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3rd Floor, Dalhousie SUB
Mondays 5:30 p.m.
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Education course offered in China

by Ellen Reynolds

See the Great Wall, the mountains of Guilin and the terra-cotta soldiers of Xian.

This sounds like a travel brochure, doesn't it? But it's all part of the course description of **Education in China: A Study Tour**, a half-credit course offered for the first time this year through Dalhousie's School of Education. 15 to 20 students with the interest (and the money to cover travel costs) will be travelling to China to experience first hand Chinese culture and the Chinese education system.

The course is being organized by Ruth Gamberg, associate professor of Education and author of **Red and Expert: Education in the People's Republic of China**. Gamberg, who has lived and taught in China for two years, got the idea for the course from a graduate student. She says it will be an introduction to Chinese society with a focus on the educational system.

"In order to get an understanding of the education system, you first need an understanding of the country as a whole," says Gamberg. "During the 3H week trip we will be doing quite a wide sweep of the country so the students will get an idea of the diversity of China."

Besides the "tourist stuff", Gamberg says they will visit schools from kindergarten to universities as well as the Chinese

workers' college and a children's palace. The course is co-sponsored by Dalhousie and the Beijing Foreign Studies University in Beijing where the final week of the trip will be spent living on the university campus. Rural China is also on the agenda and the Dal students will get the chance to help some Chinese people improve their English.

Preparatory classes will be held in March and April before the actual trip in May and the deadline for application to the course is November 1. The course is open to any students in Education, International Studies or Arts and Science and also to non-credit students.

Campus briefs

The Killam Library offers an End User Search service for Dalhousie students, faculty, and staff to do their own online database searching for bibliographic and/or factual information. Computerized searching often provides a faster means of finding bibliographic citations than searching printed indexes, particularly for obscure, multidisciplinary, or comprehensive research projects. This service is made possible through the generosity of the Dalhousie Arts Society which donated the microcomputer workstation.

In order to take full advantage of reduced rates during non-peak hours, End User Searching is currently available *by appointment only* during the following hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday from 7-9:00 pm and Saturday from 2-4:00 pm.

Before the actual search session you must arrange for a consultation with a Librarian in order to choose a database, formulate the strategy, and familiarize yourself with the system commands. See the Secretary in the Information Services Office to make a consultation appointment.

A co-operative effort between the Dalhousie administration and the Dalhousie Student Union will see the Arts and Administration building finally become accessible to the physically challenged. A new elevator has been installed at a cost of \$130,000 of which the student union contributed \$100,000 from its Capital Campaign fund. The new lift features braille buttons and a control panel positioned at wheelchair height.

A ribbon cutting ceremony will take place Monday, September 19 at 12:30. On hand will be DSU President Juanita Montalvo, Dalhousie President Dr. Howard Clark, Dave Shannon, president of the Dalhousie Advocates of the Physically Challenged, and Bill Lord, Director of Physical Plant and Planning.

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