, people hanging their birds out for some air, or just groups of people talking. Despite the inquiring stares you may even make some new friends. **The most important thing is to get out into the city, explore, and meet lots of people.**

As far as nightlife goes, FSP participants have found nightclubs to be the venue of choice. Obviously, a growing portion of the Chinese population is doing this on the weekend, but try to keep it under control. Going to China and doing nothing but going to clubs and discos is something like living in New York and never going to see a Broadway show. **Also, always go to clubs with a group of people.** Some places can be sketchy, and having a few tall American boys around will always help.

That said, there are a few places that have been popular among Dart-folk the past few years. *Vics* and *Propaganda* are popular places to go clubbing. *Nightman* features decent music and free cover for foreigners and students. *Solutions*, by the west gate of Beijing University (*Běidà*), is big with Chinese and western students. *Keep In Touch* and *Scream* are big hits with the local crowd, featuring live music almost every weekend, and are good places to go to see what Beijing's young and disaffected are up to. For Jazz, Blues, etc., there's the *CD Cafe* by *Nóngzhānguān* and

The Big Easy or "Happy Station" in Chinese (*Kuàilèzhàn*), by the north gate of Cháoyáng Park *Cháoyáng Gōngyuán*. *Sanlitun* also has a nice block or two of bars and clubs, including the popular *Bar Blu* which has no cover charge. However, which clubs are hot and which aren't is something that changes almost weekly, so it's almost certain that by the time you arrive in Beijing things will have changed. Check out the magazines *City Weekend* or *That's Beijing* (see below).

The way to find out what's happening, from movies to clubs to Verdi's *Requiem* and art exhibitions, is to check out Beijing's flourishing English-language magazine press. *City Weekend* and *That's Beijing* are bimonthlies; *Beijing This Month* is another good resource. You can pick these magazines up for free in places where foreigners frequent – the closest place is Tube Station (see "Dining", p. 7); you can also pick them up in the restaurants and cafes by Jiānguómén. Also, try the Internet: www.xianzai.com, and www.cityweekend.com.cn.

Another option for laid-back evening entertainment is the numerous street corner night markets. As the sun sets, restaurants will place tables outside and offer a limited menu of grilled items. Other markets feature a line of booths usually with minority cuisine items seasoned and grilled to order in addition to cheap beverages. You could spend hours just trying to identify what exactly is lying skewered in the metal trays, then a few more hours building up the courage to ingest it. But there's always the staple chicken, beef, mutton, and tofu. Take a left out of the East Gate and walk for about 5-10 minutes. A market appears at sunset on most nights and the food is prepared by native Uyghurs. For a bigger scene, an entire street at Wángfǔjīng is dedicated to street delicacies every night.

Also, feel free to just wander around. Take the bus or a taxi to somewhere you haven't been before, and just go down the back alleys. This is obviously best done during daylight, but doing so allows you to check out the *hùtòng* (alleys) that make up one of Beijing's unique features (make sure you take advantage of these artifacts because currently most of the *hùtòng* are being destroyed for new construction). The neighborhoods east and west of the Forbidden City are good for this sort of thing, as is the area just west of Qianmen.

THE OUTSIDE WORLD

Mail

Postal mail from the US usually takes 7-10 days to get to China, though in rare cases letters have arrived as quickly as 4 days after being sent, usually from the West Coast. Though each room at Xīnsōng has its own mailbox in the rack by the elevator and laundry room, Dartmouth mail is delivered daily to the TA. If the staff can't figure out the address, which is somewhat common in the early parts of the program, individual letters may end up tacked on the bulletin board by the first-floor elevator.

English addressed mail seems to have little trouble getting to BNU, but as alluded to above, there are occasionally problems in getting it to the Dartmouth box once it arrives on campus. Photocopying the Chinese address in this book, or writing it out to be photocopied for the folks at home, will help and will often speed things up.

