



The Dave and Barbara Thomas Awards for Study Abroad

Thanks to a generous contribution by University of Illinois alumnus Dave Thomas and his wife Barbara, the Center for East Asian studies (CEAPS) is pleased to announce the establishment of two scholarships and two prizes for students participating in study abroad programs to Asian countries.

Scholarships: Two scholarships, each in the amount of \$2000, will be awarded to two students accepted into University of Illinois-endorsed summer, semester- or year-long study abroad programs in Asian countries. Students in semester- or year-long study abroad programs are required to enroll in classes in both language and culture. For summer programs, language-only programs also will be eligible. Priority will be given to students with excellent academic performance records and proven financial need. Both undergraduates and graduate students are eligible.

To apply, students should submit the following materials via email to Yuchia Chang (yuchia@illinois.edu), Associate Director of CEAPS by February 28, 2017 in order to be considered for Study Abroad programs taking place in the 2017-18 academic year.

- 1) Documentation of admission to a UI-approved summer, semester- or year-long study abroad program in an Asian country
- 2) Official university transcripts for all Undergraduate and Graduate study
- 3) 500-word essay in response to one of the following questions:
 - a. How would the proposed study-abroad trip enrich your current studies?
 - b. How would you describe the country that you are going to live and study in? How do you anticipate it to be different from your home country?
 - c. If you were to introduce the U.S. to college students in the country you are visiting, what qualities would you focus on?
 - d. What do you think are the challenges you are going to face during this study-abroad trip, and how would you prepare yourself to overcome the challenges?
 - e. If you were to work/live in the country where you are going to visit in three years, how would you prepare yourself now?

Prizes: The Thomas Essay Prize (\$500) will be awarded for an outstanding student essay written as fulfillment of a course requirement during a study abroad program. The Thomas Documentary Prize (\$500) will be awarded for one student video documentary of a study abroad experience. For award consideration, student essays and documentaries should be submitted by September 1st of the year during which they have participated in a study abroad experience, following completion of the program. Essays should be between 10 and 25 pages in length; documentaries between 10 and 30 minutes. Students wishing to submit a documentary are invited to participate in CEAPS-sponsored workshops on documentary film-making. For more information, please contact Yuchia Chang (yuchia@illinois.edu).