



The Emory Pre-College Program offers budding scholars an opportunity to preview the best of college life. Alongside taking compelling courses taught by renowned faculty, students will experience life on a vibrant campus, become an active participant in the local and global communities, and develop lasting friendships with other students from around the world. Emory Pre-College students will be challenged with college-level academic courses, and gain invaluable exposure to other academic disciplines, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, and residential college life.

Chinese students who attended Emory's Pre-College Program in the past have voiced overwhelmingly positive evaluations. Prospective Chinese students are encouraged to review the Pre-College website where most information can be found (Summer 2016 information will be posted by DEC 2015). As one Chinese participant stated in her evaluation feedback, "I was really interested in [the program], so I searched the school website and viewed the information about it. The interesting courses were also an important reason (for my interest) because I always wanted to learn something about economics...it was a great chance for me to go to the Pre-College program at Emory."

A key part of our mission in the Pre-College Program is for students to experience American college life. This program gives participants the opportunity to live with students from all over the U.S. in the University Residence Hall. Ruoqing, another student who completed a summer with Emory's Pre-College, shared her praise: "I am now aware of the fact that there are so many students not only from China but also from the U.S. who are competing with me. But they are good friends to get at the same time. Those native students are very active and they have great influence on me."

Because the Emory Pre-College Program is an English-speaking environment, it is a great opportunity for Chinese students to build their confidence with the language by having the opportunity to speak and hear English in class, and to participate in all the activities offered by the Pre-College program. Above all, the chance to meet new friends from all over the United States and across the world is a very valuable component of the program. Ruoyi, a Chinese native from Beijing recalls her experiences: "Students are encouraged to actively participate in class, take part in more activities and make more friends in the program. It is really a great opportunity for students to feel the life in college. All the professors, faculty members and students welcomed us, were really friendly and eager to help us, especially the RAs (Resident Assistants). Whenever I had any questions, they were willing to help me."

Daily opportunities for conversation, class discussion, and getting to know the professors, are built into the Pre-College Program. Just as many first year U.S. students must learn to do when they begin their fall semester at a U.S. university, a particularly important skill which Chinese students too must learn, is how to manage their time. Ruoqing, from Guangzhou, recalls her experiences and wisdom learned during her time at Pre-College: "There are lots of things we have to do every day: we have courses each morning, different kinds of homework to do and interesting small trips. So it was extremely important for me to make a schedule. I really learned how to manage my time in these two weeks...I think they (students) should cherish the chance to be there (Pre-College), and this program prepared me thoroughly for future life in Emory. My goal was to fully use all the resources a top-tier university has to offer, and Emory's Pre-College program satisfied this for anyone with such hopes in mind."

Pre-College program students thrive in the experience of living in a residence hall, attending classes every day and interacting with other Emory Pre-College students and professors. Consistent positive student feedback reflects that attending the Pre-College program impacts their understanding of U.S. College academics. Another Chinese Pre-College student stated: "I gained a better feeling of the life in college and also the class environment in U.S. colleges!"

Below is a small sample of the many interesting and field-relevant courses offered this past summer:

- Pre-Med Studies: The Anatomy of Movement
- Cancer: The Biology Behind the Disease
- Psychology of Love, Abnormal Psychology
- Psychology of Current Fiction
- Case Studies in Neuroscience
- Economics: Principles and Current Issues
- Global Health Leadership

A current Emory First Year Student from Shanghai, who participated in the Emory Pre-College before applying to Emory, had this to say about his experiences in the Pre-College Program: “I did the Pre-College Program at Emory last summer. All in all, it was a lot of fun. My course, Neuroscience was very interesting and covered topics that I wouldn't otherwise learn until I took a third-year level biology course in college. I enjoyed studying in the Woodruff Library and eating at the many restaurants near campus and walking the bridge and meeting all the other students in the summer program. My professor gave a lot of homework, but, in general, I had a lot of free time. The “guided independence” you have at Emory was a lot of fun when I adjusted to it, and above all I was able to improve my English speaking very much!”

Another valuable component to the Emory Pre-College Program is **College 101**, a series of afternoon sessions designed to help high school students prepare for their admission process. Coupled with their academic work, **College 101** helps students understand and prioritize what to look for in a college and to hit the ground running when they do arrive at their college of choice. Below is a small sample of topics to be offered in **College 101**:

- Writing College Essay
- Admissions Case Studies
- Admissions to Highly Selective Universities
- Pre-Health Studies Information
- Introduction to the Common Application
- Choosing a Major
- Resume Session for your Admissions Application

Applying to college abroad can be an intimidating process, but Ruoqing recalls that “College 101 helped a lot. I have a better understanding of the admission process and how to choose my major.”

Our Pre-College students enrich both their native identity and their identity among English speakers in an increasingly globalized society. As the students share their cultural identity, the Pre-College environment allows them to learn about new experiences in this American culture. As a former Pre-College Chinese student stated simply: “It is really an excellent program, a great chance to feel the life in college. Students can really learn something and have a better preparation for college.”

For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.pre-college.emory.edu>

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