The English address for the FSP is:

(Student's Name)
Dartmouth College Foreign Study Program Foreign
Students Building
Beijing Normal University
Beijing 100875
CHINA

The Chinese address is:

中国 北京市 100875
新街口外大街19号
北京师范大学
达慕思大学 (留学生宿舍: 新松公寓)
(Student's Name)

Sending letters is pretty straightforward, though mail takes longer to leave the country than it does to get there. Stamps (*yóupiào*) and envelopes (*xìnfēng*) can be purchased at the store in Xmsong or at the foreign student building next door (that's also where the campus Internet cafe is; see "Blitzmail", below). The rates for international postage are pretty comparable to those in the US; ask the people selling you stamps what they are as they change every year or two. Also, there are different rates for letters as opposed to postcards (*míngxìnpiàn*), so specifying can save you some money. **There is a mailbox for outgoing mail conveniently located at the front desk.**

With regard to packages, they are generally delivered in decent condition, though not terribly fast. It's somewhat haphazard as to whether or not a particular package gets delivered to the dorm (occasionally), to the *Beitàipíngzhuāng Yóujú* (usually), or to the main International Post Office off of *Jiànguómén* (rarely). If either of the second two happens, you'll either get flagged down by one of the staff on your way in or out or you'll get a phone call from the front desk telling you that you have a package (*bāoguā*), and they'll give you a package slip. *Do not lose this slip.* You can still get the package without it, but it takes a near act of God. (Well, actually of Bi Laoshi, the woman who handles foreign students' mail, but she's a nice lady and it's best not to trouble her.)

To get to the *Beitàipíngzhuāng* Post Office (*yóujú*), head north on Xnjièkǒu out of the East Gate. The post office is on the north side of the Third Ring Road, so go across the freeway and turn right. You should now be walking east with storefronts on your left and the Third Ring Road on your right. After about 200 yards you'll come to the post office on your left. Head in and just look lost and usually one of the staff will come and help you—no joke. You might need to be a bit aggressive in line if it's crowded, but show the folks at the counter your slip and you should be OK. Any packages you want to ship out of China can be mailed here.

The easiest way to get to the main international post office is to take a cab to *Jiànguómén Yóudiànjú*. The cab drivers know it and you shouldn't have any problems aside from the horrendous traffic in that part of town.

Telephone/Fax

Below are the major telephone numbers for the FSP (011=international call, 86=China, 10=Beijing):

BNU International Office, phone:
011-86-10-5880-7986, 011-86-10-5880-8364, or 011-86-10-5880-0325

BNU International Office, Fax: 011-

86-10-5880-0823

BNU Xmsong Dormitory (Dartmouth FSP dorm): 011-86-10-5880-0275
-5880-0280

Note Individual telephone numbers will be posted on the program website. Make sure to get the address from the TA before departure.

BNU Xmsong Dormitory Fax Line: 011-86-10-5880-0276

To call a student in Xmsong, there are two options. The first is by dialing the front desk at 86-10-5880-0275 or -0280. Once the operator picks up, the caller will need to give the student's room number in Chinese, so it might be worth going over the numbers in Chinese before leaving if you don't come from a Mandarin-speaking household. Alternately, you can call home the first time from Beijing and give the folks at home your room number in Chinese. Room phone numbers will be given in China. These room phones get free calls to the city by dialing 5 and then the number. For international calls, the phone by the snackbar is recommended.

Calling back to the US is generally best done using a calling card from AT&T, MCI, or Sprint. Some other calling card companies based in the US have a "call back" option that lets you make cheap calls from China to the US; you might want to check out www.superphone.com. **To reach an American operator in Beijing, dial 10811 (AT&T), 10812 (MCI), or 10813 (Sprint)**, first adding a 0 if need be—some pay phones require it—or a 5 if you're calling from your room in Xmsong and your phone is on the internal system. Prepaid phone cards from US are not recommended very strongly, as the return on the investment tends to be rather short. You can get a ¥100 IP Card in Beijing for as little as ¥55, and a call to the states will last just over a half-hour (that comes to about \$0.18/minute).

In general, it's best if parents can manage to call Beijing, rather than students calling home. For most carriers, this is significantly cheaper, and many have international calling plans, which have good discounts. Remember, **Beijing is 12 hours ahead of the East Coast during the summer and 13 hours after daylight savings time expires in October.** Four in the afternoon in the US is wee hours in the morning for China.

Skype or a similar program is also recommended for calling home – free of charge in most cases. Faxing is available at the front desk at Xmsong, both sending and receiving. The fax number is 86-10-5880-0276, and faxes cost ¥2 (25¢) per page to receive. Recipients' names should be written clearly in block letters, so the front desk can call you when faxes arrive.

