



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Study and Cultural Program (4 weeks)

StudyTours **UWA**
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABOUT STUDYTOURS UWA

The University of Western Australia (UWA) is a fantastic and safe learning environment for international study groups.

The Study and Cultural Program offers students a great combination of academic studies and cultural activities while staying in Perth, Western Australia, ranked as the 9th most liveable city in the world.

Established in 1911, UWA is recognised internationally as a world-class research-intensive university that offers a vibrant student experience, with a strong focus on TNE (transnational education). UWA ranks 88th in the Academic Ranking of World Universities by China's Shanghai Jiao Tong University. The Academic Ranking of World Universities places UWA 24th in the world for Life and Agricultural Sciences, the highest ranking in Australia, and the QS Rankings place UWA at 89th in the world.



The Study and Cultural Program

AIMS

This 4-week program provides an opportunity for elite undergraduate students of agricultural and life sciences from Chinese universities to make the most of their vacation time.

Students will:

- explore the ecosystem and agricultural systems of Western Australia (WA)
- understand UWA frontier research in agricultural and life sciences
- meet and engage with prominent Academics at UWA
- improve academic English communication skills
- attend classes side-by-side with UWA students
- experience Australian culture and diversity

The program aims to enable students to be confident about future overseas studies.

CONTENT

1. Improvement of academic communication skills

A high standard of English is essential for Chinese students to study in Australian universities. This program is designed to quickly develop the students' English skills.

There are two components in this activity:

- a) A five-day teaching course to improve students' English for written academic essays, reports and for oral communication.
- b) The completion of an English essay (>500 words), 10-min oral presentation, and a general report (>3000 words) by students during the course.

Students will receive individual feedback to maximise their learning.



2. Agricultural tours of WA ecological and agricultural systems

Agricultural production in WA depends heavily on the climate and ecosystem. The first-hand experience gained by visiting agricultural sites is the best way to understand Australia's agricultural and environmental issues.

Students will take a 5-day tour, guided by a UWA Professor, to various types of WA farms and governmental and university field research stations. This will enable them to learn and understand more about the climatic and environmental issues that WA agriculture faces.

3. UWA frontier research in agricultural and life sciences and natural resource management

This 7-day program consists of nearly 30 presentations from Professors, Directors of the UWA research centres, UWA Academics, and WA government officers.

The presentations paint a comprehensive picture of UWA frontier research in the following areas:

- breeding crops against environmental stresses, herbicide and pesticide resistance;
- food security, food forensics, food provenance with mass spectrometry;
- greenhouse gas mitigation from livestock animals, animal and aquacultural farming, and;
- management of natural resources.

As an outcome of this experience, students will be stimulated to think about the development of sustainable agricultural systems in China.





4. Cultural immersion and understanding

Experiencing cultural differences, or having a “culture shock”, is often unavoidable for Chinese students in Australia. To overcome this hurdle, this program utilises a number of approaches to help the students adapt. Students are carefully matched with Australian homestay families from a variety of cultural and ethnic backgrounds. This allows them to share and experience their differences in culture, lifestyle, and food. Short tours are also arranged for students to understand the life, history and customs of the Indigenous and multi-cultural societies in WA.

5. Experience student life in WA

Maximum exposure to the many aspects of student life in Australia will certainly assist students to be confident if they choose to return for further education and career development. In this program students sit in UWA lectures in order to experience the differences in structure, teaching and examination of courses. Campus tours are provided by UWA students to provide a personal account of what university life can be like. Of course, student life is not always in the classrooms. Weekend activities are proposed for the students to explore the local social life and leisure activities. A few tourist trips are arranged to show the beauty of WA's natural environment and its wildlife.

TIMES FOR THE PROGRAM

- July/August
 - January/February
- (adjustments can be made upon request)



WHO CAN APPLY

Any student who has completed at least one year of study in a Chinese university and has very good English is eligible to apply. Please note no English translation service is provided in the program.

HOW TO APPLY

Students must provide copies of their passport, academic transcript, evidence or certificate of their English proficiency, and CV, all in PDF format, either to

- the official-in-charge in their home university, or
- the UWA contacts

The UWA contacts will assess the application, and email the successful applicant an invitation letter to support their visa application for entering Australia. The student or official-in-charge will receive a formal letter to explain payment of fees and the conditions of entering the program.

**Applications close by 31 May or
by 30 November**

VISA TO ENTER AUSTRALIA

Students should consult their nearest Australian Embassy in China before applying for visitor visas. Their travel insurance must be arranged before travel.

