A Tale of Two American Cities: New York and Washington DC

The Hong Kong America Center (HKAC) offers university students in HK two, back-to-back, study tours, each of two week’s length, in America’s northeast region, the early summer of 2018.

**New York City: May 27 to June 9**

**Washington DC: June 10 to June 23**

*Students from any university in HK can sign up for: the NYC program only, the DC program only, or the combination of the two. The HKAC invites students from all disciplines and levels of study. Delegates may arrange their own onward travel in the US after the program at their own expense.*

New York

is the business/financial, and arts/culture capital of America. The program will have four units: (1) Wall Street as America’s global financial center; (2) ethnic neighborhoods and the entrepreneurial culture of immigrant communities of NYC; (3) the arts, media and cultural industries in NYC; and (4) the United Nations and the international NGOs, based in NYC, that work on the UN agendas for sustainable development. We’ll have briefings by experts in each field, visits to start-up companies, tours of ethnic neighborhoods to learn about how immigrant communities brought entrepreneurial creativity to the City, and meetings with NGOs about policy advocacy and social entrepreneurship. We’ll also help students to explore individual appointments with people in NYC related to ideas for projects they may envision.

Program fee for NYC is HK$21,000.
is the epicenter of government in America. This program will focus on the role of the Congress in American politics. How does the legislative system work? How are Republicans and the Democrats preparing for the Congressional elections in November 2018? Will the voters endorse Trump’s populist approach for change after two years as president? Or will the Democrats come roaring back after losing majorities in both House and Senate in 2016? We’ll zero in on key “swing districts” and study the roles of social media, polling groups, fundraising, local politics, and the key issues that animate the voters. Our HK student delegation will live on the campus of George Washington University, only blocks from the White House and the World Bank/IMF. We’ll visit the House and Senate of the Congress and receive briefings from senior staff in government agencies, national think tanks, political parties, and major media outlets. We’ll also have time to visit museums on the famous Smithsonian Mall, and – after hours – enjoy cultural events and the spirited night life of America’s capital.

Program fee for Washington DC is HK$19,500.

The HKAC will organize a pre-departure orientation in May and assist with securing your visa to America. For more details about the HKAC’s Tale of Two Cities programs, please see: www.hk-ac.org.hk or contact: vivianchiu_hac@cuhk.edu.hk. Vivian is also at: 3943-8755 or her mobile: 5597-2318. Program fee does not include airfare, visa fee, and some meals. Students may qualify for subsidies from their universities for summer study abroad. Places are limited; first come first served. Apply Now!
A Tale of Two American Cities: NYC & Washington DC

Study Tour to NYC and Washington DC, USA - May 27 to June 23, 2018

Preliminary Program Schedule Only – May Be Subject to Change

NYC Program: Focus on New York Immigration History and the Role of United Nations and INGOs in Social Development

Sunday, May 27 – Fly from Hong Kong to JFK/Newark Airport, transfer to and settle in NYC accommodation. (Arrangements of accommodation: TBC)

Monday, May 28 – Briefing on how to get around in NYC, visit the United Nations and accompanied by UN tour guide with a Q&A session.

Tuesday, May 29 – Morning lecture by professor from The New School, Milano School of International Affairs, Management, and Urban Policy. Afternoon visits to NY Chinatown in Canal Street, Little Italy, East Village, and Lower East Side Tenement Museum: America's urban immigrant history.

Wednesday, May 30 – Group project. Visit a US company or an NGO: TBC

Thursday, May 31 – Visit Ellis Island National Museum of Immigration: Relive the history of immigrant experience, witness the moving tales of the 12 million immigrants who came in to the America through the golden door of Ellis Island. Today, their descendants make up half of the American population. Tour Statue of Liberty. Visit South Street Seaport if time permits.

Friday, June 1 – Morning lecture by professor from The New School, Milano School of International Affairs, Management, and Urban Policy. Visit The International Rescue Committee (IRC): IRC responds to the world’s worst humanitarian crises and helps people to survive and rebuild their lives and gives lifesaving care and life-changing assistance to refugees who force to flee from war or disaster.