Blitzmail

A few years ago, the Beijing government started cracking down on Internet use, and they closed down all the Internet cafes in the city. Now, they've reopened them, but with stricter laws regulating who can use them – and Internet traffic is monitored closer than ever. Despite this, you won't have any major problems using the Internet, though certain sites are occasionally blocked.

There's an Internet cafe on campus on the second floor of the *Wáishilóu*, adjacent to Xmsong (you'll pass it whenever you walk to/from campus via the east gate). It charges around ¥4 an hour. You can download the Blitzmail program directly onto the computers there, or, alternatively, you can sign-on to Blitzmail at: <https://basement.dartmouth.edu/blitz>

Another option is to bring a laptop and connect from your room. High speed Internet is available for ¥100 a month per line, up to two lines per room. Ethernet cables *wānglùdòxiàn* (identical to US types) are on sale for ¥20 at the front desk. If you bring your laptop, you can access sites normally blocked in China by logging onto the DartmouthVPN.

In case you can't bring a laptop to Beijing and do not want to go to the Internet café, the TA will have Internet in his/her room, and the computer can be accessed at your polite request.

AFTER THE FSP Continuing

your Chinese

Hopefully after being in Beijing for a term you'll have decided that Chinese is just about the coolest thing you've ever studied and that you want to keep going with it. Of course, if you don't feel that way, it's fine too (this author certainly has a love-hate relationship with the language), but it *does* make sense to at least maintain your Chinese skills after you've done all the work to get them where they are. If you do want to keep going with Chinese, it's definitely advisable to do so somewhere in Asia immediately after the FSP, as the additional three to four months of language immersion can have a huge impact on your Chinese abilities. Many students have become drill instructors after their return from their extended stay in China.

In 2005, Dartmouth began offering its Fall term Beijing FSP that is identical to the Summer term in academics and extracurricular activities. Both second and third year courses are taught. Thus, students taking second year Chinese at BNU in the summer may continue with third-year Chinese courses in the fall. Before Dartmouth's Fall FSP was launched, the most popular Fall program among Dartmouth students in the last few years was the CET program in Harbin, Heilongjiang Province. This involves daily courses in advanced Chinese as well as the chance to see what Chinese life is like in an environment different from Beijing. For information about this and other language programs, ask in the DAMELL office, or talk to your Dartmouth Chinese professors. Additionally, it's almost assured that among your drill instructors or the other advanced Chinese students you know, there's someone who went on a non-FSP study program. CET also usually sends a representative to campus to talk about their programs. **Keep in mind that if you plan to get transfer credit for the classes you take on non-Dartmouth programs, you need to talk to the DAMELL office and the registrar before you leave campus.** Otherwise you'll end up in a long petition fight with the registrar from the other side of the world.

Traveling in China

Once you've already spent the money to get over to the other side of the world, it makes a bit of sense to take the opportunity and see a bit more of the country before heading back to the familiar environs of home or the Hanover Plain. If you plan on doing this, definitely take a guidebook with you to China. Also, your Program Director and BNU Chinese professors can be good sources of information about possible destinations and how to make arrangements.

As you may discover before the term in Beijing ends, traveling through China is definitely cheap by most standards, especially if you A) take the trains and B) get out of the major cities of the east (Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, etc.). You can buy train tickets in advance at the travel office on the second floor of Xinsong dorm; have your AT help you. It's also relatively easy to make your way to the Beijing Railway Station via the subway (it's right on the loop line), where you can buy tickets quickly and

easily at the foreigner's ticket office. However, note that many trains now leave from and arrive at the new station, the Beijing West Railway Station (*xīběijīngzhàn*). You can take a taxi there and get tickets.

If you really don't have that much time or money, one good way to "travel" without spending a lot of either is to depart China from a city other than Beijing. Most commonly, this can be done by leaving through Hong Kong, as most major airlines that fly to China also fly out of Hong Kong. The train to Guangzhou, and then on to Hong Kong, takes about two full days, and Chinese train travel is an experience not to be missed in any case. Again, ask around for information.

Back at Dartmouth

Obviously, once you are back in Hanover the most readily available options for continuing with Chinese are the upper-level Chinese courses offered through DAMELL, and generally taught by the visiting professor from BNU. However, another commonly overlooked opportunity is living at the Chinese Language House—that place where you may have had Noodle Hour, a Chinese New Year party, or other events. The rooms are large, the house has a huge backyard, and you get regular dinners of generally delicious food. Additionally, since the visiting BNU professor at Dartmouth lives in the house, you get a good amount of Chinese speaking and listening practice as well as ready access to your professor if you're taking more Chinese classes. The house does have one or two disadvantages, among them the occasional grease fires in the kitchen and the sauna-like heat on the third floor in the summer. On the whole, however, most residents are pleased with their experience. As with other options, talk to your Chinese professors or ask in the DAMELL office.