COSTS

Starting from AU\$4000* per student, including:

- All tuition fees
- Home-stay accommodation (breakfast and dinner for weekdays, all meals for the weekend. Cost for using internet may not be covered depending on the host)
- Lunches on weekdays for the entire study period
- Local travel costs (multi-ride card for traveling on public transport)
- Accommodation and meals during field trips
- Airport pick-up service only provided if a cohort of more than 4 students arrive on the same flight
- *International airfare and travel insurance are NOT included*

*Costs may fluctuate slightly depending on program and exchange rate.

Sample Study and Cultural Program (4 weeks)

WEEK ONE

SUNDAY	*Arrive in Perth	*Depending on flights.
MONDAY		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and orientation by the Centre for English Language Teaching (CELT). Studying at UWA, College life and general questions and answers. UWA campus tour, library and student village.
TUESDAY	English Language Teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introductory discussion about Australian culture, life and education. Cross-cultural understanding, tertiary studies in Australia.
WEDNESDAY	English Language Teaching (cont.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academic Writing: Avoiding plagiarism; Writing tasks; Critical reviews; Pre-reading; Critical thinking skills; Analysis of complex factors; Formulating questions; and Features of argumentative academic writing.
THURSDAY	English Language Teaching (cont.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaking in academic situations: Overview of conventions; Language structures for giving academic presentations.
FRIDAY	English Language Teaching (cont.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students Writing: Thesis and Dissertation; Literature review; Introduction; Materials; Method; Results; Discussion; Conclusion. Review/Assessment.
SATURDAY/ SUNDAY	Self-guided tours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kings Park for views, walks and botanical gardens. Visit Perth Zoo.

WEEK TWO

MONDAY	Academic Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Lectures:</i> Global Climate Change; Data Use in Natural Science; and Animal Ethics and Welfare. <i>Presentations:</i> WA agriculture; Breeding crops for environmental stress; and Breeding crops for herbicide resistance.
TUESDAY	Academic Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Lectures:</i> Food forensics, security and provenance; and The Conduct, Ethics and Communication of Science. <i>Presentations:</i> Research on legumes; Canola breeding; and Advanced plant breeding.
WEDNESDAY	Cultural program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban Indigenous study trip. Meet an Indigenous elder and artist. Learn about Indigenous culture, bush food and didgeridoo music. Taste award-winning WA wines.
THURSDAY	Academic Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Discussion:</i> Postgraduate research and scholarships; Student programs between UWA and Chinese universities. <i>Science innovation:</i> clothes made from wine; and DNA music.
FRIDAY	Academic Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Animal science program:</i> UWA Shenton Park Field Station (animal and marine research). Presentations: Greenhouse gas mitigation from ruminants; Animal behaviour; and Nutrition for health.
SATURDAY/ SUNDAY		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit AQWA and Hillary's Boat Harbour. Explore Perth City Centre, City West (shopping).

WEEK THREE

MONDAY	Agricultural Tour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depart for field trip. • View and test soil types, discuss the geology. • <i>Discuss</i> Land use and urban design. • Visit Pingelly Boyagin Rock Nature Reserve.
TUESDAY	Agricultural Tour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit UWA Future Farm. • <i>Learn about:</i> Greenhouse gas mitigation program; Ecosystem restoration program; and Water management program.
WEDNESDAY	Agricultural Tour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Presentations:</i> Southcoast natural resource management; Managing salinity for agriculture; Aquaculture in WA. • <i>Visits:</i> Sandalwood production; The Gap natural rock bridge; and Wind Farm.
THURSDAY	Agricultural Tour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit to Bouverie Trout and Marron Ecofarm; best use of natural resources. • Wine tasting at vineyard. • Visit <i>Manjimup Research Centre, Department of Agriculture & Food WA:</i> Horticulture; Crop breeding; and Sheep breeding.
FRIDAY	Agricultural Tour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to visit Manjimup Research Centre and discuss WA dairy industry. • Visit Mandurah. • Travel back to Perth.
SATURDAY/ SUNDAY	Self-guided tours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit Northbridge shops and Chinatown restaurants. • Picnic on South Perth foreshore.