Saturday, June 2 – Walk The High Line Park: A 1.45-mile-long elevated linear park, greenway and rail trail. Visit Chelsea Market: A great place to sample and taste many different kinds of food.

Sunday, June 3 – Free Day

Monday, June 4 – Morning lecture by professor from The New School, Milano School of International affairs, Management, and Urban Policy. Afternoon visit to The Museum of American Finance: An independent public museum dedicated to preserving, exhibiting and teaching about American finance and financial history. Visit The National September 11
Memorial & Museum: A museum commemorating the September 11, 2001 attacks, which killed 2977 people and the 1994 World Trade Center bombing which killed 6 people.

**Tuesday, June 5** – Morning visit to Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS): It’s mission is to empower young women, ages 12-24, who have experienced commercial sexual exploitation and domestic trafficking. Afternoon heritage walking tour of Harlem neighborhood.

**Wednesday, June 6** - Morning visit to Metropolitan Museum of Art: One of the world’s largest and finest art museums. Its collection includes more than two million works of art spanning five thousand years of world culture. Afternoon tour Queens, NY’s Little India in Jackson Heights and Flushing Chinatown: Queens is one of the most diverse urban spaces and neighborhoods in the world.

**Thursday, June 7** – Morning tour of New York’s City Hall, located in lower Manhattan, it’s the country’s oldest city hall that is still used for its original purpose. Visit a secret NYC subway station if time permits. Walk across the iconic Brooklyn Bridge to Brooklyn Dumbo neighborhood, short for Down Under the Manhattan Bridge Overpass, one of the most-visited spots in Brooklyn. Sample the famous Grimaldi’s coal-fired brick oven cooking pizza, a true New York taste.

**Friday, June 8** – Morning lecture by professor from The New School, Milano School of International affairs, Management, and Urban Policy. Afternoon tour NBC Studios at Rockefeller Plaza: Experience the most famous studio tour in TV history, a backstage look at the venerable TV network & the studios where many popular shows are taped.

**Saturday, June 9** – Check out and depart for return flight to Hong Kong. Free day for students who wish to join Washington DC program.

**Washington DC Program: Focus on Congress and its Role**

**Sunday, June 10** – Fly to/or Megabus transfer to Washington DC and check in to George Washington University (GWU) Dorms. Discussion of dormitory arrangements, a brief introduction to the neighborhood by Aggie Kuperman.

**Monday, June 11** – CATO Institute briefing about the Constitution and Federalism, tour of Congress and one meeting with a Congressman.

**Tuesday, June 12** – Visit to Library of Congress and Congressional Research Service.

**Wednesday, June 13** – Morning meetings at important think tanks, such as Brookings and Wilson Center. Afternoon lecture by Prof. Sean Kenji Starrs.
Thursday, June 14 – Visit to Foreign Press Center and discuss how the press covers Congress. Meet with Hong Kong Economics and Trade Commissioner and discuss how they interface with Congress.

Friday, June 15 – Visit to Foundation for the Defense of Democracy. Meet with a faculty member who focuses on Congress.

Saturday, June 16 – Tour Washington DC, monuments and museums.

Sunday, June 17 – Travel by van to Annapolis, which is the capital of the US state of Maryland. The city served as the seat of the Confederation Congress and temporary national capital of the United States in 1783-1784.

Monday, June 18 – Visit two Senators, Democrat and Republican. Ask for opportunity to meet with black Caucus in Congress.

Tuesday, June 19 – East West Center meeting. Department of State simulation program.

Wednesday, June 20 – American Enterprise Institute and meet with Dr. Norman Ornstein. Afternoon lecture by Prof. Sean Kenji Starrs.

Thursday, June 21 – Visit Meridian International Center to learn how money is appropriated for international visitor programs.

Friday, June 22 – Meet with two other Congressmen.

Saturday, June 23 – Check out and depart for return flight to Hong Kong.