Appendix I: Travel Outside of Beijing

Throughout your FSP experience, you will be traveling outside of Beijing on longer field trips. Although the director and your TA will guide you as chaperones, it is good to read this section to familiarize yourself with traveling by plane and train within China.

Train travel in China is an experience no one should miss. It is the mode of transportation for the majority of the Chinese population, and as a result, you will see an interesting, uncensored, and relatively complete cross section of the Chinese society at the train stations.

For the trips you will take outside of Beijing with the FSP group, you will arrive at the train station on a bus provided by BNU. On the bus, your TA will distribute the tickets to you. *Do not lose this ticket until you have left the train station of your destination.* They will be sleeper-car assignments. Each "cell" has 4-6 beds, 2-3 to each side (think military barracks). They are divided to upper, (middle,) and lower bunks. Each position has its benefits, so I recommend you trying out each option on your many chances to ride the train.

Once at the station, you will wait with everyone else in one of the boarding rooms until your train number is called. This will begin a push towards the entrance, so keep a lookout for your belongings and stay in a group. At the entrance, an attendant will hole-punch your ticket and let you off to the platforms. You will find the correct platform and a train will be waiting for you. Find the correct train cart and board it. Another attendant will take your ticket and give you a boarding card (to make sure the right people get on and off at the right stops). You will keep this card, and before your destination stop, an attendant will return your ticket for the card. It is a complicated but rather smooth process,

Plane travel is much easier and much more similar to that of plane travel in the US. The only addition is the airport tax, which your director will organize. Luggage has a weight limit of 16kg (35 lbs). The security is much less tedious than at US airports, but the wait can be just as painfully frustrating.

Weekend Trips

The two weekend trips arranged by your Program Director are chances to visit notable Chinese cities and give you a taste of other parts of the country. You will probably want to pack lightly in a duffel bag or a backpack, and leave some of the bulkier things you own behind. Different bags aren't difficult to find around Beijing; they even sell them in the student store in the BNU campus. The key here is to be flexible and adaptable to different situations: bus rides, overnight train rides, hotels, etc. Be sure to bring a camera but the laptop is better off left at Xmsong.

Summer End-term Trip

If you are going on the Silk Road Trip: the Silk Road Trip is usually about twelve days long, which calls for a larger, wheeled suitcase in addition to a duffel bag. Keep in mind that you probably will not be able to wash your clothes for the duration of the trip, so pack accordingly. Review the itinerary for your FSP's trip carefully to help you decide what to bring; if you find that you need to purchase something in Beijing before the trip starts, why not get other students who are going on the trip together so that you can brainstorm and go Silk Road shopping together?

Some suggested Silk Road items:

- Light clothing including shorts (much of your time will be spent in some sort of desert conditions)
- Sunscreen

- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Umbrella
- Comfortable walking/hiking shoes
- Immodium A/D and/or Pepto-Bismol
- Toilet paper
- Camera!!!

Do keep in mind that you will be in and out of hotels almost daily, with early morning departures, so don't stay up too late during the nights because you will definitely need your energy the next day. It is recommended that you not unpack everything out of your suitcase as soon as you get to another hotel as you will just have to pack it all up again when you head out the next morning.

Fall Midterm Trip

Read this section if you are going on the 2-week trip to southern China in the middle of the Fall term FSP. Like the Silk Road Trip, the midterm trip calls for a larger suitcase and possibly a backpack.

Due to the variety of climates and the number of hiking days on the trip, review the itinerary and pack strategically. If you need to purchase items before the trip, it is wise to coordinate with your fellow tripees, as things like sunscreen can be shared.