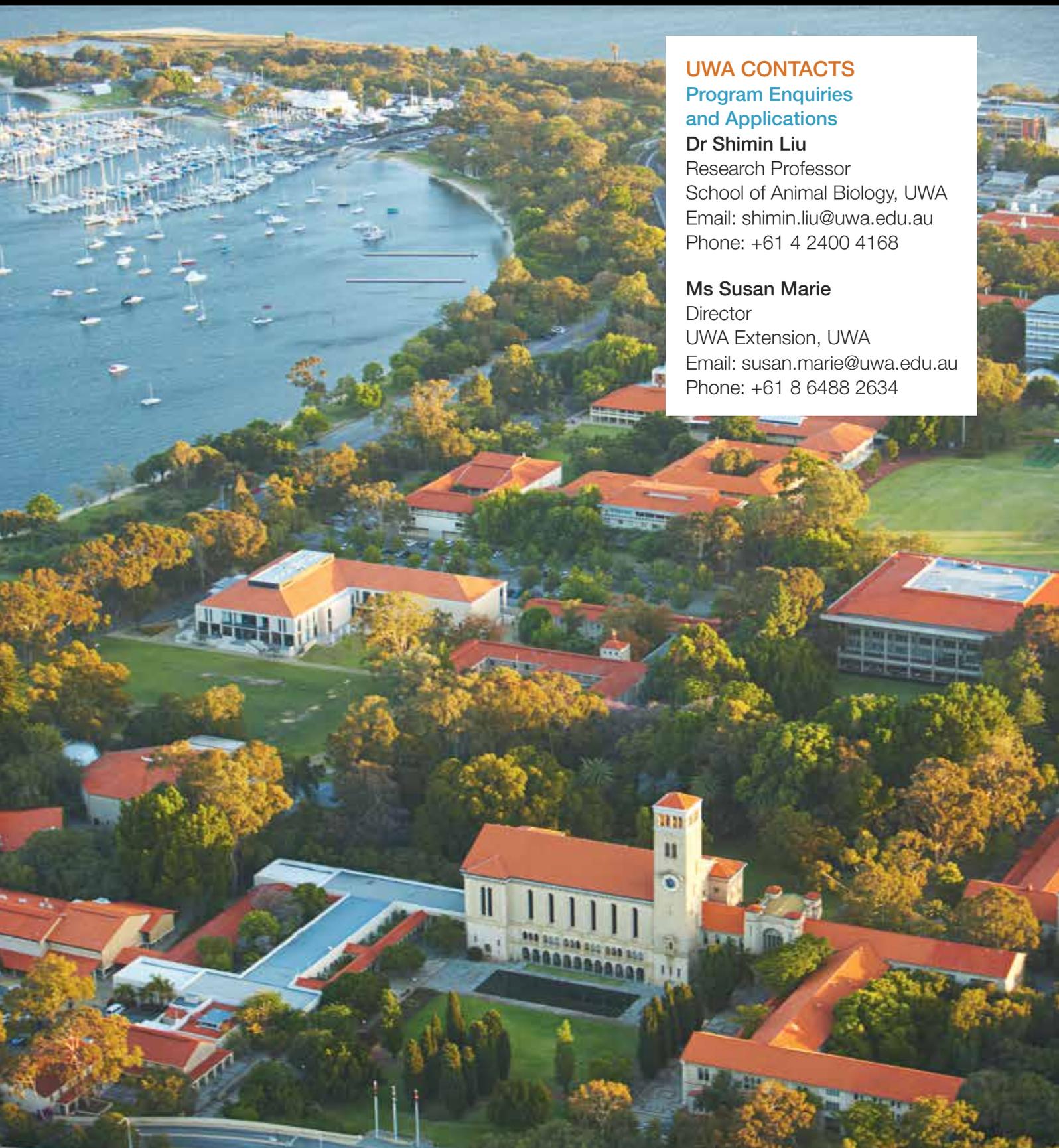
WEEK FOUR

MONDAY	Natural Resource Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit WA Water Corporation: Water management systems; Water recycling. • WA agriculture and its relationship with China.
TUESDAY	Academic Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lecture:</i> The Conduct, Ethics and Communication of Science. • <i>Presentations:</i> Organic agriculture; Consumer preference; and Land use.
WEDNESDAY	Ecosystem Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Field trip to Gingin Observatory:</i> Tour of unique biodiversity; Indigenous cosmology.
THURSDAY	English Language Teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-to-one feedback on English Essay. • Prepare oral presentations.
FRIDAY	Summation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student 15-min oral presentation. • Feedback about programs. • Presentations of the certificate of completion.
SATURDAY/ SUNDAY	Self-guided tours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relaxation, travel home.





THE UNIVERSITY OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



UWA CONTACTS

Program Enquiries
and Applications

Dr Shimin Liu

Research Professor
School of Animal Biology, UWA
Email: shimin.liu@uwa.edu.au
Phone: +61 4 2400 4168

Ms Susan Marie

Director
UWA Extension, UWA
Email: susan.marie@uwa.edu.au
Phone: +61 8 6488 2634

StudyTours UWA

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA