

Castleton

A V E R M O N T S T A T E C O L L E G E

Study Abroad Program — Kham: East Tibet

Course Title: Tibet — Kham: East Tibet	Semester: Summer Sessions
Course Title: Sacred Visions – The Art of Tibet	Student Contact Hours: 90
Site: Beijing, Leshan, & East Tibet	Instructor: Jim Hagan
Credits: 6	Contact us for exact dates and costs

Course Description

Our East Tibet Program is offered during the summer sessions and originates in Beijing where students will have their first introduction to Asian culture. Students will learn the history and study the architecture of the Great Wall of China and the Forbidden City before departing to Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province. In Sichuan Province the focal point of study will be Chinese Buddhism where students will explore the intricate Buddhist rock carvings of Leshan. From Leshan our program focal point shifts to Tibetan Buddhism as we explore East Tibet and its magnificent monasteries. Tibetan Buddhist art and philosophy will be studied in-depth on this program. Students will be totally submerged in East Tibet's remarkable spiritual culture during this program. At the conclusion of the program students will explore one of the world's best panda bear habitats before departing from Sichuan Province.

Course Objectives

- To learn and study the religious and cultural traditions of Tibet.
- To observe religious festivals, temple worship and religious rituals.
- To examine and practice Buddhist meditation with a "hands on" approach so that the student fully understands the practice and theory of Buddhist meditation theory being taught.
- To learn the timeless traditions of creating Buddhist sacred art and to learn its symbolic meaning.
- To study with local artists to learn how the art is created and how it is used as a visualization aid in Buddhist meditation.
- To experience directly the monumentality and symbolism of Buddhist architecture.

FOUNDED 1787

Castleton State College • Castleton, Vermont 05735 • 802-468-5611 • www.castleton.edu