Suggested Midterm Trip Items:

- Light, hiking clothing
- Sweater or light jacket
- Travel size umbrella
- Hiking shoes
- Sunscreen
- Toilet Paper (Chinese bathrooms have none)
- Camera
- Money (600 RMB for incidentals)
- Backpack for hiking
- Hygiene items (toothbrush, etc.)
- Altitude medicine (optional for 4000m)

The Midterm Trip takes place after the Oct 1st Golden Week holiday in China, which means if you are not going on the trip, you should plan your own adventure for two weeks. If you are taking part in the trip, take advantage of the variety of experiences. From the gorgeous scenery of Zhejiang to the sprawling modernity of Shanghai, you will see and learn more of China. This is possibly the most important reason why you are on the FSP in the first place.

Logistically, you will be staying in hotels on a daily basis and have early departure times (8am). Therefore, unpacking your entire bag and staying up late are not great options. In addition, you should leave your computer in Beijing because it will hinder your travels and keep you from meeting new people and fully experiencing what the trip has to offer.

Lastly, since your FSP director and a professor from BNU will be traveling with you, please be courteous to them. Chinese culture expects students to carry professors' luggage and help them whenever possible. If you are unsure of the etiquette, ask your all-knowing TA.

Whatever your choice of travel, have a sense of adventure, and don't forget to converse with the people you meet – it's the best way to improve your Chinese abilities! Be safe and have fun!

Appendix III: Menu (traditional characters)

Meat Dishes

Sweet and Sour Chicken	tángcù jītiáo	糖醋雞條
Sweet and Sour Pork	tángcù lǐjī	糖醋裡脊
Chicken Slices over Rice Crust	Guōbā jīpiàn (try it at Xiao Sichuan, down the Xiaoxitian Alley)	鍋巴雞片
“Iron Plate” Beef	tiěbǎn niúròu	鐵板牛肉
“Iron Plate” Squid	tiěbǎn yóuyú	鐵板魷魚
Shredded Chicken w/Spicy & Sweet Garlic and Mushroom Sauce	yúxiāng jīsī	魚香雞絲
Kung Pao Chicken	gōngbǎo jīdīng	宮保雞丁
Green Pepper Beef	qīngjiāo niúròu	青椒牛肉
“Old Woman’s Tofu”	mápó dòufu	麻婆豆腐
	málà dòufu	麻辣豆腐

Vegetables

(most of these can be ordered “qīng chǎo” or “sù chǎo”, which means stir-fried either with garlic or in soy sauce)

Snow Peas	hélán dòu	荷蘭豆
Broccoli	xīlán huā	西蘭花
Empty Heart Vegetable	kōngxīn cài	空心菜
Potato	tǔdòu	土豆
Potato Shreds stir-fried with vinegar	cùchǎo tǔdòusī	醋炒土豆絲
Eggplant	qiézi	茄子
Tomato & Scrambled Egg	fānqié jīdàn or xīhóngshì jīdàn	番茄雞蛋/西紅柿雞蛋
Corn with Pine Nuts	sōngzi yùmǐ	松子玉米
Winter Melon	dōngguā	冬瓜
Home Style Tofu	jiācháng dòufu	家常豆腐

Basics

White rice	mǐfàn	米飯
Noodles	miàntiáo	麵條

Appendix IV: Copy of Address for Family and Friend

中国 北京市 100875

新街口外大街19号

北京师范大学

达慕思大学（留学生宿舍：新松公寓）

Student's name

Beijing, CHINA

Appendix V: Phone Numbers

International SOS (medical center)	
	24-hour Emergency Center
	6462-9100
	Clinic Appointments
	6462-9112
US Embassy Emergency Number 6532-1910	
Phone Directory	114
Police	119
*Note they're reverse of US numbers	
Dial-a-Cab	96103
Food (Delivery)	
Domino's	6216-4995, -4996/7/8
Tube Station	6200-4439
Fed-Ex	8518-2963; or 800-810-2338
Foreign Operators	
AT&T	10811
MCI	10812
Sprint	10813
Airline Ticketing Info.	
Air China	6456-3220
American Airlines	6510-1852
Canadian Airlines	6468-2001
Japan Airlines	6513-0888
Northwest Airlines	6505-3505
United Airlines	6463-1111
BNU Internat'l Office	5880-0325; or, -8364
FSP Director	5880-7573 (专家楼)
Student Dorm (新松)	
Front desk	5880-0275; or, -0280
Fax	5880-0276

*If calling from the U.S., dial 011 (international operator) -86 (country code) -10 (city code) followed by the number. If calling in China but outside Beijing, dial 010 followed by the number. If calling from China to the US, dial 001 followed by the number including your area code.